



SPACE TO THRIVE

Vision: A nurturing family for every child.

Mission

Enabling parents to sustain nurturing families.

Objective: Work For Love is a holistic skills development, job creation and child care organisation for low income parents and their children.

We offer
Holistic Skills Training
Job Creation
Child Care

The main target group is low income families
earning less than R1400 per person, per month.

Parents:

- 1) Married parents/grandparents as role models (50%)
- 2) Single mothers
- 3) Young parents
- 4) Others

And their children 0-8

Philosophy:

Learn to Earn- a hand up not a hand out.

Poverty Stoplight- eradicating poverty one family at a time.

Pay it forward.

It's never too late to have a happy childhood.

We believe a nurturing family is socially active, economically sustainable, emotionally stable and spiritually free.

Purpose

We facilitate positive change in the social, economic, emotional and spiritual life of families.

Achieving our Purpose

* **Work For Love** uses a holistic approach to education and development based on the Waldorf educational impulse. We work closely with the Friends of Waldorf Education, the CDRA and the Centre for Creative Education. We are associated with Learn To Earn to achieve our adult skills training, enterprise development and job creation goals. We are a member of the poverty stoplight movement to measure our impact in eradicating poverty one family at a time. In doing so, we seek to be creative and practical, looking into life to establish an immediate connection with life and to learn from others in ways which will increase our impact on the micro and macro level.

“Our highest endeavour is to develop free human beings who are able of themselves to impart purpose and direction to their lives. The need for imagination, a sense of truth, and a feeling of responsibility—these three forces are the very nerve of education.”

— Rudolf Steiner

* We **promote** the three golden rules of childhood: Receive the child in reverence, educate the child in love and release the child in freedom.

* **Work For Love** challenges the effects of injustice and disconnection of poverty and materialism at household and individual levels, within the framework of self-help development. We link the individual to him/herself, to his/her family and to the workplace, and the family to local community. We do so by teaching practical hard and soft skills to increase earning potentials, facilitating micro enterprise and employment opportunities and strengthening, enriching and empowering families, teachers, parents and children and developing quality early childhood child centres and a primary school. We will assist in the development of structures which are born out of the initiative of, accountable to and/or directly benefiting families living in poverty.

* **Fundamental to Work For Love's** striving is a holistic view of man, personal development, cooperation and respect. **Work For Love** recognizes the critical importance of having a sustainable livelihood, family support and access to age-appropriate early childhood development. In striving to develop the whole person WFL hopes to facilitate emotional healing, self-reliance and self-determination and awaken social interest in a healthy and peaceful environment. WFL advocates a supportive economy, effective legal equality especially labour/gender justice and provision of security and health services and a free development of education, culture and religious life.

***Work For Love** values children, family and work life, community self-help development, a spirit of service and free spiritual striving. Values: love, attention, imagination, initiative, quality, responsibility, commitment, forgiveness, joy and truth.

* **In the pursuit of its purpose Work For Love will be accountable to all stakeholders, especially families living in poverty. We will persevere, be clear, gentle, positive, hopeful and committed, and will reach out to engage and include others.**

Our Beliefs

* **A family is defined as a group of people affiliated by birth or by love (marriage) and can metaphorically represent a community of choice, the inner and spiritual family or humanism.** The family unit lays the first foundation for education, service and cultural forms. Parents are the child's first teachers. The family is at risk in our society and needs support. Nurturing families are positive role models that can positively affect a whole community. **We believe that a nurturing family is safe, socially active, economically sustainable, emotionally stable and spiritually free.**

* **Stress and trauma** of the past, no matter how complex or longstanding, can be quieted or healed allowing a person to thrive and care for others.

