

24 November 2016

Dear Sir/ Madam,

Since July 2011 members of Sozo Eden, a programme of the Sozo Foundation, have had the honour of partnering with Soil For Life. Sozo Eden has introduced Soil For Life's organic Home Gardening methodology into the community of Vrygrond, Muizenberg. The staff members of Sozo Eden work closely with Soil for Life on a weekly basis: our staff attend bi-weekly Trainer meetings at Soil For Life to debrief and learn how to problem-solve in a group of like-minded trainers who are facing similar issues in similar townships in Cape Town; our Garden Centre Manager shadows one of Soil for Life's staff on a bi-weekly basis to learn more about organic vegetable garden maintenance and a Soil For Life staff member visits our home gardeners as well as our garden centres on a bi-annual basis, providing us with valuable feedback in order to improve our services to the community of Vrygrond. We also attend most of Soil For Life's events and have had them attend our events.

Our Sozo Eden team has experienced Soil For Life to be a completely beneficiary-centered organization. This is demonstrated in the way that Soil for Life aims to help the beneficiaries to help themselves by teaching them how to garden and grow their own vegetables as a source of food to sustain themselves through consumption or sale. The negligible fee each beneficiary is charged is used as a commitment device rather than to pay for the full cost of the materials and invaluable training that each beneficiary receives.

Soil for Life's methodology is completely transparent, with no underlying agenda other than a vision to see the natural environment used for productivity rather than being destroyed.

The admirable aim of Soil for Life, which is to help uplift poverty-stricken communities by teaching and enabling them to become completely self-sufficient is not only ethical but should be an example to any organization wanting to give of their time and resources to the poor.

The Sozo Foundation hereby endorses and supports Soil for Life's Home Gardening Project and is currently seeing the fruit of this type of programme grow healthily in our own community.

Kind regards,

*K Patience*

Kate Patience

Sozo Eden Project Manager