

# Hanré Trust

Our little boy wanted to hear



Since his birth we suspected that our little boy, Hanré (3) was not able to hear our voices. In 2006 this was confirmed and if we wanted to give him any hope of leading a normal life, he would have to undergo cochlear implants.

I have to admit that the news regarding his condition, even though traumatic, no longer sent shock waves through our family once we processed the news. I now realize that God brought Hanré into our lives because He knew we would be able to handle all the challenges that come with raising a deaf child.

In December 2006 he had his first cochlear implant and the results were amazing! We knew then that a second operation was essential.

At the time it cost an estimated R300,000 to undergo a cochlear implant. Although we have a medical aid, there was a significant shortfall in the contributions and we needed to come up with the balance. Fast.

After the operations, Hanré will also need intensive speech therapy for the next 3 years. He is currently attending "The Centre for Language and Hearing Impaired Children", a wonderful organisation currently managed by Estelle Roberts. These after-care costs amount to an additional R30,000 a year which puts our family under tremendous financial strain.

**Carla van der Westhuizen Hanré's proud mommy - Mobile 0729379350**

Hanré Trust details are: "The Hanré Trust"  
- Standard Bank Acc No. 402 379 195  
Branch Code 00 12 06

We have registered a trust in Hanré's name and have been hosting several fundraising events. Obviously our first priority is Hanré, but we aim to continue raising funds to assist other children who have the same problem. The funds will be used to fund those kids' after-care and therapy. We hope that we will be successful in our quest.

His second cochlear implant was another huge success in March 2008. Since the operation his device has been switched on and it's working great. There is still a long road ahead however we believe that the best news is yet to come and little Hanré's human spirit and infectious smile is inspiration enough for us to continue our efforts to assist other families who are facing the same plight.

Our heartfelt thanks to the Music for the Children Foundation who have successfully been assisting us to raise funds for the past year to partially cover the cost of the operation and after-care for Hanré. It has been an honour, joy and privilege to be part of their team in assisting at the events, and our entire family is so appreciative and thankful for their efforts.

"I'm proud to announce that on 26 March 2008, just 2 days before Hanré's 3rd birthday, he got his surround sound!"



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