* **Poverty is the extent in which people do without resources. Resources are financial, emotional, mental, spiritual, physical, family (support system), relationships/role models, knowledge of hidden rules. It can mean little income or family support, lack of access to basic services, quality education, earning and development opportunities, deep inequalities and injustices and ongoing insecurity. Poverty can be perpetuated by financial mechanisms, political structures and systems.**

Women and girls are often the most oppressed by poverty; their empowerment is central to eliminating it. With the right encouragement it takes only a change of mind to restore dignity putting a person on a path of engagement, connection and learning new skills to change their and their families' life for the better.

* Educational institutions and businesses operate from middle-class **norms and hidden rules** while an individual brings with him/her the norms of his/her class in which he/she was raised. We believe that people who have experienced generational poverty can only become successful and to bring change, when the educators understand the norms and hidden rules of poverty and teach them the norms and hidden rules of the middle-class through providing support, role models, relationship, insistence and clear expectations.

* We believe that **human and environmental degradation** is unjustifiable and preventable, that the present materialistic, one-sided world view causes poverty, breakdown of family structures, disconnection, inequality and injustice through greed and selfishness and must be challenged.

* We believe that a **healthy and productive world** where all living things have spaces to serve and to thrive is possible.

In this context we **advocate** the **three-fold social life**:

- 1) A supportive world **economy** that provides a fair share of productivity to all.
- 2) **Legal equality**; politics that seek to develop a just world without poverty.
- 3) A free cultural life.

* Work For Love acknowledges the understanding that in the **economy** people work for each other. We are all beneficiaries of other people's efforts in the economic sphere. Wages are in a sense a distortion of the reality because the workers are co-creators of the surpluses in the economy and not a dispensable line item. People need a share of the surplus to be able to produce more.

* Furthermore, there exists a whole realm of life and nurturing which has to depend fully on free monetary gifts and is not developed as a business: motherhood, priesthood, education, health and social services (**cultural life**/education/religion).

* The feeling of obligation to society in which we live is the beginning of the interest that is required for a sound social order. Enjoyment is not self-evident. It should really never be accepted without repaying its equivalent to the whole of society. What ought we to do?

* What renders work valuable is finding ways to separate work from means of existence and the fact that work would then no longer need to be remunerated. A wholesome condition within the social system would come about when the human being supports his or her life, not by his or her own work, but from other sources in society.

"In a community of human beings working together, the well-being of the community will be the greater, the less the individual claims for himself the proceeds of the work he has himself done; i.e. the more of these proceeds he makes over to his fellow workers, and the more his own requirements are satisfied, not out of his own work done, but out of work done by the others."- Rudolf Steiner

* **We presuppose that government is accountable to the family (and the individual) for the protection and promotion of fundamental equal rights and laws**, and that all society's institutions – **governments, corporations, organizations (including Work For Love) and groups are accountable for the impact of their actions on families and their economic, social, political and cultural situation.**

* **Everyone has a right and responsibility to learn, to work, to earn a sustainable livelihood, to find, protect, bring up and nurture their family, to realize their potential and be fulfilled. Everyone has a right and responsibility to life and security; to be heard; to have an identity; and to have access to basic social services, fair share in productivity and a healthy environment for themselves, their families and future generations.**

*** Work For Love is Christian-based, working out of the principles of Anthroposophy, is middle-class and open-minded. We welcome people of all beliefs, creeds, cultures, classes and races which advance Work For Loves' values and purpose.**

"Nothing will hasten humanity in its own downfall more than the propagation of ideals based on race, nation and blood." – Rudolf Steiner

Working together

*** Work For Love offers a hand up not a hand out. We collaborate with our stakeholder, from diverse backgrounds, all dedicated to the achievement of Work For Love's purpose and seeking maximum impact by building on our respective strengths and virtues.**

*** By working together, we will provide a consistent approach to our beneficiaries, members, partners and associates, and will enhance our collective impact, our cost effectiveness, and will contribute to thriving individuals within nurturing families.**

Prayer for families in difficulty: We pray that families in need may receive the necessary support and that children may grow up in healthy and peaceful environments.
