

## ANNUAL REPORT UTHANDO (LOVE) SOUTH AFRICA

1 APRIL 2021 – 31 MARCH 2022

WWW.UTHANDOSA.ORG

### THE BIG ISSUE

CHANGE IS IN YOUR POCKET



South Africa

Small and random acts of kindness create powerful ripples of love.

Imagine the social and political change we can create in South Africa by winning each other's hearts through daily acts of kindness in our thoughts, words and deeds.

Use words on social media that contribute to positivity, peace and harmony in South Africa.



Follow Uthando (Love) South Africa to see Love and Kindness in Action.

Uthando South Africa

uthandosa

UthandoSouthAfr

<http://www.uthandosa.org/>

*"This is our end of year greeting to you, Uthando SA, from Home from Home. I do wish to express our deep empathy for the devastation that this Covid-19 and the restrictions have wreaked on your work in tourism. We are amazed with your resilience and commitment to still have managed to support us and we are so thankful for that.*

*I do wish for next year to turn completely around and that good people like yourselves are very well blessed for your unselfish lives."*

*Peter Marx, Executive Director, Home from Home*

### TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. Directors Overview – James Fernie
2. Some Highlights from the past year
3. Community Development Projects
4. Philanthropic Educational Excursions
5. Team Uthando
6. Appreciation and Gratitude
7. Financial Report
8. Message from Friends  
Thimna Sitokisi  
David Tarrant  
The Boreham Family
9. Conclusion



One of the dancers at Zama Dance School in Gugulethu. In May 2021 Uthando sponsored the choreography competition

*"We have faced a number of challenges over the years, one after the other, but we have been able to overcome them thanks to loyal supporters like you.*

*We, the Moya team, would like to thank Uthando for providing us with the funds we needed to make a difference not only in our lives, but also in the lives of our extended families and community, with whom we share our vegetables.*

*May you have everything that is beautiful, meaningful, and brings you joy this holiday season and throughout the coming year.*

*We say, let it prosper wherever you take it. #Sithi makwande apho nithatha khona! Enkosi! - Moya We Khaya "Spirit of Home" Garden team*



# DIRECTOR'S OVERVIEW

## 1. DIRECTORS OVERVIEW – James Fernie

*“Uthando SA, whenever I think of you, I become so emotional, I am not going to say much but thank you for not coming and going away in our lives, thank you for not being an observer in our lives but deciding to be a true participant. You have shown us Love, bhuti Xolani, thank you for being a role model to my boys., kwande apho uthathe khona (more blessing to you)!! -*

**Mama Yandi Mazwana, Masi Creative Hub**

Let me start this Annual Report, right off the bat, with a profound and heartfelt note of gratitude. This last year was another tough one for many people, and the Uthando team is really grateful that we were in a position to continue with our efforts, to help where we were able to do so.

**THANK YOU** to the remarkable, courageous, tenacious, hard-working community development partners, for your love, dedication, passion, bravery and deep commitment to building South Africa at the grass roots level, often under difficult and depressing circumstances, and often unrecognized and unrewarded. The Uthando Team admires you greatly, and we will continue to do our best to support your efforts.

**THANK YOU** to the kind, thoughtful and generous donors, friends and benefactors in South Africa and all around the world who believe in and support Uthando's efforts to provide vital assistance to these grass roots community development projects and activists. With your help. We are making a big difference in people's lives.

Uthando is like a family, involving many people from all over the world. We appreciate, value and acknowledge every single one of you.

Recently I was listening to a podcast by American spiritual teacher Michael Singer in which he said something which really resonated with me, he said “Earth is God's idea of Disneyland”.

It is so easy to take daily miracles for granted. The beautiful blue sky. The massive ball of fire that provides light and heat so that life may flourish on earth. The twinkling multitude of stars in the night sky. The synchronicity and splendour of nature.

Recently, I do find myself being more present to take notice and appreciate these obvious miracles. In our modern and super connected world, it takes real effort and presence of mind to put down the not-so-smart-phone, disconnect from work emails and communication, and remember why we are truly here.

Earth is without doubt a natural Disneyland, a place of beauty, magnificence, complexity, resilience and LIFE. Of course, it is definitely not Disneyland for everyone, with many millions of people enduring war, suffering, poverty, hardship and other trials and tribulations.

We must never stop dreaming that Earth can be a natural Disneyland for ALL people and creatures who inhabit this space. This might sound like hyperbole but amidst all of the chaos, suffering and 24 “bad news” cycles, it is an ideal which can provide hope and inspiration. Maybe I am being delusional, but it sure beats taking anti-depressants which seems to be so prevalent these days for many people to get through the day.

Throughout the year we invited community development partners and donors to write pieces for the introduction to the Uthando monthly newsletters. We have incorporated some of these written pieces into this annual report.

Alexia Beckerling wrote a beautiful introduction for the September 2021 edition which I really feel compelled to include in this introduction. Alexia has been a good friend to Uthando over many years. She spent a considerable amount of time and passion project managing the book “Abantu Abadala – Conversation with the Elders” which was published in 2015.

