

Sanctuary Stories

Rewriting futures, one little heart at a time.

Heartlands
baby sanctuary
it's every child's birthright to belong



Sanctuary Stories · June 2026

Big changes, growing hearts & a brand-new stimulation centre.

Dear Heartlands Family,

As we step into the second half of 2026, our hearts are full, our facility is buzzing, and our mission to provide a safe, loving haven for vulnerable babies is stronger than ever.

This month was incredibly significant. We moved into our new stimulation centre, commemorated **National Child Protection Week**, and we're entering a season of profound growth. Because the need in our community keeps rising, we've made a brave decision to expand our arms even wider. Here's what's happening in our world — and how you can be part of it.

We're expanding from 25 to 30 beds ♥

The calls for placements have increased — and we hate turning a child in crisis away.

We're proud, and deeply moved, to announce that Heartlands has officially increased our operational capacity from 25 to 30 children.

+5 beds

A 20% increase in our care — five more little ones we can welcome into safety, comfort and love.

While we rejoice that we can change five more lives, this 20% increase in admissions means our daily costs for specialised formula, medical care, nappies and utilities rise instantly. We're stepping out in faith, knowing our incredible community will help us fill these five new beds with comfort and care.

Introducing the Klop Klop Stimulation Centre ♥

Our old therapy block, reimagined as a bright, sensory-rich development hub.

To make room for five extra little personalities without compromising their growth and rehabilitation, we had to get creative with our space. We've remodelled our old therapy block and indoor play area into a new development and stimulation hub — warmly named **The Klop Klop Stimulation Centre**.

This bright, sensory-rich space is built for development and stimulation, letting our coordinators work one-on-one with the children to reach those vital milestones. Toddlers who once eyed the old therapy room with suspicion — usually associating it with check-ups — now queue at the door, eager for the new soft-play structures and sensory walls.



"One of our little ones, hesitant to practise his walking, took three independent steps this week determined to reach a bright blue sensory block on the other side of the room."

— Runika

Child Protection Week: every child deserves a safe tomorrow ♥

Child Protection Week is a stark reminder of why Heartlands exists. Every child who enters our doors has a right to safety, care, nutrition and love. Our carers, stimulation coordinators, support staff and social worker work tirelessly to restore dignity and healing to these tiny lives.

Protection isn't just providing a roof — it's creating an environment where trauma fades and childhood begins. We honour this week by recommitting ourselves to being the fierce protectors these children deserve.

A fond farewell to Runika Miles ♥

Our Development & Stimulation Coordinator moves on to a new chapter.



It's with a heavy heart that we say goodbye to **Runika**, who has made the difficult decision to relocate. During her time at Heartlands she completely transformed how our little ones learn and heal — designing tailored stimulation programmes, turning everyday play into therapeutic breakthroughs, and creating a sensory-rich environment where our babies could truly thrive. She made sure no medical challenge ever stood in the way of a child's growth.

Her absence will be deeply felt. The children will miss her gentle guidance and the pure joy she brought to the playroom; her colleagues will miss her infectious energy and warmth.

Thank you, Runika, for your fierce dedication and the lasting legacy of joy you leave behind. We wish you nothing but the absolute best on your next exciting chapter — you will be so dearly missed.

Welcome our new Fundraiser, Samantha Topley ♥

To help us navigate this growth and unlock the resources our 30 little ones need, we're thrilled to welcome the newest member of the Heartlands family: **Samantha Topley**, our new Fundraiser. Samantha joins us with years of experience in the non-profit sector and a deep passion for child welfare.



"I am incredibly honoured to join Heartlands at such a pivotal moment. Increasing our capacity to 30 babies and launching the Klop Klop Stimulation Centre is a beautiful challenge — and I'm excited to work with our donors, corporate partners and volunteers so every child here has exactly what they need to thrive."

— Samantha

Want to send Samantha a warm welcome, or discuss corporate CSI partnerships for Q3? Reach her directly at fundraiser@heartlandsbaby.org.

Join us for Mandela Day to welcome our 5 new children ♥

67 minutes — or a few flexible hours across the week.

Mandela Day, and the energetic week around it, is a special time — and it's people like you who bring the magic, the muscle and the momentum to what we

do. Whether you have 67 minutes or a few flexible hours, your time and energy will make a tangible difference to the children in our care.

1

Email
fundraiser@heartlandsbaby.org
to express your interest.

2

We'll send you a
complete wishlist
and taskboard.

3

Pick an item or a task
that makes you say "I
can do that!" and tell
us where you'd love
to jump in.

[Count me in for Mandela Day →](#)

Thank you for being the village that helps us raise these beautiful children. We could not do this life-saving work without your open hearts and ongoing generosity. The most powerful way to help us fill those five new beds is to become a monthly donor.

[Become a monthly donor →](#)

With deep gratitude,

The Heartlands Baby Sanctuary Team

Heartlands Baby Sanctuary

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Follow our journey on Instagram & Facebook

It's Every Child's Birthright to Belong ♥

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