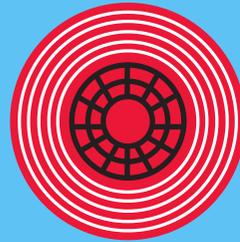


**LITTLE  
ZEBRA  
BOOKS**

# 2022 Annual Report

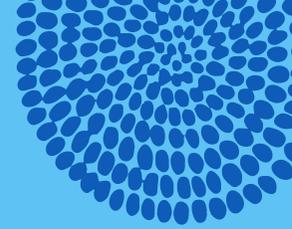
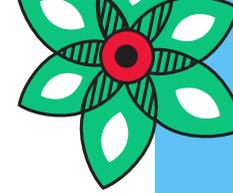
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## Our Vision

**Little Zebra Books exists to help African children grow in their love for reading and love for the Lord.**





**Molweni! Being part of Little Zebra Books is something close to my heart. Having grown up in the township and not being a reader, I was encouraged to read with my kids. This was one of the best decisions of my life. What I love about Little Zebra Books is that they have books in the kids' home language and relatable images, where each child feels that they can identify with the pictures. I would like to see reading spread to all communities, especially in the Township and Rural areas. Little Zebra Books gives parents and children access to simple books.**

In 2022, the governing board of Little Zebra Books prioritized putting in place structures and practices that would increase the sustainability of our organization. To do that, we partnered with Luceo Solutions to take an in-depth look at everything we do. As part of that process, the governing board working together with staff and beneficiaries came up with a new vision statement. We also began the process of hiring local South African staff. We hired a full-time office manager and began the process of identifying key roles that must be filled in the near future, including an operations and production manager, a fundraiser, and eventually a South African Director. This will help us to remain contextual and to access local funding.

My prayer is that Little Zebra Books will continue to spread across the continent of Africa until all children can grow up with beautiful books in their own languages.

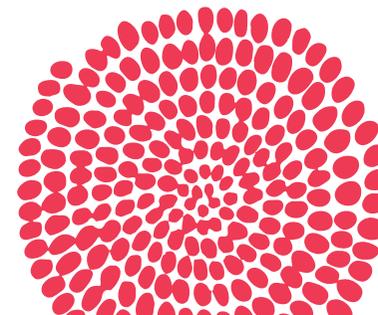
Enkosi Ndiyabulela!

*Minah Koela*  
*Board Chairperson*



*Minah Koela*

**“ I would like to see reading spread to all communities, especially in the Township and Rural areas. Little Zebra Books gives parents and children access to simple books. ”**





**When COVID-19 hit, Little Zebra Books got busy! We doubled down on sharing our books online. As a result all our books were shared on the African Storybook website in multiple languages. And in order to address the emotional and spiritual impact of the pandemic, we partnered with Beautiful Gate to produce four original book titles just for children living in the uncertain times of pandemic.**

Fast-forward to 2022 and it was the year we got to get back to work! In 2021 we had printed only 45 books! In 2022, we printed an amazing 166,739 beautiful books for children and most of those were immediately out the door heading for Mozambique and many locations in South Africa.

One of our most significant achievements in 2022 was adding our books to the Bloom Library. This online site is making our beautiful books accessible to language communities across Africa and around the world. It has been a team effort to get books laid out for multiple formats. We are getting wonderful feedback from people around the world who are loving the beautiful books we have created.

*David Ker, Director*

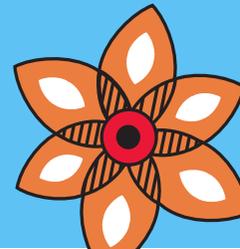


**“ I knew that most kids in Mozambique would never hold a book in their own language. And I wanted to change that. ”**

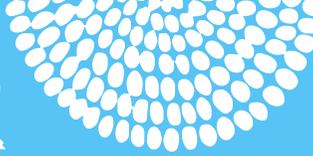
*David Ker, Director*



*David and Hilary Ker*



# 2022



**166,739 books**  
printed in 12 languages

2020



**Covid-19 special editions**  
in partnership with Beautiful Gate

2018



**All books shared online**  
at African Storybook

2016



**South African office**  
opens in Muizenberg

2014



**Little Zebra Books launches**  
in South Africa



2021

**Books for mobile sharing**  
during COVID



2019

**One millionth**  
book printed!



2017

**ALL South African languages**  
printed for Book Club



2015

**14 original titles**  
illustrated



2013

**First books printed**  
in Nyungwe



# DID YOU KNOW?

We print more books in more languages every year!