*“It feels serendipitous that I sit down to write about my much-cherished relationship with Uthando on Human Rights Day. There is a magic that happens when James and Xolani take people on their ‘philanthropic educational excursions’. I have no doubt that this magic is created by Uthando (Love) as well as, no doubt, respect for human rights.*

*I am deeply grateful to have been able to document social development projects supported by Uthando since 2010 by taking photographs. On this day of reflection on human rights in South Africa, I paged through the book we produced – Abantu Abadala, Conversation with the Elders. I read again about the suffering endured by black South Africans at the hands of the apartheid government.*

*As most of you will know, South African Human Rights Day marks the killing and wounding of scores of people who were protesting peacefully against the oppressive Pass laws, which were designed to control the movement of non-white people, 62 years ago. On that terrible day, one of the elders who was photographed for the book, Rhodes Dubani, was arrested and beaten because he burnt his pass. His message to the world? ‘Ubuntu’, which means give respect to all. As Dubani himself said: “Know how to take care of people and give them dignity.”*

*Another of those photographed for the book, Ntombizifikile Regina Mlindazwe's message is “to love each other ... because when we don't love each other, we have problems.”*

*I went on an excursion with Uthando recently and was deeply impressed at the number of projects Uthando is now supporting. Even though we visited areas where hardship and poverty persist, I came away feeling so inspired, joyful and hopeful. I know others on the excursion shared my sentiments.*

*In times of despair and uncertainty for all of us, I am reminded that there is magic and love in the world and that transformation is possible.*

*As Watson Wilson Nkolisa, another elder we photographed, said: “We need to get along, those chosen to lead us to lead, know and respect our neighbours and above all we must be happy.”*

*Being able to witness the love and ubuntu on an Uthando Excursion reminded me that it is a human right to be happy. Thank you Uthando for giving so many the chance to feel happiness.”*

**- Alexia Beckerling**

**James Fernie**

*Founding Director, Uthando (Love) South Africa*



**Photograph taken by Alexia at Zama Dance School**



**Isiseko Educare**

*“Your generosity has given us hope and faith. Thank you for the support and kindness you have shown to Isiseko Educare during 2021, you have truly made a difference in the lives of our children. We wish these words bring a smile to you as you have done to us through your kindness and open heart, enkosi kakhulu” – Zoliswa Siko*



# SOME HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE PAST YEAR

## 2. SOME HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE PAST YEAR

*"Do you have any idea how lucky Cart Horse Protection Association is to have you as one of our most dedicated supporters. We really cannot thank you enough for what you do for us." - Karin Paschen*

This annual report reflects just a few of the many stories from the last year.

### EeZeePaste Nut Sachet Distribution Drive

We were so grateful to GC Rieber Compact South Africa, the Lions Club Tokia and Anke Rochau (Inspiration Africa) for supplying Uthando with 21 Boxes of EeZePaste Nut sachets (150 sachets units per box). These ready-to-use therapeutic and supplementary food in the form of peanut-based paste products were distributed and delivered by Uthando to 10 of our community partners across the Cape metro areas from the south peninsula (Hout Bay) to the western suburb (Retreat), the Cape Flats (Khayelitsha and Delft) and the eastern outskirts (Blue Downs). The beneficiaries which included early childhood development centres (Home From Home educare, Iminiathi educare, Little CJ's educare, Masibulele educare and Zizamele educare), music academy (Houtbay Musical Academy), feeding schemes (Alcardo Andrews Foundation and Zanecebo Foundation) and centre for the protection of Gender Based Violence (GBV) victims (Philisa Abafazi Bethu Family Centre).

Some of the community projects sent lovely messages of thanks from after receiving their boxes.

*"Dear friends, Kronendal Music Academy would like to thank you for the DELICIOUS peanut butter sachets we received through Uthando. During this time, when everyone is tired & drained, these little energy packs are just perfect for our children"*

*"Thank you for your recent donation and your willingness to help feed our children, we really appreciate you – Teacher Thembeke, teacher Khanya and the children" - Home From Home*

*"Thank you very much for the boxes of eeZeePaste Nuts, we will bless our community with the paste and bread – Aunty Avril and Alcardo Andrews Foundation*

*"Thank you very much for the peanut butter, it is going to help us a lot in our morning porridge and bread, we really appreciate your support" – Masibulele Educare*



### Uthando responds to Gender Based Violence (GBV) and the brutal killing of young lady Phelokazi Ndlwana

South Africa is a signatory to a number of international treaties on GBV and with a strong legislative framework such as the Domestic Violence Act of 1998, the Sexual Offences Act of 2007, the Prevention and Combating of Trafficking in Human Persons Act of 2013 and the Prevention and Combating of Hate Crimes and Hate Speech Bill introduced in 2018, gender based violence is profound and a widespread problem in our country impacting many people mostly women, children and the LGBTQI.

In May 2021 another senseless killing and brutal murder of a member of the LGBTQI community Phelokazi Ndlwana occurred in the township of Khayelitsha. While members of Parliament and elected officials continue to ignore passing the Combating of Hate Crimes and Hate Speech Bill into Law to protect some of the most vulnerable members of our society many more lives will continue to be lost.

Uthando made a call to raise funds to support the family of Phelokazi, who were struggling to cope emotionally with her loss and financially with the very high funeral costs. Uthando has had a long relationship with Luleki Sizwe, Uthando's community partner advocating for and providing support to the LGBTQI community. Funds contributed through Uthando assisted the family with funeral expenses such as burial costs, transport from Cape Town to Cofimvaba in the Eastern Cape and food, thus ensuring a dignified send-off ceremony for the late Phelokazi Ndlwana.

Uthando received the following message from the family and friends of Phelokazi:

*"Phelokazi was a loving, sweet and caring person who always put others before herself. She loved smiling, loved children and was a bit stubborn (if she had made up her mind on something, it was very difficult to change her, but she was also a reasonable person). Phelokazi had dreams of becoming an international head chef and owning her own restaurant".*





# SOME HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE PAST YEAR

## Third Wave Distribution Hand Sanitizers

During 2021 the Covid-19 crisis was still raging through South Africa.

