








CHILD'S NAME	AGE	SEX	SHORT HISTORY + DESCRIPTION OF EACH CHILD AND ANY SPECIAL NEED
<p>Romeo</p> <p>Shirt Size: Medium Pants: Size 30 Shoe: Size 7</p> 	<p>17 YEARS</p>	<p>MALE</p>	<p>Romeo has been in Vuyani for about 3 years. He grew up with his mother, but at age 11 his grandmother brought him to Graaff-Reinet to his father. Up to that time he apparently went to school on a regular basis, but since living with his father he dropped out of school and sniffed glue with a gang of young boys. Two years later he was brought to Vuyani by a Youth Worker and really got his life together. He made a decision to never go back to life on the streets. His father and stepmother are not interested in Romeo and his mother never made any contact with him again. Romeo has contact with some of his family, but he has accepted the Vuyani family as his real family. Romeo's greatest need at this stage is schooling. He was so far behind that he couldn't be placed in a regular school. At this stage he is going to basic adult education training classes, but still won't be able to finish matric. He is very talented in handwork and has received training in very basic leatherwork - he makes little leather boots which are used as key-ring holders. He also started with paper mache work and is involved in Vuyani's material paint project. Romeo loves rap music + uses his cell phone (which he bought with his Pocket Money) to listen to his favourite songs. Romeo is always willing to wash cars or work in the garden for extra pocket money. Next year we have to prepare him for life outside of Vuyani. He is going to learn to sew to assist our Handwork volunteer with the finishing of our hand painted bags, aprons and cloths. He also needs to do an entrepreneurial course to help him start his own handcraft business. When he turns 18 next year he'll first move to an outside room and start paying rent and board. Over the period of a year we will assist him to face the challenges of adulthood.</p> <p>Romeo loves playing soccer and rides a bicycle that was donated to Vuyani to do all the errands for our Staff which he does willingly and with his wonderful smile.</p> <p>Romeo has a passion for computers and it will be wonderful if he can be sponsored to take classes at Luthando, a local Computer literacy programme.</p>
<p>Adrian</p> 	<p>15</p> <p>Shirt: 14 – 15 Pants: 14 – 15 years Shoe Size: 7</p>	<p>MALE</p>	<p>Adrian's parents are very poor. His father is in jail for a minor offence and his mother is an alcoholic. Even though he knows his parents faults he will readily admit that it was his own fault that he was on the streets for about 2 years. He sniffed glue and begged in front of shops and fast food restaurants and from tourists. He was brought to Vuyani by a Youth Worker. Adrian is in a regular school, but behind by about 4 years. He battled the first year, but has now settled and his marks are picking up. Adrian is a very inquisitive teen. He questions everything, especially politics and finances. He regularly saves all his pocket money and waits until he has saved enough to buy himself a sweater or shoes of his own choice. He has very good fashion sense and as any teenager likes brand names. He also bought himself a cell phone. Adrian plays African drums and is very good at gumboot dancing and any modern dances. Adrian needs extra tutoring during weekends and holidays to be able to get the academic qualifications he needs to do something in finance. Adrian is the oldest boy of three siblings, but he also has smaller nieces and nephews from two separate families all in Vuyani. In future when he is older he may be called on to head this little family, because none of the adults in the family fulfil this role as a result of their of alcohol abuse.</p> <p>Adrian would love brand name clothes or shoes.</p>