Our books are available in many languages

Afrikaans Chishona Cinyanja

Cinyungwe Cisena Ciyawo

Echuwabo Elomwe Emakhuwa

Imeetto isiNdebele isiXhosa

isiZulu Lingala Olunyaneka

Sepedi Sesotho Setswana siSwati

Tshivenda Xingoni Xitsonga

The Lost Sheep  
and the Lost Coin  
"A Ovelha Perdida  
e a Moeda Perdida"



In 2022 we  
printed  
**166,739**  
books

Where Is...?  
"Onde Está?"



Mimwani ya Anyungwe  
"Proverbs of the Nyungwe People"

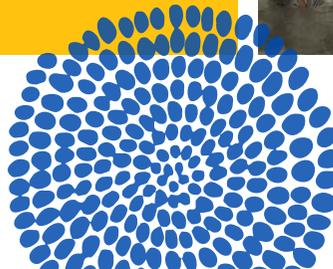


Did you know  
that we have  
**53 titles**  
available?

The Lord is  
My Shepherd  
"O Senhor é o Meu Pastor"



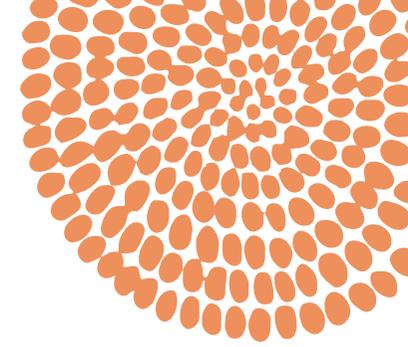
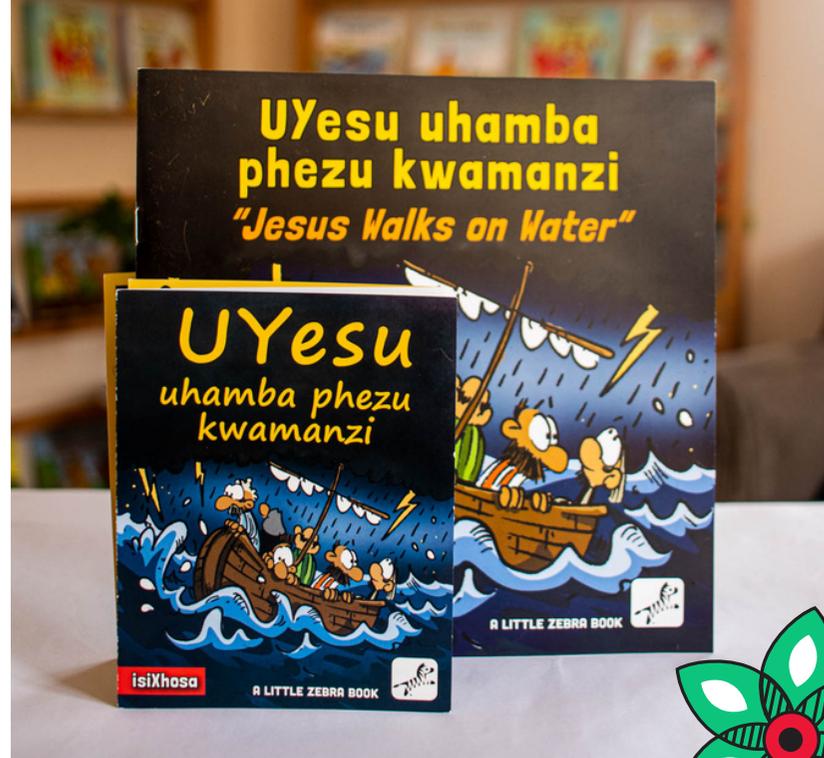
Angola  
Mozambique  
South Africa