Third Wave Distribution was formed in July 2016 with the intention of importing exceptional products into South Africa. In a short space of time, they have grown to distribute over 25 international brands comprising of over 400 different products in multiple product categories including electronics, homeware, toys, beauty, lighting and antiseptic products.

Thank you to Olivia Krok, founder of LivCurious, an organization committed to creating sustainable change by implementing innovative solutions through their social project and event management services, Uthando was able to distribute thousands of hand sanitizers to our community development partners throughout the Cape Metro area.



*The seniors at NOAH receiving the sanitizers*

## “Mad Memories” Band (Germany) supports Kronendal Music Academy (KMA)

The Kronendal Music Academy is doing just incredible work developing young people through music.

Mad Memories Band from Germany provided awesome support to the Kronendal Music Academy during 2021. The band's name stands for really good cover music of the last 6 decades. For more than 10 years, the 7 experienced musicians have been covering rock and party anthems of the last decades. With an almost blind understanding, the guys perform songs from AC/DC, Queen, Toto, Guns N'Roses and everything that makes the heart of every fan of handmade music beat faster ( [www.madmemories.de](http://www.madmemories.de) )

To make their charismatic sound they use two guitars, a keyboard, one electric bass guitar and drums in addition to an energetic vocal combo.

The band members wrote: *“Music is an important way to connect people across the whole planet and can bring joy to all. Therefore, we are genuinely happy to support such an amazing music-based project and are really looking forward getting to know each other and follow your progress,”*



*Mad Memories Band Members*



*The beautiful children at Kronendal Music Academy*



# SOME HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE PAST YEAR

## Founder of Uthando, James Fernie's 50 birthday fundraiser – 27 June 2021

A very heartfelt thank you to everyone who contributed to this fundraising campaign. The GivenGain campaign raised R52 111.00 and direct donations to Uthando in lieu of this campaign totalled R64 749.00, thus coming to a grand total of R116 860.00.

The goal was to raise R50 000.00, R1000.00 for each 50th years, so this amount really exceeded the goal by more than double. Over the course of several weeks in June and July 2021 Uthando was able to provide funding to feeding schemes and purchase hundreds of warm good quality double blankets for community projects right across the city of Cape Town.



*James handing over blankets to "Aunty" Rachel in Belhar*

The inequality in Cape Town is absolutely staggering. One of the feeding schemes supported for the months of June and July from this campaign was Steph's Ladles of Love located in the community of Belhar.

Belhar is located next to Cape Town International Airport and directly under the flight path bringing visitors who get to enjoy and experience the breathtaking splendour of the "Mother City". This community is living in dire conditions with limited access to water, electricity and basic sanitation. On the 13 of June James spent the morning cooking food with Steph, "Aunty Rachel" and a team of volunteers, and also handed over blankets to "Aunty" Rachel to distribute to the seniors and children that needed them most.

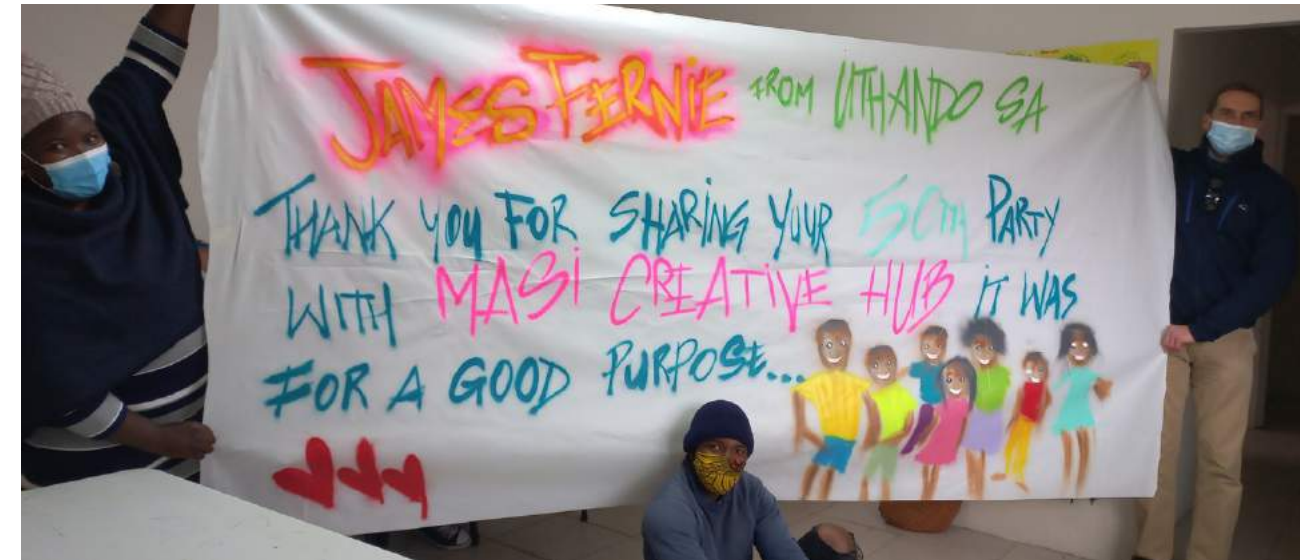


*Blankets handed over to the Alcardo Andrews Foundation (Hanover Park)*

Another recipient of food and blankets was Little C-Jays Educare Centre located in the community of Blue Downs. A month before the donation a couple of homes of some of the children attending the educare were destroyed by a fire and the families lost everything. Blankets and food were donated to these families. Aunty Katy Else made it her mission to help her community, with the little that she and her family had, they shared with the community.

