



LAKE FARM CENTRE

a loving community for intellectually challenged adults

Project Proposal

Farming for the Future –
Help us make Lake Farm Centre
NPO self-sufficient.

003-544 NPO

8/11/13/1348 PBO / 18A approved



www.lakefarm.org.za



Who We Are

*A safe home for intellectually challenged adults - registered
NPO & PBO*

Origin story

Our roots date back to 1960 when concerned parents of intellectually challenged children envisioned a loving home where their unique individuals could thrive throughout life with purpose and joy.

At Lake Farm Centre, we provide a space fostering growth, independence, and belonging for valued members of our supportive community.

We are not just another “mental health facility,” but a vibrant community born out of love and compassion. Both residents and staff are carefully selected to ensure a close-knit, nurturing environment. A true home where they live, work, and play as a united village.

Our vision

Lake Farm Centre’s vision is to care for, respect, and develop each individual, embracing their unique capabilities and needs.

Our dedicated staff are more than caregivers; they are compassionate role models, “parents,” and counsellors. They continually uplift, empathise, and exhibit patience, insight, and understanding, fostering an environment of love and trust for our residents.

We create a meaningful lifestyle with a nurturing home, work, social, and spiritual life.

Our mission

Inspiring Excellence in Care

Lake Farm Centre’s mission is to serve as a model for others, providing the best possible care and support to intellectually challenged adults, helped by our fundraising efforts.

Together, we inspire excellence in care, positively impacting their lives.

[**CLICK HERE**](#)



Our Residents





Executive Summary

BACKGROUND

Lake Farm Centre Aid Association (LFCAA) is a charitable organisation that has Lake Farm Centre as its core project.

The latter presently accommodates eighty-six intellectually challenged individuals, some thirty percent of whom are orphans. Additionally, numerous residents also suffer from physical disabilities.

FUNDING CONSTRAINTS

The main source of funding of LFCAA is grants in aid, supplemented with monthly contributions from some parents and guardians.

The annual budgetary shortfall is circa R1m, such deficit which is covered with fundraising efforts.

PROBLEM STATEMENT

The Association is dependent on the Department of Social Development for its continued existence. This is not construed as healthy and places the organisation at a serious and continuous risk.

In addition, fundraising takes place in a constrained economic environment with an ever-increasing demand for financial aid. In a nutshell, humanitarian needs are outpacing available humanitarian aid.





SOLUTION

In order to address the aforesaid constraints, the association has embarked on a commercialisation programme, introducing **Lake Farm Centre's Agriculture Project.**

Additionally, a fully operational coffee shop is in operation which generated R250 000 in sales during 2023/24. A bakery supplies countrywide and raised R270 000 in sales in the previous financial year.

The biggest investment, however, has been in the agricultural initiative, which produces herbs and vegetables. Although only in its first productive year, sales for the month of January 2025 is forecasted to be R150 000.

The product basket is being expanded and sales is forecasted to increase to an estimated R200 000 in January 2026, absent any additional financial input. Breakeven currently is pegged at R120 000 per month.

VISION

The vision is to expand the 1 200 m² currently under tunnels, the 1 500 m² under shade and the 3 ha open lands.

The growth and expansion initiative will be guided by the success of funding efforts.

The short-term goal is to generate an average profit of R100 000 per month, which will necessitate the raising of R750 000. The latter includes a budget of R250 000 for the acquisition of a cucumber wrapping machine.

The medium-term goal is to generate R300 000 per month, which will require a further R2m of investment.



CONSTRAINTS

The biggest constraint faced by the Association is its inability to leverage funding in the commercial environment, underpinned by the charitable nature of the organisation. Growth must accordingly be driven by own funds, which in turn is problematic given that the core function of the Association remains the care of the disadvantaged residents

TARGET MARKETS

The target market currently consists primarily of convenience stores such as the Spar and Food Lovers Market with demand exceeding supply.

The Association ventured into the high value market with the establishment of berry fields. A pilot project of 400m² has been embarked upon and the first yield is being harvested. A yield of 8t/ha at a trade price of R80/t seems to be realistic.

TECHNICAL CAPACITY

The requisite technical assistance is provided to the Association with the kind assistance of Laeveld Agro, offering access to best industry practice.

COMMUNAL BENEFIT

The Agri initiative does not need to be confined to LFCAA. A successful pilot project has been established, which can serve as a blueprint for similar initiatives that can be used by a variety of other institutions, organisations and or individuals.



BEFORE

AFTER

BEFORE

AFTER



FRESH PRODUCE





Wishlist

Agri Project

- Tunnels & irrigation (+- R190 000 per tunnel)
- Cooling truck (+- R400 000)
- Cucumber packaging machine (+- R250 000)

A fully off-grid solar system would be a game-changer for our farming, eliminating major setbacks caused by ongoing electricity and water cuts.

Vehicles

Our vehicles are outdated 1990s models with rising repair costs. We need a wheelchair-friendly Caddy-type vehicle for daily operations such as shopping and medical visits.

An additional minibus would greatly improve resident and staff transport.

Solar Power System

On average our electricity bill stands at R60 000 per month.

The current solar system is over 10 years old and not supplying at ideal capacity. Quotes for a fully off the grid system is available on request.

Saving on electricity cost will make a huge operational cost difference.

Infrastructure repairs

- Asbestos roof replacement (Health risk)
- Kitchen upgrades (Our staff cook 3 meals per day for all +-90 residents)
- Bathroom upgrades & additional ablution blocks (Safety hazards & accessibility for disabled residents)
- Sewerage system upgrade



More Information

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Get In Touch

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*Thank
you!*