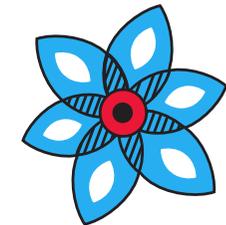
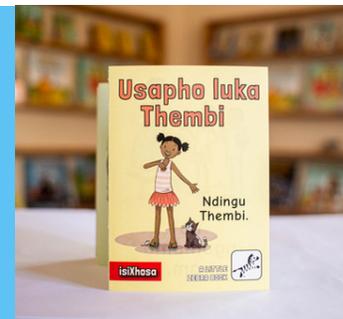
## OUR INNOVATIVE BOOKS

All of our Easy Readers, Folktales, and Bible Books are produced in two different formats:

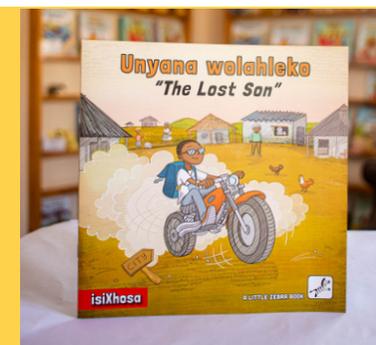
**small folding books and large bilingual books.**



Every Little Zebra Book is produced in a **small folding book layout**. This format is specifically designed to be a cost-effective way of printing thousands of books to distribute to individual children so that each child receives their own copy to take home. The folding books are monolingual, containing only the children's first language.



Secondly, every Little Zebra Book is produced in a **large, square, bilingual layout**. This format is specifically designed to be used by the adults, teachers, and Sunday school teachers who use our books with children. The 21x21cm size makes it easy to show the pictures to a group of children.



## MOZAMBIQUE: PARTNERS

**In 2022** our field partners in Mozambique moved out of the pandemic and into fully thriving reading clubs and Sunday School programs! Our key volunteer coordinators in central Mozambique have taken hold of the real responsibility of planning and implementing good quality programs. Their initiative and growing independence makes us very proud!

One of our goals is to see local partners using Little Zebra Books as an inspiration and tool to help children grow in their love for reading and their love for the Lord.

- We celebrated five years of service for four of the Tete Community volunteers. They now mentor new recruits, adding skills and independence to the team.
- James Joanete leads the drive to train local language Sunday School teachers across the Nyungwe and Nyanja speaking districts of Mozambique through his leadership of Children's Hope in Christ.
- Our partners at Prodelise in Beira, have now nominated a volunteer coordinator for Sena groups. This is proving to be an effective way to reach the ten re-established clubs after the cyclone in 2018.