## A thank you message from Aunty Katy:

*"Thank you so much for thinking of us, the forgotten. baie dankie & thank you for giving with your hearts. To James, even if we never met you, we feel your love, happy 50th birthday - Aunty Katy, family and community of Happy Valley."*



*The Masi Creative Hub presented James with this massive Thank you flyer but in fact the THANK YOU goes out to each and every person that contributed to the campaign.*

## "Jars of Hope" for Hanover Park – July 2021

One of the positive developments resulting from the Covid-19 crisis was the establishment of strong and sincere relationships between Uthando and partners in communities like Hanover Park.

Uthando ran a winter campaign to provide food to the community of Hanover Park. In support of the Sandwich Drive on Saturday the 10th of July for Hanover Park, a young man from Rondebosch, Samuel Wilkinson, made 40 thoughtful and nutritious "JARS of HOPE" to be distributed in that community. In addition, the drive was very successful with the collection of thousands of sandwiches, clothes, blankets and other goodies which were distributed to the most vulnerable residents of Hanover Park. The collection was really a symbolic token of commitment to this community as much broader interventions are required to truly assist the people living there.



*Aunty Avril Andrews and the team at the Alcardo Andrews Foundation receiving the "Jars of Hope"*



# SOME HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE PAST YEAR

## IsiDima “dignity” Womens Day Campaign - August in South Africa is “Women’s Month”

Campaigns are run countrywide to celebrate, honour and foster a culture of respect for girls and women. Thank you to friends of Uthando who contributed to the campaign by donating girls’ sanitary pads, soaps and other goodies to be packed into bags and handed to schools located in very disadvantaged communities where girls struggle to access these basic necessities due to financial reasons.

The campaign was spearheaded by Amrain Essop of the Harfield Village Association (HVA) with Uthando SA opening the campaign up to its friends and supporters.

Besides the donation of thousands of tampons, pads, soaps and other items one of the Uthando donors donated R10 000.00 towards the purchase of a tampon vending machine to be installed at Livingstone High School. Thank you to Uthando friends for supporting this important campaign.



*James Fernie receiving the fantastic collection of products from REMAX for the IsiDima “dignity” Campaign*

In addition to the packs, one of Uthando’s long standing friends and donors, “BECAUSE, CREATIVE EXPERIENCES” was one of contributors to the purchase of a Vending Machine at Livingstone High School which was officially presented to the school on the 27th of September. The machine costs R58 000.00 which includes access to pads by the girls for an entire year.

We call on people, companies or organisations around the world willing to support Uthando in our endeavours to provide more schools in underprivileged areas with these vending machines so that we can bring an end to “period poverty” experienced by so many girls in South Africa.



*Teachers, pupils and donors handing over the vending machine*

## Visit with Mayoral Committee Member Alderman James Vos to Uthando on Heritage Day, 24 September 2021

Uthando team was beyond excited to receive a request from the Mayoral Committee Member for Tourism (the former shadow Minister for Tourism when he was an MP) James Vos to visit Uthando and see what Uthando is all about. The visit took place on the 20th of September. It was a proud moment for Uthando when the Alderman posted on social media his Heritage Day message highlighting the work of Uthando. Thank you Alderman James Vos for your confidence in Uthando, and thank you to his press liaison officer Jonita Pasjar for setting up the morning with Mr Vos.

*“I truly believe that what sets Cape Town apart as a destination is its people. This was proven once again during my time with Uthando SA in Khayelitsha. This Non-Profit focuses on community upliftment and is a model for sustainable tourism that is globally recognised. On the excursion, I visited the Ikhaya Garden, an urban food forest, where I played a few rounds of table tennis with some of the Isibane Se Afrika choir, and Zizamale Educare. Thank you for a truly inspiring experience.*



*As citizens of the world, we must raise awareness of the impact tourism has on communities and its potential as a force for good. When we travel, for whatever reason, we become part of a global movement with the power to drive inclusive development, create jobs and build the sustainable societies we strive for.*

*Because together, we can make a difference.*

*#MaycoForEconomicOpportunities #LoveCapeTown #HeritageDay2021*

*- Alderman James Vos*

## Local community activists get to enjoy tourism in Cape Town

Uthando is passionate about exposing local community activists to the amazing tourism sites in Cape Town. They work so hard building their communities and rarely get to enjoy their own city. It is just awful how few people in the townships get to experience the beauty, splendour and magic of their own city, Cape Town.

Thanks to Natalia Rosa for sponsoring the Masi Creative Hub team who visited the magnificent farm Babylonstoren (near Stellenbosh) on Friday the 12th of November.



*Masi Creative Hub team at Babylonstoren*



# SOME HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE PAST YEAR

The Masi Team sent the following feedback after the visit:

*“Uthando SA and James, whenever I think of you, I become so emotional, I am not going to say much but thank you for not coming and going away in our lives, thank you for not being an observer in our lives but deciding to be a true participant. You have shown us Love, bhuti Xolani, thank you for being a role model to my boys and to Natalia Rosa, I have no words, thank you for sharing your love sisi, kwande apho uthathe khona (more blessing to you)!! -*

**Mama Yandi Mazwana, Founder, Masi Creative Hub**

*“I was very excited and happy about what Uthando SA did for us and enjoyed every moment of it. Thank you Uthando SA for giving us this opportunity to see one of the biggest farms in the Western Cape. We learned a lot and I am very much looking forward to implementing what we learned in our garden at Masi.” - Fezile Same.*

*““The 12th of November was not just a normal day for me, it was an amazing day. It was a day that encouraged me for what's to come, big things! This day definitely fulfills my hopes and made me feel happy and loved. It also taught me to associate and surround myself with good people that add good value in my life, thank you so much Uthando SA and Natalia” - Namnkosi Nombewu.*