Charlston	17	MALE	<p>Charlston grew up with his aunt and little brother, Craig, after the death of his mother. His father left for Cape Town and has no contact with the boys. He married again and has formed a new family with no place or thought to these two boys. The aunt is older and never had children of her own. As the boys got older there were lots of problems with discipline. They started smoking dagga and got drawn into bad company. The aunt couldn't handle this and teachers reported the disciplinary problems to Social Workers who placed the children at Vuyani. The aunt still has contact with the boys and they are allowed to visit during holidays. The discipline at Vuyani seems to be good for the boys and they have settled in nicely and started co-operating with all the programs and projects at Vuyani. Charlston failed one year at school, but his marks now improved and he has the ability to finish his matric and go to College. He got chosen as class captain and it was a real honour.</p> <p>Charlston is a typical teenager - he loves music and watching TV. He wants to play guitar and needs guitar lessons - Vuyani were donated two guitars. The Vuyani kids are quite talented and love to sing and dance.</p>
 <p>Medium Pants: Size 30 Shoe: Size 7</p>			
Craig	12	MALE	<p>Craig grew up with his aunt and big brother, Charlston, after the death of his mother. His father left for Cape Town and has no contact with the boys. He married again and has formed a new family with no place or thought for these two boys. The aunt is older and never had children of her own. As the boys grew older there were lots of problems with discipline. They started smoking dagga and got drawn into bad company. The aunt couldn't handle this and teachers reported the disciplinary problems to Social Workers who placed the children at Vuyani. The aunt still has contact with the boys and they are allowed to visit during holidays. The discipline at Vuyani seems to be good for the boys and they have settled in nicely and started co-operating with all the programs and projects at Vuyani. Craig is young for his grade and his marks are quite average. He has the ability to do better. He loves playing and was in his school's first rugby team. He is going to High School next year and wants to compete in athletics and play rugby. Craig would love a bicycle to cycle around with his friends.</p>
 <p>Shirt: 13 – 14 years Pants: 13-14 years Shoe: Size 4</p>			
Mananga	12	MALE	<p>Mananga was in a stable family where both Mother + Father had a work. Then his father got ill and died. The mother took the two boys to the father's family and had very little contact with them since. The younger brother is in foster care with an aunt, but Mananga got unruly and smoked dagga and didn't go to school. He was older when his father died and was much more affected by the trauma. His brother accepted the foster mother as his mother and can't really remember his mother or father since he was too small. Mananga was placed in Vuyani in 2009 and has settled in the routine and discipline. He goes to school every day, but he is very much behind. The possibility is still there that he may go back to the streets if his school work doesn't improve. He needs extra tutoring to pick up.</p> <p>Mananga has problems with aggression and needs therapeutic intervention. However, our local Social Dev. Officers only offer these services once a month and it isn't enough.</p> <p>He loves playing and is a very social boy. He would love a bicycle of his own.</p>
 <p>Shirt: 13 – 14 years Pants: 13 – 14 years Shoe: Size 6</p>			

<p>Nonnie</p> <p>Dress: 11- 12 years Shoe: Size 2</p> 	<p>12</p>	<p>FEMALE</p>	<p>Nonnie is the sister of Adrian and Werner and has been in Vuyani for almost 2 years. She was roaming the streets with her cousins and begged from tourists. They seldom went to school. She has huge learning disabilities and feels very inferior because of that. Fortunately a speech and occupational therapist are offering their services to Vuyani as their part of a community project and Nonnie sees them both once a week. However, she needs to be assessed by a school psychologist, too, that a remedial programme can be put together for her benefit. Nonnie loves playing outside with all the little ones. She learns through touch and doing things - especially outside. Nonnie also loves to work in the garden. She is a very hard worker and can be trusted to do a task well. Nonnie also has the ability to remember where things are and we always ask her when something is missing.</p> <p>We desperately need a remedial teacher to help Nonnie to make sense of words and numbers.</p> <p>A bicycle would be the most wonderful gift and she also loves playing ball and skipping rope with her friends.</p>
<p>Werner</p> <p>Shirt: 5 years Pants: 5 years Shoe: Size 9 (childs)</p> 	<p>5</p>	<p>MALE</p>	<p>Werner is a sturdy little boy of 6 years. While his brother + sister were already in Vuyani for 2 years, Werner was still living with his mother in the most squalid circumstances. His mother admitted that they went to bed many a night with no food. His mother was drunk most of the time and she took Werner with her to the shebeens. Sometimes she left him for days with his older sister who is only 19 and already has a child. His brother, Adrian, begged us to bring his brother to Vuyani too. Then we heard that his mother has left him with his sister again and she couldn't cope financially to feed him too. The Social Worker intervened and since July Werner is also at Vuyani. He was placed in a Grade R class and enjoys school and will hopefully not have the enormous academic difficulties of his brother + sister. He also receives Occupational and Speech therapy, because of years of under stimulation.</p> <p>When a new child arrives at Vuyani they are taken for a thorough medical examination as soon as possible. They are tested for HIV and TB. He was diagnosed with TB and receives a six month course of tablets which must be taken daily which will be finished at the end of the year.</p> <p>Werner is always busy and afraid of nothing. He wants to do everything that the big boys do - doing summersaults and riding a bicycle and playing soccer. He is our little gumboot star - copying all the moves. Werner would love anything that he can ride on or a big lorry or cars.</p>
<p>Leticia</p> 	<p>13</p>	<p>FEMALE</p>	<p>Dress: 14 – 15 years Shoe: Size 6</p> <p>Leticia is a lovely tall girl of about 12. She is quite shy and as the oldest of 4 children is always looking out for the others. Leticia mostly is willing to help the younger ones and is quite responsible. She has lost several years of schooling and as she grows older we will concentrate more on learning her skills. She won't be able to finish her schooling in a conventional school, because of the age lag. She loves friends and is mild tempered and has adapted well to life in Vuyani.</p> <p>Leticia started with the fabric painting project and will also learn to sew in the near future. There is also other skills development projects, e.g. bead working which she will learn during the December holidays. She loves trendy clothes and hair relaxer and conditioner.</p>