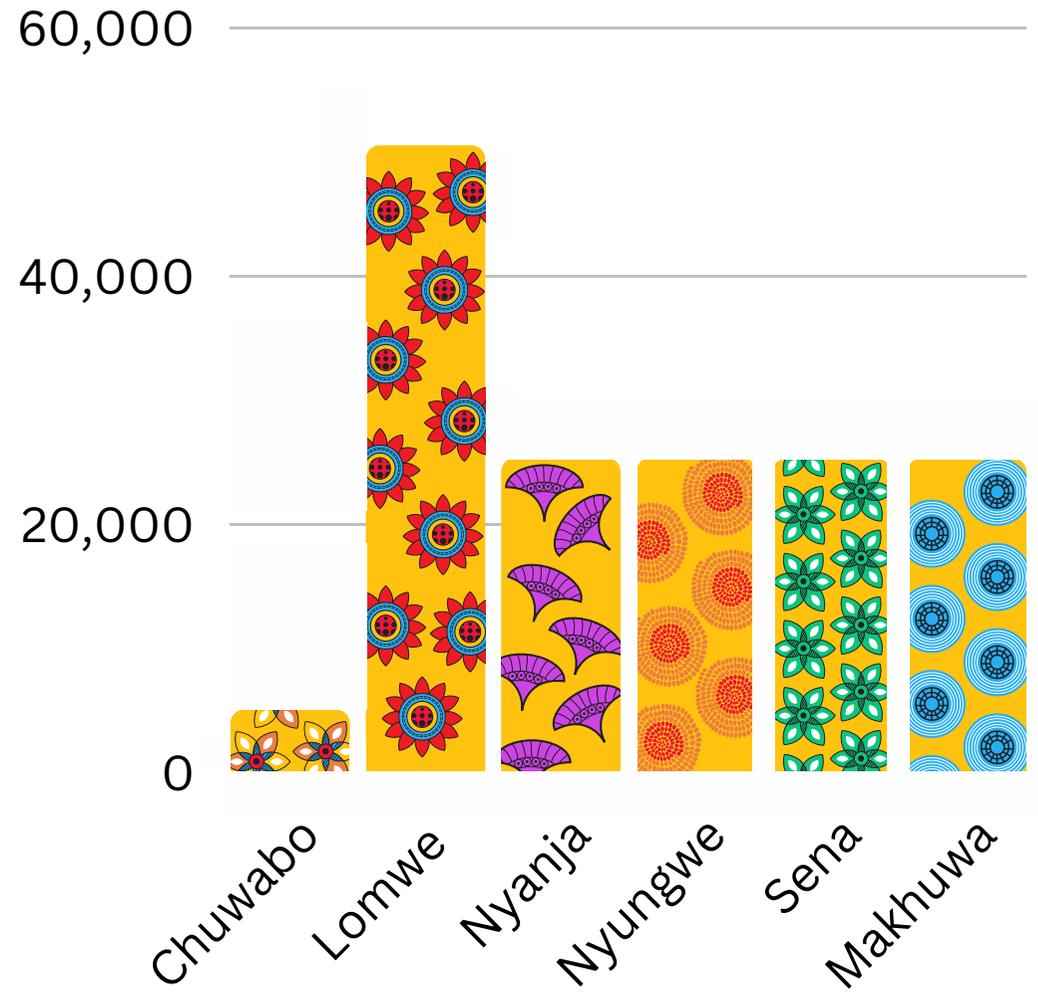


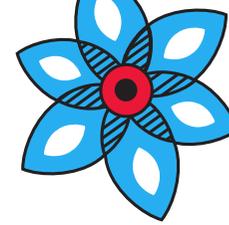
*Community volunteers share the joy of reading with kids in their neighborhood.*



*Little Zebra Books make it possible for children to read with meaning.*







"Thank you to Little Zebra books! The Beans 1, 2, 3 counting booklets help the children develop their concept of numbers in a fun way."

YoupSA, De Rust



"Dear Little Zebra Books, we would like to thank you for the wonderful gift of reading, and impacting young children's lives."

Eluvukweni Church, Cape Town

## List of beneficiaries

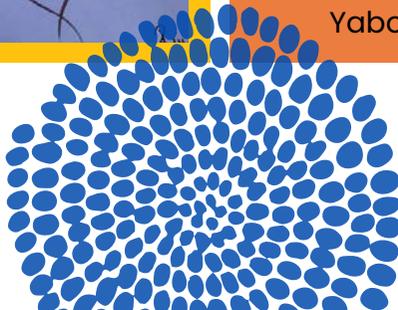
- Beautiful Gate
- Blue Moon Projects
- Capricorn Primary
- El Roi Rescue Mission
- Eluvukweni Anglican Church
- HELP
- Mini Miracles
- Nakhane Educare
- Ramotse Reformed Church
- Starseed Community School
- St Dominic's Catholic Church
- Stonehenge Farm School
- Where Rainbows Meet
- Yabonga
- YoupSA

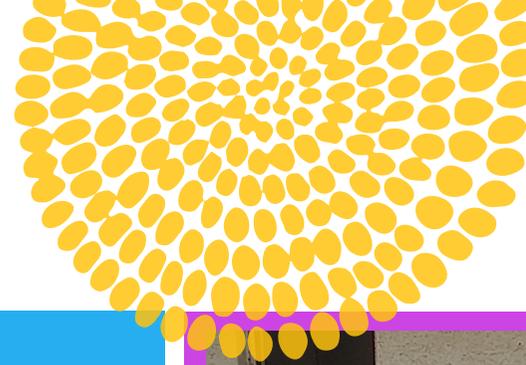
Dear Little Zebra Books,  
We like the book Nakeni and the Beans. It is very funny. We like the pictures and the people in the book. The ending of the story was ~~very~~ very good. Thank you very much for sending us the books!  
Love!