*“This is to say thank you so much, I had a great relaxing day, full of laughter which is very rare for me. I have forgotten all of my stresses and was treated with respect and surrounded with love and smiles. I learnt a lot about gardening and the food was great, thank you so much - Thembeke Madliwa.*

*I am cooking for the children at MCH, today I have witnessed humanity. I have never been this far in Cape Town. It was my first time and the place was beautiful and the food was nice. You have made my year UthandoSA, may you prosper! - Nosakele Nokinini.*

*I have no words but this was a highlight of my year, thank you UthandoSA and Natalia for treating us with dignity - Nosipho Bhodoza.*

*I am a driver at MCH, wow my day was very exciting and enjoyable. I had the best day in a very long while. I thank Uthando SA and Natalia for this experience, it gave me strength and hope to continue helping my community, enkosi kakhulu - Zingisani Mayisela.*

*“I had a pleasant experience at the farm, the set up was nice and what they taught us was valuable. The food was very nice and being with people in such a beautiful and refreshing space was everything for me, thank you so much” - Patronella Zaca.*

*““Hi Natalia and UthandoSA, first and foremost I would like to say thank you so much (enkosi kakhulu), our trip was so great. As sad as it is, this was my very first time going a restaurant, sit and dine with fork and knife...this was a life changing experience, thank you” Nomfuneko Phahla*



**The Masi Creative Hub team about to embark on their adventure**

Thank you to Dr Pat Roos (USA) for sponsoring the micro farmers from Evergreen Garden, Oceanview for a full day visit to Babylonstoren on 19 November. This community is honestly buckling under gangsterism and crime, and these courageous farmers produce the most amazing organic vegetables from the most beautiful and productive gardens right in the heart of the troubled community. The garden provides a sanctuary to the children and a beacon of hope and light for the community.



The farmers sent the following note:

*“We the farmers of Ocean View would like to say thank and show our appreciation towards Uthando for the excursion and the opportunity to learn and to see all aspects of farming and to see how it is done. We had a great, good and gorgeous day.”*

## Uthando launches “Campaign of KINDNESS”

There is no doubt that the world is in chaos. The human race is facing a convergence of crises: the pandemic, climate change, wars and economic failure to name just a few. Whilst solutions and answers are being found to urgently address these challenges, there is one thing that each and every person can do to so start shifting the paradigm, we can simply start by being KIND to ourselves, KIND to others and KIND to animals and the earth itself.

With this in mind Uthando embarked on propagating a “Campaign of Kindness” in 2022, spreading the message of KINDNESS. It is such a simple thing to do, but there is a certain magic to the word kindness and we feel it is exciting to be part of such a feel-good campaign.





# SOME HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE PAST YEAR

## Raising the vibration of Cape Town and South Africa "The Tjommies" (roughly translated means friends) sing on top of Table Mountain – January 2022

In 2022 Uthando actively embarked on a campaign to expose the wonders of Cape Town to the people from the townships - most of whom have never been to any of the major tourist sites, including Table Mountain.

On the 15th of January, Uthando hosted a youth development group of 35 young people - mostly young men - from the community of Hanover Park on a full day trip up Table Mountain. The majority of the young men - aged between 17 and 23 years - had never been to the top of Table Mountain before. They only get to see the side of the mountain from their homes in Hanover Park.

Hanover Park is literally 15 minutes from the Cape Town city centre, yet it is one of the most dangerous suburbs in South Africa - rife with gang violence, crime and poverty. The pull and enticement of the gangs is a constant struggle for boys and young men. They need to be inspired, they need to dream, they need to know that they must reach for their dreams and they need to know that people care for them, love and will support them in their endeavours. Visits like these plant little seeds of inspiration and hope for people in township communities.



*James Fernie with the boys getting ready to leave Hanover Park with the view of Table Mountain in the background.*



*The group singing a blessing for the city on top of Table Mountain*

Abdul-Aziz Seat, a teacher from Hanover Park and manager of the group wrote the following after the visit:

*"As a young man aged 24, I invest my time with kids in my community, I always heard them saying "if only we could go out one day as a team and have a great time with each other". On Saturday the team actually got that wish answered. Uthando made it possible for the team to actually have a great day on top of Table Mountain. Many witnessed it for the first time. But what was a memorable moment for me is the smiles and enjoyment the youngsters got from the experience."*

## Visits to the Two Oceans Aquarium by pre-schools

As part of the ongoing campaign to expose locals to tourist sites in Cape Town, Uthando sponsored the children and staff at four pre-schools, Kiddies Educare, Masibulele, Zizamele and Little C-Jay's Educare Centres, to visit the Two Oceans Aquarium in February and March 2022.

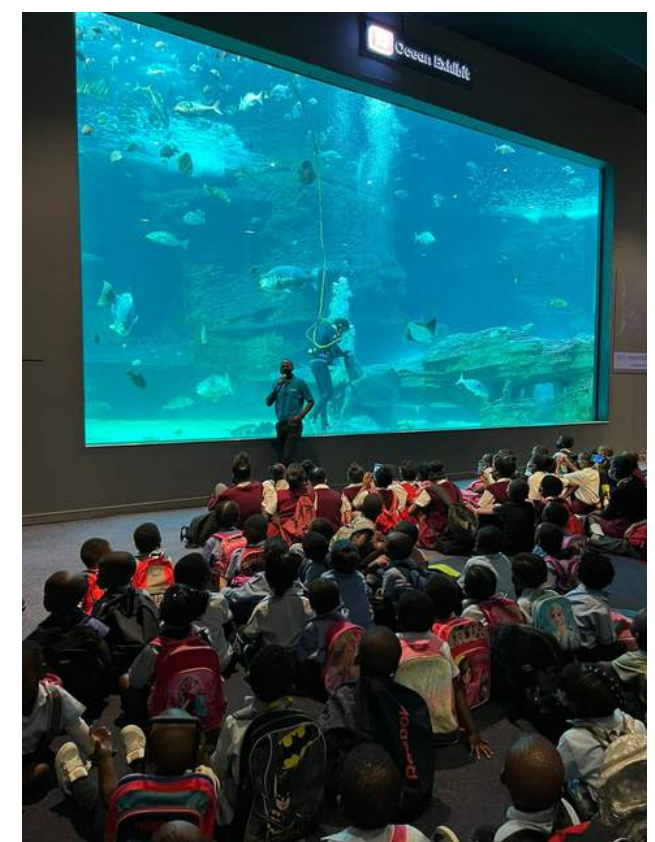
The children and teachers had a truly wonderful day out and learnt about nature and how important it is to respect and protect all life on earth.

