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68 Heather Garden Square
Forest Hill
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2 December 2017

To whom it may concern

Ithemba Lam Baby Home is not a Children's Home but a **temporary place of safety** for babies. We work together with **Social Workers** from various organizations in Port Elizabeth like **Social Development, Uwive and the ACVV** to ensure that the children of Port Elizabeth are protected and cared for.

Abused, neglected, malnourished and abandoned babies are removed from their environment by Social Workers and are **legally** placed in our care by the **Children's Court**. They stay in our care for approximately **4 months** to give the Social Worker **sufficient time to investigate the case and to then either find foster** or adoptive parents for the baby, depending on each individual case. Sometimes the parents are rehabilitated and the child is then **re-united** with the biological parents / families.

According to the regulations of the Department of Social Development we may only have **6 babies in our care at one time**.

We can furthermore confirm that **100% of any donation made is utilized** to the well being of our babies. We are **responsible for every need** of the baby whilst they are in our care – they eat nutritious home-cooked meals every day, they get baby formula, they are in a protected, nurturing and hygienic environment and if they should need medical care we see to it that they get it.

Ithemba Lam **opened in September 2009** and has cared for **83 babies up to date**.

In 2016 alone we were able to assist the government by providing safe care for 15 babies.

We do not discriminate in any way – we have had 5 babies who were **HIV positive** and received **Anti-Retroviral Treatment** whilst in our care. We also cared for a severely **mentally disabled boy** for a number of years until he was able to go and live at Algoa Frail Care Centre in Missionvale.

We would appreciate any financial assistance you can give! We desperately need private sponsors and businesses to assist us in the work that we do!

Please contact me if you should need any further information about the baby home!

Kind regards

Kim Fankhauser (*Housemother/ Co-ordinator*)

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