September 2021

CARE&GROW

New School Uniforms and Stationery Bring Joy

Our CARE values – Communicate, Alignment, Relationship, Empowering – form the bedrock of our culture at Kaap Agri and play a crucial part in how the company operates.

Unlocking the doors to quality education is one way we act out the value of Empowering. We believe that education is one of the most powerful tools to transform one's life and we are proud of the relationships we're able to form in our local communities in order to impact the lives of young people.

Kaap Agri recently donated 135 brand-new school uniforms and stationery supplies worth R92,000 to Karookop Primary School in Moutonshoek, Piketberg.

Karookop is a rural primary school for learners in Grades R to 7. The school supplies were donated to the Foundation Phase learners (those in Grades R to 3).

"It's a requirement that each learner should have their own set of school clothes and stationery. However, many of the learners' parents are farmworkers who battle financially. As a result, the school struggles with fundraising," explains Henk Brand, the school principal.

The learners were overjoyed to receive their school kits which included a windbreaker rain jacket, a pair of school shoes, school socks, and a pencil case with stationery.

"The educators, parents and learners really appreciate this donation. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts," says Henk.

Enabling a Brighter Future Through Education

We strive to provide employees with opportunities for growth and empowerment. One of the ways we're able to do this, is by offering financial assistance through the Kaap Agri Trust to help our employees take care of their children's education.

Education has the power to change lives, and having access to finance can make all the difference. Qualifying employees who need financial help to support their children's education, can now apply to the Trust for assistance.

Financial assistance can be provided for all levels of study – from pre-primary, right up to tertiary level (university or college).

The Trust can also help to pay for education-related expenses such as student accommodation, tools for study, textbooks and school supplies.

Mercia Wagenstroom with her daughter Allison at her graduation.

Satish Bhoola, Senior Manager: Sustainability & Legal, says the Trust was established with the aim to make funds available to help change the lives of employees in a meaningful way.

"Education is one of the best tools to transform one's life. Since the establishment of the Trust in 2011, we have been able to assist several employees with funding towards their children's education. The Trust is a direct reflection of our CARE values and we are proud of the positive impact we are able to make. If you are in need of financial assistance, speak to your manager to find out how the Trust can help you," he says.

After learning about the benefits of the Trust, Mercia Wagenstroom, a cleaner at Kaap Agri's administrative offices in Porterville, applied for funding for her daughter's university and accommodation costs. At the time, her daughter, Allison, was a second-year BEd student at the Cape Peninsula University of Technology.

"As a single parent and sole breadwinner of my family, I often had sleepless nights, worrying about how I was going to pay for my daughter's university fees. After hearing about the Trust, I took a chance and applied. I was overjoyed when I heard my application was approved," Mercia explains with a broad smile.

"There was a time when we didn't think we would make it, but we are so grateful to Kaap Agri for making our dreams come true."

"There was a time in our lives when things were really difficult. We experienced a lot of financial challenges and Allison even considered giving up and quitting her studies at one point because I didn't have enough money to pay for her necessities like transport and food. Seeing my daughter graduate was one of my proudest moments as a mother! There was a time when we didn't think we would make it, but we are so grateful to Kaap Agri for making our dreams come true."

Allison has since graduated and was recently employed as a Grade 5 teacher at a local school in Graafwater. "The Trust changed our lives. My daughter would not have been where she is today if it weren't for the assistance we received. I am proud to work for a company that truly cares about the wellbeing of my family and encourage other employees who are in need, to grab the opportunity available to them. Don't let your circumstances hold you back. If I could do it, so can you," Mercia adds.

If you qualify and you are in need of financial help to support your child's education, make sure to submit your application before or on 8 October 2021.

HOW TO APPLY

Download the application form from http://thehub/documents/kaap-agri-trust/ and submit your completed form to katrust@kaapagri.co.za before or on 8 October 2021.

Please note that financial assistance is only available for employees' dependants. Training for employees is available by means of Human Resources' skills development initiatives.

Fresh Coat of Paint to Brighten Special Home

Agrimark Stellenbosch donated 20 litres of paint to a community-based home for persons with autism spectrum disorder.

Wileen Venter from Hurdy Gurdy, one of only a few homes dedicated to care for adults with autism in the region, says the paint has really brightened up the space. "We would like to express a warm thank you for your donation of paint for our home for autistic men with intellectual disabilities. Your contribution has helped us to make one of our rooms look brand new. Thank you for making the lives of our residents better."

Goeie Nagrus by Huis van Heerde Nou Makliker

Die kinders van Huis van Heerde (HVH) in Moorreesburg slaap nou warm, danksy Kaap Agri se donasie van beddegoed. As deel van vanjaar se Jeugdagvierings, het Kaap Agri vir elke kind by HVH 'n broodnodige kombers, matras en kussing geskenk.

"Namens die beheerraad, personeel en die kinders, sê ons baie dankie. Ons waardeer die donasie opreg. Wees verseker dat die bydrae gebruik word om die lewens van die behoeftige kinders in ons sorg te bevoordeel en te verbeter," sê Deidre Cooper van HVH.

