

Hamburg, 15th January 2017

**Dear supporters and donors, dear friends!**

A new year, a new workplace!  
We are moving on January 16th to a new steps-office.  
You will find us at Bramfelder Straße 77, D-22305  
Hamburg – Telephone, E-Mail and Fax stay the same.

And I am pleased to say that there is also more news:  
Collin Benjamin, former professional footballer with HSV  
Hamburg and TSV 1860 Munich, will be a new steps  
ambassador and Ulrike Mai has started as the new  
national coordinator in Namibia. In this, the first  
newsletter in 2017, I would like to report on these  
developments and about wonderful actions from  
schools and kindergartens and news of our projects.

**Also you can now donate without spending an extra cent!**

steps for children has registered with the AmazonSmile programme and with every one of your purchases from Amazon, we will receive 0.5% of the price as a voucher. How does that work? Look further down on this page.

Looking back, I am deeply grateful: it was a really successful anniversary year in which we received the highest level of donations that we have had in the last 10 years. For this I cannot say THANK YOU to you all often enough!

I am looking forward to a new year working together with you at the side of steps for children.

Yours, Michael Hoppe

## Support steps with AmazonSmile

**steps for children is registered with AmazonSmile as a social organisation and when you select us before you make your purchase with AmazonSmile, we will receive a voucher for 0.5% of your purchase- For you this costs nothing and has no effect on prices or offers.**

In order to buy with AmazonSmile simply open smile.amazon.de in the Web-Browser of your computer or your mobile phone. On your first visit to smile.amazon.de you must choose an organisation: steps for children before you start your purchases. Your choice will be stored and subsequently every qualifying purchase from smile.amazon.de creates a voucher for the chosen organisation. Millions of products are qualified for AmazonSmile. Qualified products will be marked with "Qualified for smile.amazon.de" on the product details page.

You can use the same account on Amazon.de and smile.amazon.de. Your shopping basket, wish-list, wedding- and baby-lists and other account settings are also the same. Ideally introduce a bookmark for smile.amazon.de straight away to make it even easier to start every purchase with smile.amazon.de and to finish with a voucher for 0.5% of the purchase price for steps.

**Do it with us and give the children in Namibia a SMILE with Amazon!**

# Growth in the steps–community

## Collin Benjamin becomes a new steps ambassador



10 years after I first met Collin Benjamin in the Hamburg Volkspark stadium, we met again last November in Windhoek with the result that he would like to support the work of steps for children as an ambassador. From 2001 to 2011, Collin Benjamin was a professional with the Hamburg HSV football club. Afterwards he first played for TSV 1860 Munich and was then a coach there.

In 2016 he moved his home back to his homeland to Windhoek in Namibia where he would like to build up a football academy.

We are looking forward to your support, Collin, thank you!

## Ulrike Mai coordinates in Namibia

Since the beginning of the year Ulrike Mai has taken over as national coordinator in Namibia the former role of Stefan Schultheiss, who now helps us on specific projects, amongst others building projects. Ulrike came to Namibia in May 2009 as has been active since in various social projects:

“Basically, with this work I have always had the same aim as steps for children, namely through the education and training of disadvantaged children and young people to give them a future and to help them to help themselves. In this way it also involves ameliorating the sometimes indescribably poor living conditions and to offer an honourable life without daily emergencies.



Through an acquaintance I got to know steps and saw there the chance to combine social commitment and professional experience. In Germany I was active for many years in finance in a commercial area and I was also self-employed. Not everyone may like it, but I am a fan of correct bookkeeping and regular reporting. A trusting, open and regular cooperation with all project participants in Namibia and the foundation in Germany holds pride of place.”

A warm welcome to steps!

# Windhoek

## Three beds and a carpet needed

Our project partner Boomerang in Windhoek urgently needs little beds for the littlest, since otherwise the children just lie on blankets on the floor. In a little bed two children can have a comfortable midday sleep together.

For the toddlers we would also like to find a carpet so that they no longer need to be put on the bare concrete floor. In the Namibian winter it is very cold – especially on the floor!

**Provide two babies with a little bed and a mattress for 210 Euro.**

**Give the children a carpet to crawl about on for 290 Euro.**

[Donate now](#)



# Gobabis

## Sanitation ready, new classroom planned

Just in time for the new school year, the new sanitary building in Windhoek with 10 new washbasins and toilets is ready and is getting its last coat of paint. Also the drainage system has already been approved by the authorities.

With all our hearts we thank once more all our donors and especially the Hamburg-Haake Rotary Club who held a charity dinner to finance the project.



The whole project and the community will benefit from it in the long-term. Also steps can now develop the location further in the future, since the improvement of the sanitation is an important pre-requisite for the approval of new building projects. Now we can start the construction of a new classroom in Gobabis. We estimate the total costs to be 20,000 Euro.