"The colorful books excited the children who participated well, often exchanging laughs with the leaders when reading."

Yabonga, Cape Town





*"We gave your beautiful books out at the Christmas party and the kids just pounced on them! Thank you."*

HELP, Cape Town



## Xhosa Christmas

At the end of 2022 we launched a project called 'Xhosa Christmas', the aim of this project was to send South African beneficiaries books that would benefit the community over the Christmas period.

During this time we packed books into gift boxes and distributed 4780 books to 16 beneficiary organisations. These groups are predominantly in the Western Cape Region of South Africa.

*"The Little Zebra books that children were able to take home continue to be a big hit! For some it is the first book they own."*

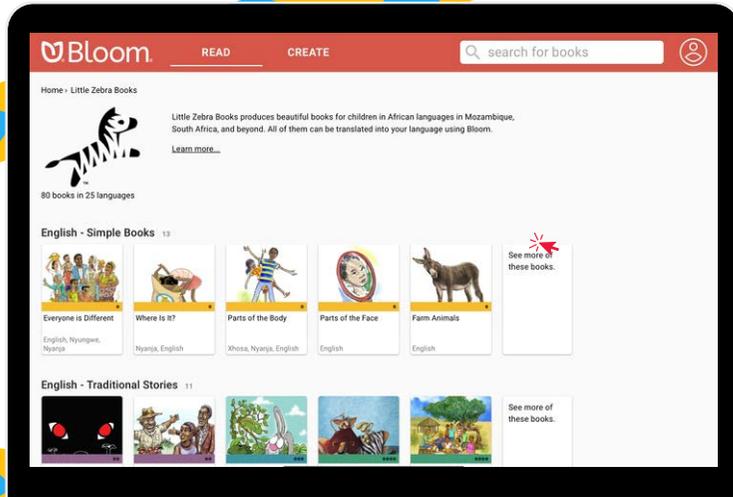
Stonehenge Farm School, EC



*"You gave love, light, joy and hope to 790 children. It's a message to children that they are loved and not forgotten."*

Blue Moon Projects, Cape Town



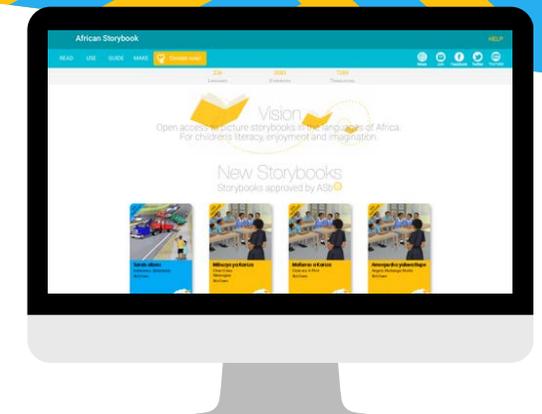


**The Bloom Library** is the new home for open access to Little Zebra Books. Worldwide, our books are being translated into many languages using Bloom software. Now anyone can read online, download digital versions, and download printable PDFs of all the Little Zebra Books in any language we have published!

**See our books on Bloom Library:**  
[www.bloomlibrary.org/Little-Zebra-Books](http://www.bloomlibrary.org/Little-Zebra-Books)

**African Storybook** is a South African initiative that we have been involved with since 2018. Our titles have been uploaded and translated into many languages in South Africa and beyond.

**See our books on African Storybook:**  
[www.africanstorybook.org/collection.php?id=646](http://www.africanstorybook.org/collection.php?id=646)



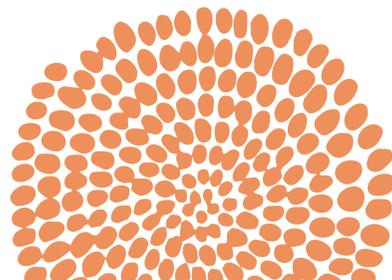


From left to right:

David Ker, Hilary Ker, Veronica João, Jeni Bister, Tamlin Jethro, Arlene Brown, Gillian Basson

At Little Zebra Books, our staff are known as the "work family." Since our team is so small, everyone gets a chance to be involved in many aspects of our work.

