

Harvesters of Jesus



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The Association of the Harvesters of Jesus was established in order to provide the regular daily spiritual needs of the Little Eden Society. It is firmly believed that without such support, Little Eden would wither.

“When I approach a child, he inspires in me two sentiments; tenderness for what he is, and respect for what he may become.” – *Louis Pasteur.*

The majority of visitors who experience life at LITTLE EDEN for the first time are always amazed at the level of care, the cleanliness and the effort that goes into sustaining our residents on a daily basis.

With the huge number of children and adults in our care, it would be so easy to operate solely as a facility that provides basic needs, such as food and shelter. However, one of the LITTLE EDEN values is *Respect*. I believe it is *respect*, along with our other values: *sanctity of life* as well as *love and care* that sets the Society apart from other institutions.

It is *respect* for our residents and what they contribute in life, which motivates our wonderful staff to always go the extra mile. The children are accepted for who they are and what they can do - at their own level and pace. We believe in them and celebrate each achievement – however small or insignificant it may seem to the outside world.

While some people may fail to recognise the unique spirit inside our precious angels, we aim each new day to help the children become the best that they can be. Our challenge is to encourage more individuals, families and communities to recognise the uniqueness and value of persons with intellectual disabilities. Without a sense of caring and respect, there can be no sense of community...

I once read the following words and have remembered it ever since: “This is the final test of a gentleman: his respect for those who can be of no possible value to him.”

Will you pray for our staff who give of themselves daily? It is not an easy task they face and their responsibility to the children is great.

Hanneli Esterhuysen

Daily prayer for the needs of LITTLE EDEN

Jesus, Great Harvester, who desires the salvation of all mankind, accept the offering of my life and work in assisting You to help garner the fields for the harvest. Teach me compassion, understanding and love for those most in need. Bless our Association; strengthen the bonds of love and charity amongst us, so that with hearts united we may say "Thy kingdom come". Mary, comfort of the afflicted, pray for us.