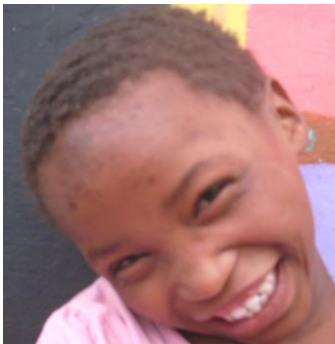
Chrissie	9	FEMALE	<p>Chrissie is Leticia's sister and as a typical second child fights her way through life. She has a lot of anger, because of rejection. She doesn't even know when her birthday is and how old she really is. Maybe she never had a birthday or received a present. Unfortunately she was raised by a mother who wasn't a good role model and Chrissie visited shebeens at her very young age and also used alcohol. However, she is a sensitive child and cries whenever she did something wrong and is reprimanded. Chrissie is also much behind in school and receives Occupational + Speech Therapy. She also needs Remedial classes.</p> <p>She and Nonnie (cousins) are big friends and they love a skipping rope and playing outside with a ball.</p> <p>Chrissie would also love anything nice for her hair, e.g. an alic band and hair relaxer.</p>
JC	8	MALE	<p>JC is 7 years old. The marks where he has been hit with a "knopkierie" on the head by his own mother are still visible. He has a very definite squint and is teased by the children at the school where he was enrolled at first. After being tested by the speech and occupational therapist, we learnt that he was far behind for his age. We still have to assess if there was brain damage (his mother abused alcohol) or if it is due to total neglect and not being stimulated at all. JC is now going to a special school for special needs children. We hope that the new school where he will be no different from his friends will help him to channel his aggression towards more creative play and later learning.</p> <p>JC was also diagnosed with TB and is on TB treatment.</p> <p>JC needs big sturdy toys, because he tends to break things.</p>
Petro	7	FEMALE	<p>Petro is a timid, quiet girl and the youngest sister of Leticia, Chrissie and JC. She has never been to school before and her teacher is currently working very hard with Petro to prepare her to advance to Grade 1. She has so much to grasp and learn. She also needs much love and acceptance. In a group she will just disappear and she never demands things and attention like the other children. She also never tell tales about other children. Sometimes she just seems such a happy carefree little child, but she also went through much trauma and neglect and it will do her so much good to receive Play therapy, but again we have the need for a qualified Social Worker. Petro was also diagnosed with TB and is on TB treatment.</p> <p>She loves playing house and pretending to be a mommy. Any books, dolls and playhouse things will be appreciated.</p>



Dress: 9 – 10 years
Shoe: Size 3



Shirt: 8 – 9 years
Pants: 8 – 9 years
Shoe: Size 10 (kids)



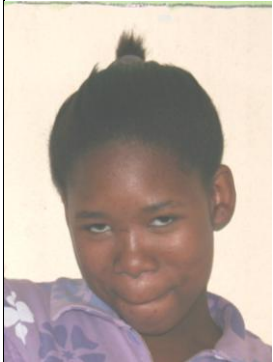
Dress: 6-7 years
Shoe: Size 11 (kid)