Huis van Heerde sorg tans vir 70 kinders, van pasgeborenes tot 18 jaar oud. Weerlose kinders wat hoofsaaklik van die Weskus-streek afkomstig is, word met hofbevele hier geplaas omdat hulle sorg, terapie of beskerming nodig het. Om ten volle aan die kinders se emosionele, fisiese, intellektuele en geestelike behoeftes te voorsien, is HVH genoodsaak om hulp vanuit die gemeenskap te versoek.

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Agrimark Upington Help om Groot Geld vir Liefdadigheid in te Samel!

Agrimark Upington het onlangs OFM-radiostasie en Round Table Southern Africa se Groot Vet Kombers Proe-jek ondersteun waarin R450 000 vir liefdadigheid ingesamel is.

As deel van die projek, het die OFM-span vier dorpe en stede in hul uitsaaigebied besoek (Upington, Vryburg, Potchefstroom en Welkom) waar vetkoeke teen 'n minimum donasie van R35 verkoop is. In sommige dorpe is donasies van tot R10 000 ontvang.

OFM het Upington op 24 Junie besoek waar hulle vir die dag vanaf die Agrimark Upington-tak uitgesaai het. Agrimark Upington het met bewusmaking gehelp deur inwoners op sosiale media aan te moedig om hierdie goeie doel te ondersteun. Nóg gees is op die dag gebou met gelukstrekkings by die winkel.

Die Upington-been van die projek het meer as R100 000 ingesamel!

"Ons het 'n beroep gedoen op al ons klante en vriende in Upington om ons te help om almal in die gemeenskap gedurende die winter warm te hou. As deel van die projek was daar ook houers in die tak waar die gemeenskap items vir minderbevoorregtes kon skenk. Met hulle hulp kon ons die houers met komberse, klere en nie-bederfbare kruideniersware vul wat onder diegene wat dit die nodigste het, versprei is," sê Werner Kruger, Streekbestuurder: Handel Noord-Kaap, met trots.

"Die dag was vol energie. Dit was 'n eer vir Agrimark Upington om deel te kon wees van hierdie inisiatief. Dankie aan ons Upington-klante en lede van die plaaslike gemeenskap wat ons ondersteun het."

Agrimark Franschhoek Donates CARE Hampers to Community

Staff at two local daycare centres in Franschhoek were pleasantly surprised when they received much needed health and hygiene hampers from the Agrimark Franschhoek store.

The hampers included bleach and sanitiser, toilet paper, face masks and liquid hand soap – all of which are useful to protect learners and staff and to help prevent the spread of COVID-19 and other harmful germs.

"It's always a pleasure to help the local community, especially during these difficult times. I am sure these products will come in handy and make a difference," Agrimark Franschhoek store manager, Adrian van Wyk, says.

Bradley Leef sy Passie vir Digkuns uit en Skep só Lig uit Pad van Pyn

Om 'n stokperdjie te hê bring 'n gevoel van pret en vryheid en kan help om die impak van stres te verminder. Het jy geweet dat kreatiewe aktiwiteite en stokperdjies werknemers help om beter in die werkplek te presteer?

Ander navorsing het bevind dat aangename aktiwiteite wat gedurende vrye tyd gedoen word, goed vir jou algehele gesondheid is.

Bradley Arendse, 'n handelsklerk by Agrimark Malmesbury, kan hiervan getuig. Hy het onlangs sy lewenslange droom om 'n skrywer te word, gerealiseer.

"Skryf en lees was nog altyd vir my 'n wegbreek en 'n kreatiewe ontsnapping, maar om 'n boek uit te gee was nie iets wat ek gedink het ooit met my sou gebeur nie," sê Bradley.

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Nadat hy vroeër vanjaar 'n plaaslike kompetisie gewen het, is Bradley se eerste digbundel, *Woorde uit Bloed*, gepubliseer. "Ek het af en toe gedigte op Facebook geplaas en het toe aan die Straatligdigterskompetisie deelgeneem. Die hoofprys was om jou eie digbundel te kry. Op 2 September 2021 is my bundel met 112 gedigte afgelewer," vertel Bradley.

Hy sê die positiewe reaksie en belangstelling is vir hom roerend. "Ek kan dit nog steeds nie glo dat ek die kompetisie gewen het nie en my eie digbundel het nie. Omdat dit vir so lank net 'n stokperdjie was, het ek nie regtig in myself geglo

nie. Selfs nadat vele ander my talent uitgewys het, het ek steeds in myself getwyfel," het hy bygevoeg.

