



THE  
**BIG  
HAND**.ORG  
CHILDREN FIRST

# Newsletter

1ST SEMESTER OF 2023

**Dear friends,**

*2022 was marked by the slowdown of the pandemic that allowed us to resume the project in full.*

*We had the children with us full time again, filling the nursery and kindergarten rooms with the greatest joy imaginable, together with the natural playing that the children were eager to resume. Also in 2022, we managed to finish the construction of the 3 new classrooms of the Montechimoio School, something that fills us with pride.*



For the happiness of all the sponsored children, **we distributed, together with the food kit and seeds, more than 600 dresses and shorts with the support of Dress a Girl.** A well-deserved gift for the children who overcome many challenges every day.





*In this way, we started 2023 with renewed energy, very positive and full of new dreams and projects.*

***In the Village of Montechimoio, we started the construction of 2 more social rooms for the preschool and Youth Club thanks to the support of the **Godfathers Giselle and Otto Lamp** and the **Rotary Club of Berlin**. Thank you!***

***In Matsinho Village, we are supporting the effort of the Community and the Secondary School to expand education, through the construction of a classroom where the 11th grade will be taught. In this joint effort, the Community contributes with labour and local materials, The Big Hand with part of the cement and the roofing.***



***In the village of Messica, where we operate since 2010, our playroom is open daily to all children of the village, with an average of 300 users per week. In this space, children and young people can ask questions, do research, study and play independently or with the support of Mana Gredisse, a Big Hand tutor. Besides, they can also take school and hygiene material whenever they need it. It is the reflection of many years of work, with the community and the school, which have created in the children the habits of hygiene and study, so important for their life project. Thank you, from the bottom of my heart, to all those who made this dream possible!***

***In the village of Chipaco, the construction of the annexed room by The Big Hand has already allowed, this year, 16 children in year 3 to study in the village without having to walk 14 km (round trip) to study in Matsinho Village. They join the 43 students of the 1st and 2nd years who study in the village in safer conditions.***

**YOU CAN GIVE AN  
HAPPY ENDING  
TO YOUR IRS**



CHART 11 OF MODEL 3 OF THE IRS  
**509519792**







We also started, with great joy and support from our little ones in nursery and kindergarten, the **Family Gardens Programme** in order to ensure Food Safety through the promotion of food literacy as early as possible. The great promoter is Monitor Eusébio, from whom we share some wonderful photographs of the commitment of our "**little farmers**".



As part of the annual plan, during the first quarter, **we delivered school material and hygiene kits and carried out health and development screening for our children.**





## ***I am also proud, in this Newsletter, to introduce two people, Luís and Neci.***

*Luís is a very motivated young man with a big heart who has embraced the challenge of making this world a better world for children, supporting the management of the Big Hand back office in Portugal.*

*Neci is a success story that inspires us to continue to fight for the Rights of vulnerable children every day. Neci started at Big Hand as a sponsored vulnerable child. The years went by and Neci, overcame all the challenges imposed by inequalities, she did not lower her arms and today is a Big Hand Monitor in the nursery, giving back all the knowledge and affection she received.*

*It is with immense pride and happiness that I witness these small miracles, life projects carved with the help of all the Big Hand friends. I promise to continue working to bring you more good news this year, for now, I end this message with much hope for the future because the plans are many and I want to accomplish them all.*

*To the Social Bodies and the entire Big Hand Team, a special thanks. For all your support and affection. Only with you it is possible to continue working to break the vicious circle of poverty in which children and communities find themselves. To all of you, thank you!*



***Hello everyone! My name is Luís and I've been a backoffice support at The Big Hand since the end of January.***

*I have a degree in Business Management but I never had any professional experience before and yet, David and Marisa opened the doors to the project for me. Up to this point they have taught, guided and shown me what The Big Hand is all about. Thanks to this, I was able to add to the feeling of professional accomplishment, also a sense of personal and human fulfillment. It is very gratifying to work for a cause like this.*

*I have had the opportunity, throughout these months, to get to know the people behind this fantastic project and who make all the cogs turn... And at the same time that I am helping, I am learning. Because I, as a person, am also a constant work in progress and I aim to improve (myself) every day.*

*Thank you, genuinely, to the entire The Big Hand team for welcoming me as one of them from the beginning.*