These children seldom get to leave the township, let alone become a tourist in their own city. Humans just need opportunity to dream, learn, grow and fulfill their potential in life, and through these visits we hope to plant these seeds.

We would like to encourage all companies in South Africa to adopt a local community project, take them together with their staff to a local tourism site. Let the staff spend the day mixing with the community members, build sincere relationships and through these interactions create ripples of hope and nation building at a very foundational level.



*Masibulele Educare children at the Two Oceans Aquarium*



*Zizamele Educare children at the Two Oceans Aquarium*



# SOME HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE PAST YEAR

## **“A flavour Odyssey across The Rainbow Nation” – March 2022**

Thank you, South African Tourism, for recognizing and supporting Uthando.

Thanks to SA Tourism, on the 10th of March 2022, Uthando hosted South African born chef, Warren Mendes and his awesome TV crew who were in South Africa filming a 10-part food focused documentary series for Channel Ten Australia. The series explores treasured recipes and unique flavours, through food, whilst discovering stories of the country and its people.

Together with Uthando, the group visited the Ikhaya “Home” and Moya We Khaya “Spirit of Home” vegetable gardens in the township of Khayelitsha, where they got to learn about how the micro farmers of Cape Town are growing good quality fresh organic vegetables.

Chef Warren had the following to say on social media after the visit...

*“I will never forget these incredible, strong women I met in Khayelitsha today. They work at Abalimi Bezekhaya (meaning Farmers of the Home) – a non-profit group part of @uthandosa, which supports disadvantaged communities to grow fully organic produce for their own community. By far the brightest light on my trip so far and a group I look forward to working with, even back in Australia.”*  
#khayelitsha #uthandosa



**Chef Warren and TV crew filming in the Moya We Khaya Garden**



## **Duze Nomshikashika Choir (Holland)**

Uthando is super proud of the strong, durable and sincere relationships developed over many years with people from all over the world. Uthando has twice hosted the wonderful Duze NomShikaShika Choir from Holland.

The choir sings all of their songs in Xhosa (one the 11 official languages in SA) and they have a very interesting origin. In 1986 a group of students from Wageningen University decided to support the anti-apartheid movement in the Netherlands by singing South African songs in front of the South African embassy in the Haig. The name of the choir was given by the first conductor, Steve Kitson, who had South African roots.

The meaning of the name is ‘Closer to the struggle’ and later after the collapse of apartheid it was reflected as ‘Closer to where things happen’.

As a gesture of Uthando’s friendship with the choir, we sent our Uthando bracelets to Holland for each of the members. Choir Director Paul Heudberger sent the following note and photograph:

*“Duze NomShikaShika (singing South-African songs in the Netherlands) has warm connections with Uthando. We were in South Africa several times and have always been guided by Xolani and James in several projects in Khayelitsha. We have been singing in various places but the biggest impression we experienced in the centre with the elderly people.*

*We always feel connected with Uthando in the love for the songs in the African languages and we hope to be able to return soon for another inspiring visit.”*



## **Dolls and blankets donated by Lion World Travel to Christel House School**

Thank you, Lion World Travel, for the wonderful initiative to donate beautiful handmade dolls and blankets to Christel House School. The dolls and blankets were lovingly made by the women and mothers at the eKhaya Ekasi (Home in the Hood) Centre in Khayelitsha. 100 dolls and 140 blankets were handed over to James Fernie from Uthando by Lucille Sive, and in turn Uthando donated the goodies to Christel House School to be distributed to the children identified by the school as recipients.

Lucille Sive sent the following note:

*“For Lion World Travel it’s all about a hand up not a handout, and what we can do for the people. We are privileged that we can do it. #maketravelmatter*



Adri Marais from Christel House sent the following:

*“Thank you for your beautiful gift to our children, we were so thrilled to open the boxes and discover these stunning gifts for our children.”*



# COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS

## 3. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS

*"On behalf of the team at The Simphiwe Bird Foundation and the beneficiaries we serve, we want to Thank You from the bottom of our hearts. Your support is not just a charitable contribution but more about finding ways to show love, give love, being love and making a difference in the lives of the most vulnerable in society. You are the Heroes, and we thank you for helping us meet the challenges of this uncertain time so that we can continue to serve the community with Respect, Dignity and Love."*

**The Belmond Mount Nelson Hotel hosts The Amy Foundation and Eziko Cooking School students  
June is Youth Month in South Africa.**

In support of Youth Day (which commemorates the 16 June 1976 student massacre in Soweto), the Belmond Mount Nelson Hotel hosted groups of students from The Amy Foundation and Eziko Cooking School. The hotel very generously provided an amazing schedule of activities for the students which included a site inspection of the hotel, housekeeping room orientation, kitchen demonstration led by chef Rudi Liebenberg, mocktail demonstration, preparation for an interview by Human Resources and sales and social media awareness. The cherry on the top for the students was being hosted for a tea and light lunch by the hotel. The Uthando Team joined the students at the hotel on Thursday the 17th of June and an amazing time was had by all.