**We feel incredibly privileged to have such a talented and passionate group of individuals on our team.**





## Monique Goslett

In 2022, Monique Goslett, had a six month internship with Little Zebra Books. In these six months she had a fruitful and fun time developing her illustration skills. Little Zebra Books is committed to giving back to the community. We arranged for Monique to meet with a variety of professional illustrators, including Magriet Brink, Gavin Thomson, and Michelle Liebenberg. Monique was able to boost her knowledge as well as develop contacts with these local artists.



## Nkosinathi Sopangisa

Nkosinathi joined us for a three month internship in 2022, during which he mainly worked on videography and sound. He filmed and edited videos that emphasised the importance of our vision. He also recorded our stories being read in the Nyungwe language. Nkosinathi is a gifted photographer, and he produced excellent photos for our catalogue.



*Veronica João, reading in the Nyungwe language.* Little Zebra Books [Annual Report 2022](#) | 14

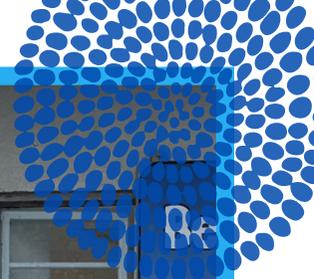
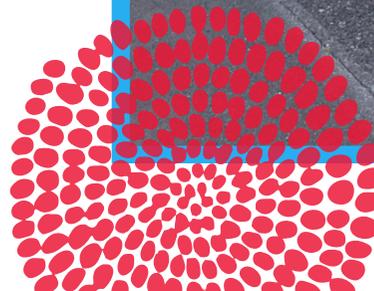


## NPO Accelerator Course

In 2022, Little Zebra Books contracted with Luceo Solutions to provide training in all the aspects of running a successful nonprofit in South Africa. Luceo led sessions in vision, mission, and helped Little Zebra Books better define who we are, why we exist, and what is our mission.

## Future Fund

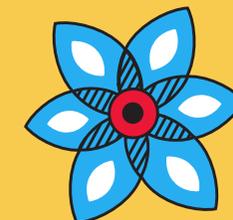
Another board initiative launched in 2022 was the Little Zebra Books Future Fund. The purpose of the Future Fund is to invest in the long-term sustainability of the organization through a growing endowment fund. A portion of the fund may be designated for projects, provided that they are contributing to our organisation's long-term sustainability. It is hoped that in time interest income from this fund may be used to fund production of books in languages across Africa.

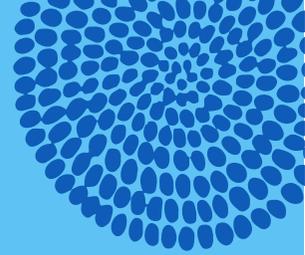


## Little Zebra Books South Africa Three Year Financial Summary

Statement of Comprehensive Income	2022 ZAR	2021 ZAR	2020 ZAR
<b>Revenue</b>			
Grants and Donations	682,406	356,138	313,485
Sales	250,877	6,814	18,006
<b>Total revenues</b>	<b>R 933,283</b>	<b>R 362,952</b>	<b>R 331,491</b>
<b>Expenses</b>			
<b>Book Production</b>			
Artwork	17,450	2,850	28,515
Printing	285,944	17,442	57,218
Shipping	80,892	1,993	33,735
<b>Operations</b>			
Administrative costs	43,012	54,590	38,628
Office	154,335	131,617	113,968
Personnel	421,602	165,169	81,873
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>R 1,003,235</b>	<b>R 373,661</b>	<b>R 353,937</b>
<b>Net surplus/deficit for the year</b>	<b>(R 69,952)</b>	<b>(R 10,709)</b>	<b>(R 22,446)</b>

