



GROWING THROUGH THE PHASES OF LIFE

ASCEND TO A SIMPLER WAY OF LIFE

It was a truly special occasion on a beautiful summer morning in Midstream. The bright, expectant eyes of proud grandparents filled the hall, each one eagerly waiting to watch their beloved grandchildren perform on stage at Midstream College Primary School's 'Ouma & Oupa' Day - a moment both heartwarming and deeply gratifying.

I had the privilege of sharing a journey of growth and change in my capacity as a longstanding Real Estate Agent in Midstream Estates for the past 21 years, but more importantly, as an investor, mother, wife, and now a grandmother of four beautiful grandchildren.

It was an impactful moment, walking on stage and looking out at a crowd of loving grandparents who, just like my husband and me, are now in a changing phase of their lives. The last time I was in that hall was to watch our children perform as students at the school. This is how fast two decades fly by.

As I spoke about how our needs keep changing and how that affects where we feel we should live to truly meet them, I saw others nod in agreement, clearly understanding the challenges that come with it. Do we really still want the added

responsibility of maintaining large homes, grounds, and pools? Do we really still need all the bedrooms and living areas when we are only using 50%, at most, of them? Are we merely clinging to them because of a fear of the unknown that lies ahead?

In 2004, we moved into Midstream with two young children still in primary school. As they grew and our needs changed, so did our homes. We are forever grateful that the continued development and expanding amenities of Midstream Estates have supported our family in every aspect of our daily lives over two decades of changing needs.

A profound statement: "A Residential Estate that is able to support an entire family in every way through every phase of their lives!"

I made this statement and, in doing so, realised, with deep gratitude, that we are still able to enjoy the spoils of living in an environment such as the one created by Bondev, the developer, because of their unwavering commitment to recognising

the changing trends and needs of the community. I took off my Real Estate Agent hat and tested my statement against our own experience as a core and extended family living in the estate. In our younger days, we needed a smaller home, which changed over time and became our dream home - our case, a few different homes - as we love the potential and promise that lie in the challenge of change.

Today, we find ourselves in a phase where we are seeking simplicity in our home, free time to spend with our children and grandchildren, and an easy, lock-and-go lifestyle that allows us to spend quality time together wherever we choose.

We are equally blessed to have our children in close proximity, as they grew up here and now want to give their children the same safe, fulfilling lifestyle that they enjoyed while growing up. They are all happy little Midstreamers enjoying the safe and nurturing environment of the baby houses and pre-schools. Retire@Midstream is home to our Mother, and because Midstream Estates offers



the best in retirement living, we all have the blessing of having her around the corner from us.

Each of our family members has had a personal experience with Midstream Mediclinic and can attest to the immense peace of mind and convenience of having such an advanced medical facility on your doorstep. The list of ways Midstream supports our lifestyle and needs is endless, so we wanted to find a suitable housing solution for our next phase of life within the safe boundaries of the estate.

When Ascend to Midstream was first launched nine years ago by Bondev and B Cubed Developments, we were in a different phase of our lives and never considered it as an option for us to live in ourselves. We did, however, recognise the investment opportunity and invested in a few apartments over time. Our experience has been a positive one, experiencing solid rental returns and profitable capital returns in the resale space. As landlords of Ascend to Midstream apartments, we can attest to the minimum effort and low risk on our part. The footprint left by our tenants is barely noticeable, and given the nature of the development, we can hardly speak of any major maintenance required.

We have consequently witnessed Ascend to Midstream grow in stature and popularity from a new form of estate living to an increasingly more popular option for many people in all walks and phases of life. The current mix of residents is irrefutably evidence of this.

As for us, we were entering into a phase of wanting to downscale on size without compromising our lifestyle. We then took a more personal look at our apartments and the lifestyle offered at Ascend to Midstream. We concluded that we could still entertain with ease, enjoy the outdoors with absolutely no maintenance hassles, and upscale our amenities to a level considerably higher than our previous homes could offer, such as the rooftop Entertainment Area with Masterchef kitchen, gym, lap pool, communal workspaces and meeting room facilities and, most importantly, immense ease of living.

Ascend to Midstream promotes an active outdoor lifestyle, ranging from walks on the golf course (with or without the frustration of chasing a little white ball) to

spoiling your pets with outings along the numerous walking trails and, of course, helping your grandkids feed the ducks at the various dams. We could potentially 'retire' from the responsibilities of a large house and property to Ascend to Midstream without 'retiring' from life.

Ascend to Midstream therefore ticked the boxes of our shifting needs, and we moved into our apartment just over a year ago. We are loving life here and are happy that we made the mind shift that less is actually more! More time to relax at home, more time to spend with our loved ones, more luxury, more convenience, more freedom of movement, and, most importantly, less work, maintenance, and house-related hassles.

To anyone struggling with the same questions and fears, we can say with confidence: the change you're afraid to make might just be the one that sets you free.

Now, for the sake of those individuals considering a change, I need to put my Real Estate Agent hat back on. Ascend to Midstream is nearing completion, with sales for the new Block G commencing in November. You have a closing window of opportunity to make the move to a new, exciting way of life in either a two- or three-bedroom luxury living apartment, at selling prices from R2,6 mil to R5,7 mil, VAT included.

We invite you to challenge yourself by taking the time to visit the brand-new Block G show apartments at our weekly show days, every Saturday and Sunday. Over 230 families are already thriving at Ascend to Midstream, and you are invited to investigate the potential it may hold as your future home, where your life is waiting to thrive. **M.**

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