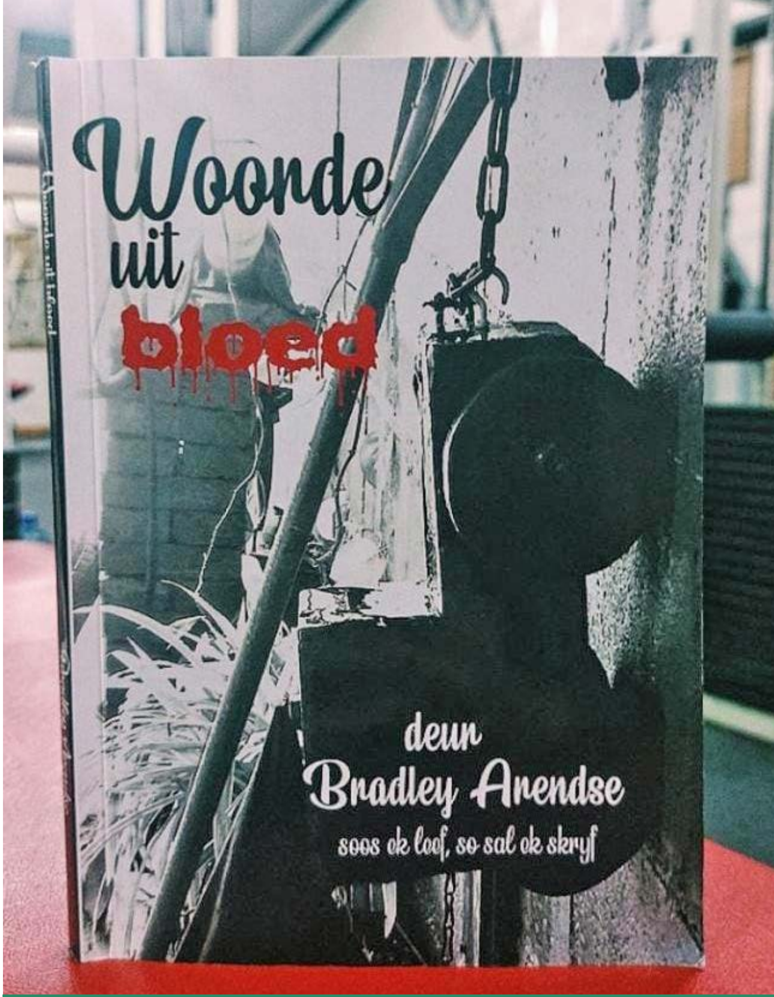
Die lewe was nie altyd 'n maklike pad vir hom nie. Bradley sê die titel, *Woorde Uit Bloed,* is afgelei van die daaglikse stryd wat hy moes stry en dit volg sy pad uit die donker van pyn, hartseer, dood, liefde, geluk en vreugde.

Bradley vertel dat sy stryd met nierversaking, waarmee hy in 2013 gediagnoseer is, ook 'n groot invloed op sy digkuns gehad het. "Dit was 'n moeilike en uitmergelende pad, maar ek het nie moed opgegee nie en ek het my toevlug in die skryf van gedigte gevind. My vrou, Sandy, was my steunpilaar en het my altyd aangemoedig om my hart te volg en meer aandag aan my skryfwerk te gee. As ek terugkyk na my lewe en waar ek vandaan kom, is dit vir my 'n massiewe mylpaal. My enigste spyt is dat my ma nie vandag hier is om saam met my trots te wees nie. My boek is opgedra aan haar, en my seun, Kayden Brian Arendse, wat vroeër vanjaar op 30 April stilgebore is."

Daar is nog projekte in die pyplyn vir Bradley en 'n boek is een van hulle, maar dis langtermyndoelwitte, sê hy. Een van sy kortverhale het ook onlangs in die tydskrif *Kuier* se Junie/Julie-uitgawe verskyn.

Bradley moedig alle personeellede wat passievol oor hulle stokperdjies is, aan om in hulself te glo. "Moet jouself asseblief nie onderskat nie. Respekteer jouself en jou werk. Hou aan glo, hou aan droom en moenie toelaat dat enige iets jou fokus verbreek nie."

Woorde uit Bloed is teen R180 per kopie beskikbaar. Vir bestellings kan mense Bradley kontak by 079 606 3688 of e-pos by bradleyarendse76@gmail.com.



Ruiter

Ruiter van die wind, hoor my roep
kom haal my en maak my weer kind
help asseblief om my liefde te vind
ek is alleen en baklei teen die wind
volg die Transkaroo op sy spoor
ek het iewers iets verloor
dra my hart in jou hand
gooi my seer en sorge weg langs die pad
sit vrede in my hart
sit 'n lag in die diepste donker
donkerste van die nag
Ruiter van die wind
kom en maak my weer kind . . .
kom asseblief
ek is verlore en
wil myself net vind

LET'S GET **VACCINATED**

KAAP AGRI

We Want to Hear from You

Has your branch or department been involved in any community based corporate social investments (CSI) projects lately? We'd love to hear all about it. Please send us your good news stories and images to sonia.capes@kaapagri.co.za

Ons Hoor Graag van Jou!

Was jou tak of departement onlangs by 'n gemeenskapsprojek betrokke? Ons wil graag daarvan hoor. Stuur asseblief jou inspirasiestories en foto's na sonia.capes@kaapagri.co.za