

HERD (Hoedspruit Elephant Rehabilitation & Development)

HERD (Hoedspruit Elephant Rehabilitation & Development) is South Africa's first elephant orphanage. The need for an orphanage was identified after a number of very young elephants have been rescued and brought to the Jabulani herd in Kapama Game Reserve.

Previously, slightly older orphans were immediately introduced to the Jabulani herd after being rescued. However, younger orphans need to be weaned first and therefore the idea of a separate area where a hands-on approach can be taken, came to life.

The well-controlled orphanage receives minimal foot traffic (which is highly important to an elephant calf's delicate nature) and is located near the Jabulani herd's den. This allows for the orphans to get used to, and eventually slowly integrate with the herd. A highly experienced team of veterinarians and dedicated elephant carers carefully assess and oversee the integration process.

The sizable team of dedicated elephant carers and their assistants, works in 24-hour-shifts to ensure the little ones are never alone or without a carer. The carers are the sole nurturers until the new orphans are strong enough to join the other elephant orphans and eventually, the Jabulani herd for days out on the reserve.

The Jabulani elephant management plan has been adjusted to accommodate the new HERD Orphanage, and it continues to run hand-in-hand with the **Department of Environmental Affairs (DEAT)**'s norms and standards of elephant management, as well as following the **International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)** guidelines and standards.

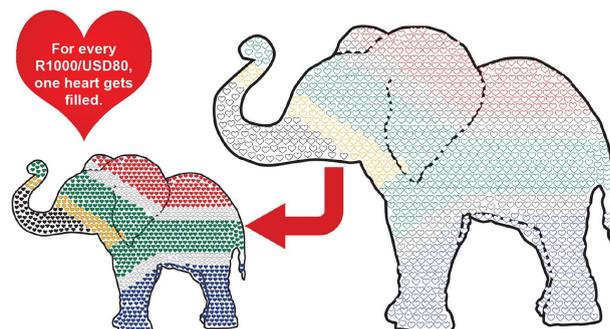
Highline's involvement -

Highline supports HERD through monthly contributions as well as contributing on behalf of our agents on their birthdays.

The 1000 Hearts Campaign and how you can get involved -

HERD is currently asking for **1000 people/families/companies to donate just R1000/USD80 or more**, which is equivalent to ONE HEART, to help us reach our target of R1 million (1000 Heart Donations.)

In return, each donor's name will be placed next to a heart / hearts on the dedicated **1000 Hearts for Elephants Forever Wall of Gratitude** at the Elephant Orphanage, plus become part of the 1000 Hearts Members club, receiving exclusive updates and information.



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Progress are being tracked through the “**1000 Hearts Ele-Tracker**” See below and for live updates, please visit: <https://herd.org.za>

Message from Founder, Adine Roode -

“In my time spent working with Jabulani and HESC, elephants and the conservation of their species has become my life, my passion, my purpose.

Rhinos are another great love of mine and their fight requires just as much dedication. With the elephants, I have been fortunate to become a part of their herd in many ways, just as the carers who spend night and day with them are. I have felt a sense of belonging with the embrace of their trunks, the vigour in the babies with each head butt during feedings and the very real power of a fully grown elephant while sharing the ground with them, almost cheek to cheek.

Conservation and ethics are at the core of our approach, a combination of heart and soul and mind. I have learned so much in the past years through our work in elephant conservation, rehabilitating and re-wilding and am driven and excited to create this on an even bigger, definitely more dedicated, scale with the establishment of Hoedspruit Elephant Rehabilitation and Development (HERD).

I am so grateful for each and every person that is walking this path with us and I invite you to be part of the journey with us and to follow our story as it unfolds. This is just the beginning. This is South Africa’s first dedicated elephant orphanage!”

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