**Donate 100 Euro as symbolic first stone for the new building.**

[Donate now](#)

# Children in action for steps

## 10 years of "the little angel"

The bilingual kindergarten *Kleine Engel* (little angel)/ *Hamburg International Kids* also celebrated their 10th anniversary in 2016. In two groups they offer 15 nursery places and 30 junior places. The children are looked after by German teachers and staff with English as a mother tongue.

On 13<sup>th</sup> December 2016 a big party took place with parents and former pupils to which steps with our information stand was also invited. Our volunteers, Anton Rathgeb and Wolfgang Kuckelt, gave information about the steps projects, sold products from the sewing room and collected donations. To celebrate the day Herr Stüwe, the head of the kindergarten, added a zero to the end of the sum collected when he handed over the money.

A big thank you to all small and large angels and all the best for the next 10 years!



## Comparing the ways to school

**Schulwege in NAMIBIA**

Wir haben uns ein Interview von einer Schülerin aus Namibia gemacht und haben dabei festgestellt, dass es viele Gemeinsamkeiten aber auch Unterschiede zu Schulwegen in Deutschland gibt.

Namibia		Deutschland	
Länge	3 km	Länge	ca. 3 km
Zeit	15 min.	Zeit	15 min.
Wie	Taxi	Wie	Rad
Treffen	Freunde, Klassenkameraden	Treffen	Freunde, Klassenkameraden
Schlechtes	die 1. in der Klasse	Schlechtes	letzter in der Klasse (zu spät)

Legende: ■ gleich ■ unterschiedlich

The former volunteer, Barbara Atorf, dedicated the project day in December at her school to the training work of steps for children in Namibia. With her 7<sup>th</sup> class at the grammar school in Ahrensburg, they looked amongst other things at the ways to school for the children in Namibia. How do children there get to school? How far do they need to walk? What and who do they meet on the way? Why do the children choose a particular route to school every day?

These questions and other themes were the central points of the project day. For example documentation from Africa and an original interview from Namibia were evaluated and the results presented on posters. The class were very impressed what long, difficult and occasionally dangerous routes the children in Africa must take just to get to school.

Barbara Atorf concluded: "and hopefully it stays with them that children on the other side of the world gladly do all that just to go to school."

## Christmas bazaar and biscuits in steps-design



The work preparation class household skills – „kitchen magician“ school firm of the BBS II school in Delmenhorst sold raffle tickets for steps for children at a Christmas cafe.

As prizes there were self-made biscuits in the shape of our steps footprint, creatively and lovingly packed. The school children have added to the money taken and donated it for a school child in our guardian angels programme.

Thank you for this creative kitchen magic!



The Willmsstrasse grammar school has been active for steps for children for many years and also in 2016 the school-children and teachers were busy collecting donations.

For the 20th time „Christmas at Willms“ took place with a tombola, music, sport, handicrafts and international foods. Also our ambassadors, Dr. Hans Christian und Sabine Schröder were there with a steps stand. The donations received were split evenly between steps and projects of the school.

We thank you whole-heartedly for your faithful support!

## Hamburg

### steps-office moves!

The steps office cannot be reached by telephone tomorrow January 16th because we are moving.

In urgent cases please contact us by e-mail at [info@stepsforchildren.de](mailto:info@stepsforchildren.de).

According to our technician, the computer and the telephones should be up and running again on 17th january.

**New address of the steps office:**  
**Bramfelder Straße 77**  
**D-22305 Hamburg**  
**Germany**

Telephone and fax numbers and the e-mail address are unchanged.

The steps for children foundation was founded in 2005 by Dr. Michael Hoppe. In the meantime it is present at six project locations where it is active in sustainably working for better educational chances for the children of the poor quarters of Namibia. With every donation you are investing in the future of needy children:

**Hamburger Sparkasse bank , Account: 1238149726, Sort code: 200 505 50  
IBAN: DE44 2005 0550 1238 1497 26, BIC: HASPDEHHXXX  
or online at [www.stepsforchildren.de](http://www.stepsforchildren.de)**

*In many countries donations to steps for children can be set against income tax. You will automatically get a receipt for your donation*

*Yours sincerely,*

**Michael Hoppe**  
(chairman)

**steps for children foundation**

Bramfelder Str. 77  
D-22305 Hamburg  
Germany  
T +49 (0) 40 389 027 - 88  
F +49 (0)40 389 042 – 86  
info@stepsforchildren.de  
[www.stepsforchildren.de](http://www.stepsforchildren.de)

**Editor:** Kerstin Jueterbock

**Responsible for the content:** Dr. Michael Hoppe

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