Dannie	12	MALE	<p>Dannie is 10 years and the youngest in a family where the parents never cared. He doesn't know what it is to receive a present. Dannie was in Vuyani previously with his sister, but their Father came to fetch them and they went back home. However, their mother still abuses alcohol and many times Dannie had to go to bed without food and again the next morning go to school without any breakfast. He walked about 16 km. to school and back every day. At school they receive a very basic meal (mealie meal porridge with milk + sugar) and that may be his only meal if neighbours don't feel sorry for him. One day, about a month ago, Dannie decided that he'll be better off at Vuyani and fortunately the Social Worker who had his case file also agreed and Danny was placed back in Vuyani. Since, he didn't miss a day school. He was included in his school's cricket team and can hit a mean six and since he mastered the overarm bowl he is also one of the bowlers on the team. The team played in a tournament and also received training. Dannie needs school shoes and socks and a bag. However, he is a boy and would love a soccer ball and cars.</p>
Maggie	16	FEMALE	<p>Maggie and her two siblings, Lemmie + Priscilla, lived with their mother in a nearby town, but then the mother allowed a boyfriend to move in. He physically abused the mother and made life unbearable for all. When the children were removed from the house, the mother moved out and the Social workers helped her get another house and from the Victim Support group they helped her to furnish it. The children would have gone back to her at the start of the September holidays, but then she went back to the boyfriend and they sold all the new furniture for alcohol. This absolutely broke the children's hearts. Maggie is so much behind in school and we suspect that she has serious learning disabilities. Of her two siblings the one is mentally challenged and the other one also battles at school. This may be due to neglect, but it may also be the result of alcohol abuse by the mother while pregnant and breast feeding. Maggie is still in primary school and won't pass this year to advance to High School. We don't have a vocational school in Graaff-Reinet and Maggie won't be able to cope on her own in future. She will need to be placed in a sheltered work environment. One of our volunteers started teaching Maggie to sew and she is also busy in the hand painting project. Maggie is a real teenager and loves dressing nicely and doing things to her hair.</p>
Lemmie	12	MALE	<p>Lemmie is a very loving boy who will never be an independent adult, but will always need care. He is mentally disabled and in a school for children with special needs. When Lemmie is 18 years he will advance to the Protected Workshop if he is able enough. However he won't be allowed to stay at Vuyani any longer, because we are not allowed to have older children with the younger vulnerable children.</p> <p>Lemmie loves to play with cars, but needs a very sturdy plaything, because he doesn't know his own strength.</p>

Shirt: 7 – 8 years
Pants: 8 – 9 years
Shoe: Size 13 (kids)









Dress: 14 – 15 years
Shoe: Size 5









Shirt: 10 – 12 years
Pants: 10 – 12 years
Shoe: Size 2





Priscilla	7	FEMALE	<p>Priscilla still misses her mother very much and this sometimes come out in aggression towards other children. She is battling at school and needs remedial teaching. It will also be good if she can be tested by a school psychologist and psychiatrist to assess her mental abilities, because both her siblings definitely are mentally challenged. She does receive Occupational + Speech Therapy.</p> <p>Priscilla loves playing outside and climbing on everything. However, she is also a little girl who loves playing with dolls - like a real baby - with a pram and a cot and a bottle, etc.</p>
<p>Dress: 7 – 8 years Shoe: Size 12 (kids)</p> 			
Nosipho	11	FEMALE	<p>Nosipho was on the streets for nearly a year before she was placed in Vuyani by a Social Worker. She grew up grandmothers, but she apparently wishes Nosipho to stay in Vuyani until she finished her schooling. Nosipho is a very proud Xhosa girl and works hard on her school work. She can still pick up and do well. She loves reading and music. She also loves running and outruns almost all the children and even some of the boys. She aspires to go to a Model C school and will need the school fees that is quite expensive. She loves dancing and just come to life with the music and forgets everything except the rhythm. Nosipho loves dressing trendy and she would appreciate hair relaxer and anything to put in her hair.</p>
<p>Dress: 11 – 12 years Shoe: Size 5</p> 			
Azola	5	MALE	<p>Azola and Manda's parents used their children to soften people's hearts to give them money. However, then they used the money for alcohol. Several people saw this happening, but did nothing. Then Moira, our Chair person, made work of it and informed the Dept of Soc. Dev. that they have to intervene. The children were so afraid and malnourished when they came to Vuyani. Azola never smiled the first few weeks in Vuyani. He showed no other emotion - even though removed from his parents and placed in a strange environment, he never cried or complained. He is slowly learning to trust and to let go. A Social Worker had two sessions with him doing play therapy which helped to lift him out of his depression. Sometimes while playing with his little friend, Sethu, he will laugh softly. He loves shoes and a T shirt with Spiderman or Superman. Azola never had a scooter bike or any other toys. He loves cars and anything that spins or goes around.</p>
<p>Pants: 5 years Shoe: Size 11 (kids) Shirt: 5 – 6 years</p> 			

