

Kula Malaika Foundation
for Childcare and Youth Development



PostNet Suite #126
Private Bag X658
George 6530
Republic of South Africa
Tel: +27 44 8501949
Cell: +27 76 144 6633
Email: mucki@hotmail.co.za
NPO-082780

Newsletter

Lancewood July 2025

Dear Friends in South Africa and abroad,

Many non-governmental organizations in South Africa are currently facing major challenges. Government support has always been limited, but now even international funding—especially from the USA and Europe—is noticeably declining. For example, U.S. President Donald Trump abruptly cut all funding for projects supporting HIV patients and distributing antiretroviral medications. As a result, numerous organizations had to cease operations.



[Photo: Kindergarten children proudly presenting handmade products]

Even though Kula Malaika has not had American partners so far, we are receiving more and more feedback from our German supporters—especially from church communities—regarding the unstable donation climate. Global political and economic uncertainty affects us directly and does not make our work any easier.

Still, we at Kula Malaika are not losing hope.

In addition to our educational work with children and youth, we are increasingly focusing on generating our own income: through our café, guest accommodation, and the sale of products from our workshops. Although fewer German tour groups have visited recently, our café performed well during the summer months. A highlight was the visit of two English cycling groups from “The Slow Cyclist,” who stopped by with their e-bikes to visit our kindergarten and afterschool care program. We also saw a slight increase in sales of our handmade products from the wood and sewing workshops.

Hands-on Training for Youth

In the first half of 2025, we offered numerous practical courses for local youth. In the wood workshop, bread boards were planed and wooden spoons carved; in the café, waiter skills were taught; and in the guesthouse, participants learned professional housekeeping. Thanks to another donation from the Diocese of Münster in Germany, we can once again invite young people to live, work, and learn with us on the farm for extended periods.



Especially when we work closely with the youth, teach soft skills in learning sessions, and support them through therapeutic conversations, their chances in the job market improve significantly.

Childcare Centers and Government Inspections

Our two childcare centers—one in Kleinkrantz and one on the farm—are still well attended. As part of government inspections, the health department and fire department recently visited. While there were no issues in Kleinkrantz as usual, the farm facility requires significant renovations: the concrete floor needs tiling, electrical wiring must be updated, and a ceiling must be installed. Unfortunately, these measures are currently beyond our financial means. Although children may continue to attend, the official registration—and thus the possibility of receiving government funding—is once again delayed.

At least, with support from the Diocese of Hildesheim in Germany, we were able to complete the sanitary facilities—a major improvement, as we no longer need to rely on rented toilets.

Volunteers and Visits

Before the COVID pandemic, we regularly welcomed young volunteers from Germany—often recent high school graduates who spent several months volunteering with us. We were especially delighted this year to welcome two young women from my hometown of Münster: Marie and Paula supported the kindergarten and afterschool care in Kleinkrantz for two months.

A special highlight was our joint visit to the “Masifunde Learner Development” project in Gqeberha (formerly Port Elizabeth), led by German-born Jonas Schumacher. Masifunde follows a similar concept to Kula Malaika, though on a much larger scale. Despite the general challenges, Masifunde has not only held its ground in the Walmer Township but has continued to grow. The visit was both inspiring and motivating.

Sponsorships and Ongoing Needs

In our 2024 Christmas letter, we mentioned that a sponsorship of R1000 (€50, £40, \$60) per month enables a child to attend our kindergarten or afterschool care. We sincerely thank everyone who responded to our call and now donates regularly through one of our partner organizations. Nevertheless, we are still short about R25 000 (€1,250) per month to permanently secure the operation of both childcare centers.

We are therefore looking for more regular sponsors.

How can you help?

- Do you know someone who might be willing to take on a sponsorship?
- Or young adults interested in volunteering in with us?
- Are you planning a trip to the Garden Route in South Africa and would like to stay in our lovingly furnished guesthouse or visit our Café and projects?
- Or are you looking for a special gift?

Visit our website www.kulamalaika.com for a selection of handcrafted items from our workshops—every order directly supports our work.

With this in mind, we wish you a sunny and carefree summer or winter, depending on where you are in the world—full of connection, hope, and warmth.

With heartfelt gratitude for your continued support,

Monika, Watson, and the entire Kula Malaika Team



Our banking details in South Africa:

Kula Malaika Foundation

ABSA 632005

9206019795

Swift: ABSAZAJJ

Our Contact Address in Germany:

Kreis Südafrikahilfe e.V.

Susanne Bertels & Peter Übelmesser

Erlenweg 9

95445 Bayreuth

Germany

Phone: 0921 5071927

Bank Details:

Sparkasse Münsterland Ost

IBAN: DE11 4005 0150 0153 2719 86

BIC: WELADED1MST

Other payment methods:

Bidcoin : kulamalaika@blink.sv

PayPal still to be announced

WISE still to be announced