



## **Dongina Risser Gymnastics Foundation**

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### **BRIEF OUTLINE OF THE DRGF ADOPT-A-GYMNAST PROGRAM**

Dear Potential "Foster Parent",

The Dongina Risser Gymnastics Foundation believes that every child should have the chance to participate in gymnastics no matter their socio-economic background. The DRGF believes that not only does gymnastics train the child's body in aspects such as strength, flexibility, and agility, but it also provides an environment in which the child learns self-confidence, discipline and how to be goal oriented. The overall positives achieved through gymnastics are therefore of great benefit to every child's future.

Unfortunately, not all children have the means to attend gymnastics classes. With this in mind, the DRGF, mainly through its founding member, Dongina Risser, created the DRGF Adopt-A-Gymnast program.

#### *Aims:*

1. To identify children who would like to participate in gymnastics but lack the necessary funds to do so
2. To find "adoptive parents" who would be willing to provide the funds
3. Through the above two aims, to create equality in sport.

#### *Objectives:*

1. To pay school fees (High School). Primary school children no longer need to pay school fees. We therefore pay for any other items that are school related.
2. To pay all gymnastics fees
3. To pay all competition fees
4. To pay for the necessary gymnastics clothing (leotards, tracksuits) for competitions
5. To pay transport to competitions within Namibia
6. To provide the "adoptive parents" with trimester reports containing the child's school reports, competition results. The report may also include some photos and perhaps a few personal notes from time to time.

Should the identified child decide to stop gymnastics, and they still have funds remaining, these funds will be transferred to another child identified for the program, after discussion with the "adoptive" parents.

In conclusion, this program is not aimed specifically at high level gymnastics, though children in the Adopt-a-Gymnast program who are identified as having potential, can be moved to a special program. Rather, the aim is to allow for all children who are interested in participating in gymnastics to have the chance to do so, while at the same time ensuring that their academic future is also provided for.

Please contact Dongina Risser for more information on how you can help (contact details above).

*Please note: in no way, does this program cater for the legal adoption of a child. It is merely a funding for the child for their academic and gymnastics future.*

*Building a dream: BRICK BY BRICK, CHILD BY CHILD*