**Uthando supports Eziko Cooking School – "Love is made visible"**

Uthando has a proud relationship with and supported Eziko "Fireplace" Cooking and Catering School for many years. Eziko is a community-based project located in Langa, one of the oldest townships in Cape Town. Eziko, founded by Victor Mguqulwa in 1996 acts as an entry-level skill centre in catering and hospitality.

Eziko specializes in food preparation and cooking courses, baking, and drinks & wine service. The school is preparing students for a career in cooking, catering and hospitality. In 2021 Eziko had three student intakes, 1st (22 students) and 2nd (12 students) and the 3rd (20 students). Eziko assists with the placement process of the students at various hotel establishments across the city for in-service training and employment opportunity.

**Eziko students participating in "Reaching for Young Stars" culinary competition:**

Seven culinary schools competed in the 'Reaching for Young Stars culinary competition' hosted by the One & Only Hotel in July 2021. This culinary and hospitality competition doubles as a workshop where the students learn more about the industry. Wendy Maliwa (pastry chef) and Mcebisi Macingwana represented Eziko. Uthando played a critical and vital role not only to help these two students but to help all the students at Eziko to have access to ingredients for cooking. Some of the donated funds provided by Uthando were used by the two students for transportation costs during their participation in the culinary competition.



**Sponsoring the establishment of the vegetable garden at Woodlands Primary School**

Every school should have a vegetable garden and learning how to grow vegetables should form part of the school curriculum, teaching children about the importance of growing and eating fresh healthy vegetables. Uthando works with and supports several urban micro-farming operations. Uthando sponsored the creation of a brand new vegetable garden at Woodlands Primary School located in the community of Heideveld, Cape Town. The vegetable garden was established alongside the Uthando table tennis table which was installed at the school at the school in February 2021





# COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS

## “Girls Matter” trip around the Cape Peninsula

On the 9th April Uthando sponsored and hosted a group of girls from the community project called “Girls Matter” on a full day trip around the Cape Peninsula. The girls live in the area called Hanover Park which struggles against severe challenges of gangsterism, gender-based violence and poverty.

Many of these girls had never been to the Cape Peninsula or enjoyed the natural splendour of their own city. These “touristy” outings for local community projects are very much part of the Uthando campaign to introduce local “township communities” to the places that so many foreign tourists get to enjoy.

One of the girls sent the following note after the tour:

*“Shout out to Uthando ! A very big thank you to you guys. Today was super nice spending time with my girls, the drive along the mountain roads, the views, Chapmans Peak, dipping our feet in the sea water. It was all so much appreciated, thank you and a special thanks to our tour guide ☆very nice gentleman 10/10 for him yeah. Thanks again guys. God bless.”*

Aiesha Joseph



## Key Hole Gardening Project at Ikhaya “Home” Garden

Ikhaya Garden (SA), Uthando (SA) and Nguia Ti Be Foundation (Netherlands) partnered to implement Keyhole Gardens across the community of Khayelitsha. Jill Godfrey from the Nguia Ti Be Foundation was introduced to Ikhaya Garden on her visit with Uthando in October 2019 and was immediately enthusiastic about the idea of working with the Ikhaya Garden project run by Xolisa Bangani.

The keyhole gardening concept is an ecological friendly way of gardening, it is a low-budget, self-composting system and requires less watering and is effective for at least 5 years. This project was piloted in 10 of the most vulnerable families with an average of 5 to 6 people per household, under the guidance and supervision of the Ikhaya Garden team. The community members will grow commonly used vegetables, produce their own seedlings & seeds, grow herbs, indigenous vegetables and medicinal plants.

From Jill Godfrey wrote:

*“I visited the Ikhaya Garden and was so impressed by Xolisa’s story and gardening passion, that when the situation arose to support a project, Xolisa’s Home Gardens was the only choice for me.”*

Maria van den Boer wrote:

*“Jill’s tip was great. Before you support a project, you should do a little more research. I did, with success. I became more and more impressed by Xolisa’s commitment, his knowledge and what he has achieved. In addition, Uthando is professional, respectful and heartwarming. We are now with 3 fantastic partners and I think we complement each other well. Producing food as healthy as possible through family gardens in Khayelitsha, with respect for the planet, that’s what we aim for.”*



Xolisa Bangani of Ikhaya Garden receiving tools and phone



# COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS

## R.I.P Hema Shah from Immersion Journeys

The Uthando and Kronendal Music Academy (KMA) Teams were very sad to hear of the passing of Hema Shah in July 2021.

In 2019 Immersion Journeys represented by Hema Shah came to South Africa with the most fabulous group of people from the East Coast of the USA. They were in Cape Town for the Jazz Festival and spent only 3 days in the city, giving Uthando one full day which was incredible. The day was spent visiting musical projects and choirs, it was a day filled with music, singing, joy, companionship, laughter and love. Certainly, a day none of the participants would forget. Hema was in many ways the key player in facilitating the interactions throughout the day between the visitors and locals.

Thank you to Immersion Journeys for the very kind donation in memory of Hema Shah given to the Kronendal Music Academy through Uthando. KMA is headed by the formidable, KIND and loving Dwyn Griesel, who with her team is providing life-saving opportunities for the children in that community using music as the instrument.