Manda	20 MONTHS	FEMALE	<p>Manda is Azola's little sister. The parents seldom visit and when they do they are rude and misbehave. Manda is the second child and even though she is small she has a strong will. She is not afraid of anything and will climb onto anything and give the Caregivers a big fright.</p> <p>She also loves to walk around with a doll. Her best friend is Lisa who is nearly 3 years old. Though she is younger she is very strong willed and Lisa has to do what Manda wants her to do! She also imitates everything that Lisa does and that is a big help with her speech which was much impaired. Now she is adding words daily to her vocabulary and it also helps the Occupational and Speech Therapist to let the two work in a group.</p> <p>She would love a doll.</p>
<p>Dress: 12 – 18 months Shoe: 12 – 18 months</p> 			
Sethu	5	MALE	<p>Sethu was an unhappy little boy when he came to Vuyani, because he and his little sister, Lisa, was abandoned by their mother and no one else wanted them. He was very aggressive and broke all the toys handed to him. Since then he started going to a creche and as he received love and started trusting the caregivers and Committee members, he changed into a happy confident boy who has very good manners. He is a real charmer and is the first to see when someone had a haircut or a new dress. He is a boy who loves a rugby ball, anything with wheels, but also loves books. He loves singing and when asked will sing in front of an audience. He is a fast learner and picks up new songs or the months of the year after only a few repetitions.</p> <p>Sethu would love a bicycle or cars.</p>
<p>Shirt: 5 – 6 years years (kids)</p> 			
Lisa	2	FEMALE	<p>Lisa is a bubbly nearly 3 year old little girl. She has no contact with her biological mother at this stage, but her mother and grandmother visit irregularly. She was abandoned early 2010 with her 5 year old brother. They are still very close and he looks out for her. Lisa started with Speech and Occupational therapy and from a subdued silent girl she has blossomed into a talkative friendly loving girl with her own endearing personality. She loves friends and enjoys playing with dolls, but also likes riding with a scooter bike and climbing on the jungle gym.</p> <p>She would love a doll.</p>
<p>Dress: 2 years Shoe: Size 5 (kids)</p> 			

Estella	10	FEMALE	<p>Estella is turning 10 and this shy quiet little girl has looked out for her little sister, Esmerelda, when nobody else did. Her nickname is little Woman, because of this. They lived with their Grandmother, because their mother abuses alcohol, but then the Grandmother and Grandfather died. None of the other family is suitable foster parents. However, there may be an aunt in George who is willing to take them.</p> <p>Estella loves anything nice for her hair and also a hair relaxer for younger girls. As she is picking up with her school work, easy reading books and stationery, e.g. koki's will be appreciated.</p>
<p>Dress: 7 – 8 years Shoe: Size 7 (kids)</p> 			
Esmerelda	7	FEMALE	<p>Estella's sister, Esmerelda is 7 years and a little doll with a smile that lights up her whole face. She is strong willed, but loves attention and cries easily when someone speaks crossly with her. She is in Grade R as she hasn't been to school at all before coming to Vuyani. She is only now attributing in class, but her teacher is confident that she can advance to Grade 1.</p> <p>She loves playing with dolls and a pram or baby cot will be a wonderful gift for her to play house with her other little friends.</p>
<p>Dress: 5 – 6 years Shoe: Size 7 (kids)</p> 			
Whitney	10	FEMALE	<p>Whitney and little sister, Britney, were removed from their parents because of alcohol abuse. Two weeks later she contracted Juvenile Rheumatoid Arthritis. Fortunately both her parents were so touched by her illness that they got their lives back on track. Whitney's mother was allowed to board with her in hospital for the last 8 weeks. Whitney came back on crutches and still receives physiotherapy. However, there is a long recovery still waiting for this family. The mother and father have to prove to the court that they will be able to take care of all of this and not go back to alcohol abuse. Whitney will need to catch up at school. She might also need play therapy to deal with all the trauma of the past few months. Whitney will love a Barbie doll and maybe a skipping rope of her own will encourage her to get back on her feet much faster.</p>
<p>Dress: 8 - 9 years Shoe: Size 9</p> 			