Statement of Financial Position	2022 ZAR	2021 ZAR	2020 ZAR
<b>Assets</b>			
Non-current assets	6,114	12,168	10,176
Current assets	132,977	174,528	182,692
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>R 139,091</b>	<b>R 186,696</b>	<b>R 192,868</b>
<b>Funds and Liabilities</b>			
Accumulated funds	112,207	182,159	192,868
Current liabilities	26,884	4,537	0
<b>Total Funds and Liabilities</b>	<b>R 139,091</b>	<b>R 186,696</b>	<b>R 192,868</b>





**Little Zebra Books is growing year by year. This can easily be seen by the total costs growing from R373,000 to over R1,000,000 in 2022. A large portion of this was printing costs (almost R270,000 more than 2021), which means that Little Zebra Books was able to reach a lot more children in 2022.**

The downside is that the deficit is growing each year. In 2021, each Rand earned cost R1.02. In 2022, each rand earned cost R1.07. This means that we need to start attracting more Grants, Donations, and Sales. Thanks to the Luceo NPO Accelerator Course, we have started to put building blocks in place to ensure that the organisation can continue to grow and be financially sustainable.

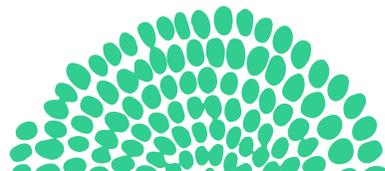
This includes key personnel, which will see the operational costs rise significantly. This is vital for the longevity of Little Zebra Books and the continued distribution of books to children in Southern Africa.

Little Zebra Books will be trialing a grant writer to approach various institutions and governments in order to secure funding in 2023. We are also looking at various partnerships in which we can generate income by creating and selling books that align with our vision to these partners.

Currently, our liquidity is nowhere close to what it should be. As any Christian organisation should be doing, we have been trusting in God's grace to provide for our continued existence and He has always provided. The hope is that the new fundraiser will be able to raise the necessary funds to ensure that Little Zebra Books can continue its growth.

I would personally like to thank everyone that has donated and continues to donate to Little Zebra Books so that Little Zebra Books can continue to provide mother-tongue books and the message of Jesus to children across Southern Africa. It is truly a blessing to see the joy on the faces of these children when they receive their very own books.

God bless!



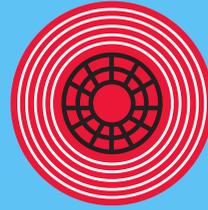
## James

*James Ruthven-Smith  
Board Treasurer*



*James Ruthven-Smith*

**" I would personally like to thank everyone that has donated and continues to donate to Little Zebra Books. "**



We are incredibly grateful to the many generous donors who make our ministry possible.

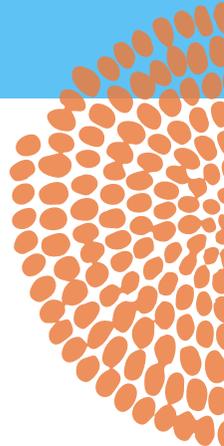
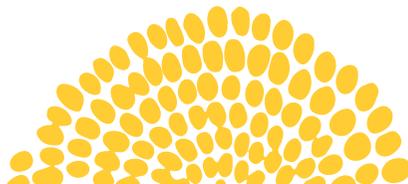
**Your generosity has touched the lives of thousands of children in South Africa, Mozambique, and more!**

### **Supporting Donors**

72 monthly supporters  
The Fitzgerald Family Foundation  
Ann Hobson  
Visions Made Viable

### **Supporting Churches**

Hope Church (Albany, Oregon)  
First Baptist (Brownsville, Oregon)  
G4 Church (Gillette, Wyoming)  
Family Life (Gillette, Wyoming)  
Bet:L (Skövde, Sweden)





**Contact us:**

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+27 (0)65 323 9584 RSA  
+1 (541) 730-3025 USA

**Donate at:**

[www.littlezebrabooks.com/give](http://www.littlezebrabooks.com/give)



**Find us at:**

17 Atlantic Road  
Muizenberg  
Cape Town 7950



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BOOKS**