



It was a long time dream for me to be able to adopt an abandoned baby. From when our first biological child was born, I was aware of what a tremendous privilege it was to be able to give that child everything he needed. Not all mothers in the world are that fortunate!

16 months after our second child was born, Glenn announced that he too was ready to adopt an abandoned baby. Before the next year was over, Abby Thandile was a part of our family!

When Abby turned 1, it was obvious that she was a delightful, intelligent child and we felt compelled by God to make the love of a family a reality for other abandoned babies.

So, on the 1 November 2005 we opened Tsholofelo Baby Sanctuary. Tsholofelo had been the surname given to Abby by the baby home that had taken care of her for the first 8 weeks of her life. We wanted to open the baby home in her honour and so used that name. It also beautifully and appropriately means HOPE.

Our first house and our house mother were miraculously provided and it was only 3 weeks between knowing for sure this was what we wanted to do and

accepting our first baby into the sanctuary. Within 2 months we had 6 babies and had to hire a second house mother so that we could care for more children.

We have been open now for 2 ½ years and in that time have found homes for 15 children. 5 others have been re-united with their parents after social workers decided their home situations had sufficiently improved. We have 8 children who are currently in our care. That is 28 children helped by 1 baby home!

It is a costly operation to take care of 8 children. We would love to buy a permanent house for them as renting is far from ideal. Also, it takes 6 staff members to cover the 24/7 roster so salaries have to be paid.

We are thrilled that Music for the Children wants to help us with our fund raising. We are extremely grateful for their encouragement and support. We are looking forward to helping another 28 babies (at least) in the years to come

Cheryl Staples Founder Director

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