Britney	4 MONTHS	FEMALE	<p>Britney is our little baby who would be 6 months at Christmas time. She is starting to smile and reaches out to things. She has discovered her hand and loves all the attention that she receives. We were donated many baby clothes that are as good as new, but we are always in need of throw away nappies (she will use medium nappies at Christmas- (still very small) and baby shampoo. We have to buy extra baby milk formula, because the hospital is only giving two tins every month. She was very small at birth only 2,7 kg, and was putting on weight much too slow in the first 6 weeks before she came to Vuyani. However, that has changed, because now she has doubled her birth weight and the dietician is very satisfied with her improvement.</p> <p>We also need toys to stimulate a baby.</p>
	5 – 6 months		<p>Lello is 11 years old and asked to come to Vuyani, because many mornings he had nothing to eat before going to school and sometimes he had to go to bed at night without food. He is a very loyal friend to Dannie. Even though Lello was not chosen for the school's cricket team he helped Dannie and went to all his team practises with him and also to his games. Lello and his little brother, Solane, grew up in the most squalid circumstances. Their father has a stable work, but he and their mother uses all the money for alcohol. They live in a small shack, which is always locked, because the mother is never there. She constantly visits her drinking friends and hangs out at shebeens. It is important for Lello to go to school, but he never had the right shoes and clothes. Lello needs the discipline of a father and currently the Social Worker is looking into placement with a maternal uncle and his wife. They are prepared to take both boys under their roof and look after them. If this doesn't work out Lello and Solane will be placed more permanently at Vuyani.</p> <p>Lello would love a bicycle of his own.</p>
	12	MALE	<p>Poppie has been in Vuyani for 3 years after being removed from her mother, because of alcohol abuse. Poppie was neglected and very much underweight. She had a cleft palate which was fixed, but not completely successful. She also has a hearing problem which affects both her speech and hearing. Only last week a group called SMILE, saw Poppie at the local hospital regarding further surgery and in November she is going to a Mission Hospital in the Eastern Cape where her little smile will be fixed and hopefully it will help with the other impairments too.</p> <p>She was placed in Grade R this year, but even though Poppie is a very social happy little child, she had problems coping in a big class with much noise. She then was placed in a smaller school with smaller classes and now she copes much better. Poppie receives speech and occupational therapy. However, she needs much more specialised care than we can offer her at Vuyani. She has received placement at a Child + Youth Care Center in Port Elizabeth and will start there in January 2011. Poppie is a very loving child and when she was in hospital earlier this year everybody in the ward knew Poppie. She shared everything that she received with the other children - her crayons and toys and books. She even shared her apple with a granny. Poppie would love a sleeping baby doll which she can take with her to her new home.</p>
	6	FEMALE	

Solane	7	MALE	<p>Solane is 7 years old and was very badly neglected, also because of alcohol abuse. When his older brother, Lello, came to Vuyani on his own, Solane asked if he could also come. He seemed a happy confident boy, but the longer he is in Vuyani, the more one can see the outworking of the neglect and abuse he suffered at the hands of those who should have loved him - his own parents. Solane needs to be taken out on his own for weekends and shown that he is special and that he is worthwhile to spend time with and receive one on one attention. This still is a real need at Vuyani that we have Volunteers to spend alone time with children over weekends and holidays and take them into their homes for short times.</p> <p>He would love new shoes and a T shirt with Spiderman on. He never had any real toys to play with. He would love a big Lorry (sturdy) or a scooter bike of his own.</p>
	<p>Shirt: 5 – 6 years Pants: 5 – 6 years Shoe: Size 6 (kids)</p>		
Bianca	14	FEMALE	<p>Bianca's mother died when she was much younger and this led to the break up of the whole family. The dad has a new partner and lives in Johannesburg.</p> <p>Bianca and her sister were in Vuyani when she was younger, but they absconded and went to live with the father, but this didn't work out. During these years she lost a lot of schooling and lived on the streets with other children. The only future for Bianca is to be placed in a school where she can learn skills, e.g. Hairdressing or Needlework. She won't be able to attain a matric certificate, because she is too far behind in school and the Social Workers are looking for a placement at an Industrial school for girls. However, these schools have a long waiting list. For the time being we have placed Bianca in a school which was ready to accept her despite the age problem.</p> <p>Bianca loves to sing and dance. She would love a wireless microphone or any contemporary CD.</p>
	<p>Dress: 14 – 15 years Shoes: Size 4</p>		