*Hema holding the top right corner of the cheque handed to KMA*

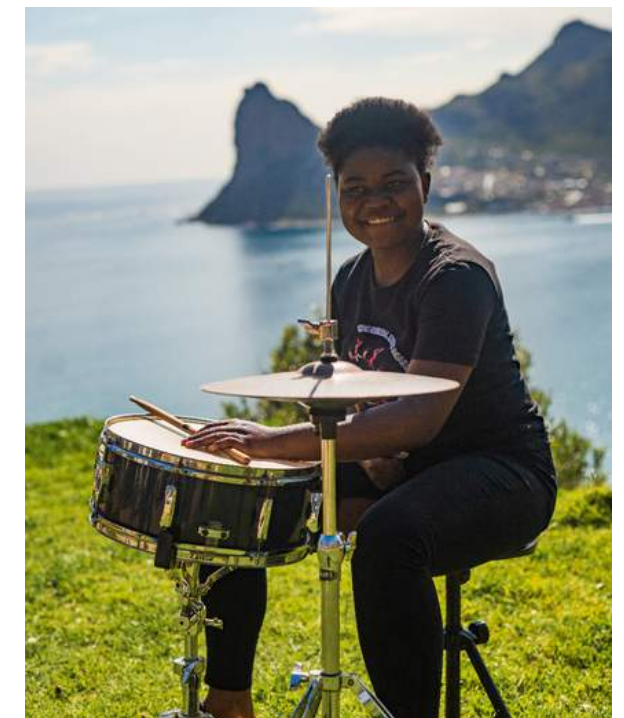
## Thank you Travel Beyond (Sweden) for supporting students at Kronendal Music Academy (KMA)

Thank you to Travel Beyond (Sweden) for bringing an abundance of festive cheer to two students at the Kronendal Music Academy (KMA) who were otherwise facing a bleak start to their academic year in 2022. Laicah (drummer) and Brian (guitarist) are top achieving students at the music school in Hout Bay, but were facing an uncertain future because they are Malawian and needed to renew their study permits in order to continue their schooling in SA and their music tuition at KMA.

Thanks to Travel Beyond (Sweden), both Laicah and Brian returned to Malawi, renewed their permits and returned to Cape Town and KMA to continue their school and musical activities.

Dwyn Griesel from KMA sent the following note:

**“THANK YOU to Travel Beyond and Uthando (Love) South Africa, You have changed the trajectory of these two pupils’ lives forever ”**



*Laicah and Brian with their fathers at KMA*



# COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS

## Ladles of Love breaks Guinness World Record

Food security in South Africa is a major challenge.

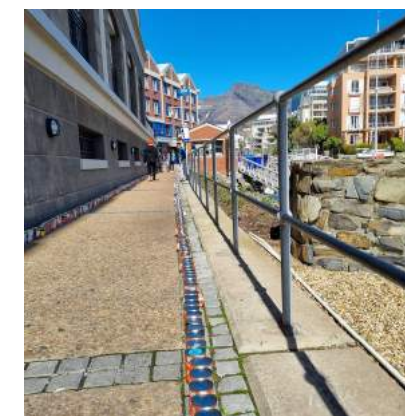
Uthando has been a passionate supporter of “Ladles of Love” since 2020. This organisation is providing life-saving food to hundreds of thousands of South Africans every week. On the 28th of August Uthando, represented by James Fernie and his partner Zackeen Thomas participated in a record-breaking event organized by Ladles of Love at the V & A Waterfront.

During the course of the day an energized and motivated team laid down more than 90 000 donated tins of food in a line weaving its way all around the Victoria & Alfred Waterfront covering 6,7 km (67 being the number of years that Nelson Mandela gave of his life to South Africa). All the tins had to be collected and packed after the record-breaking event which was actually quite an organizational feat. After the event, the more than 90 000 tins of food were then distributed to destitute communities around Cape Town.

The founder of Ladles of Love, Danny Diliberto sent the following note to Uthando on our assistance in 2020:

*“Each act of kindness is huge no matter how ‘small’ it is and having you all walk this journey with us on an ongoing basis is very, very important to us. To give you an idea the money that has been donated has sent out approximately 3 tonnes of bulk food supply and has provided over 20 000 meals or as I like to say over 20 000 acts of kindness or, better still, over 20 000 smiles.*

*Once again, a very huge thank you for choosing to be a #LoveActivist.  
Abundant blessings to you and may your organisation grow from strength to strength.”*



James Fernie, Xavier Arendse and Zackeen Thomas





# COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS

## Learn to Earn

After making a donation in February 2022 to Learn to Earn (LTE), an organisation providing life changing skills development and business development, Uthando received the following inspiring message from LTE:

We greatly value your support and partnering with us for a better future!

*"Ncebakazi was at the Learn to Earn Khayelitsha campus and completed our sewing course in 2017 and the Business Essentials course in 2018. She is an active follower on our Facebook page and other social media, and often comments on how LtE has impacted her and encouraging others. The most recent comment was this month:*

*'I'm forever grateful, too, for the skill I obtained from the Learn to Earn Khayelitsha campus under the wonderful Mrs Melelo's patient guidance. Today, I'm called a business owner because of that skill, a long-time dream I had growing up.'*

*This is part of her story:*

*'Life before LtE: I remember I had resigned where I worked because it was not serving me well anymore. It felt like the right time to kickstart my all-time dream of making clothing. Immediately after resigning I found out I was pregnant, so that meant staying at home a while, but I was able to start the course towards the end of 2017. I must say I was at my happiest! Finally, I was going to get sewing skills, which I had always wanted.'*

*How did LtE impact me? Firstly, I remember how our 'shells were being pulled off' - for the real us to come out. How we were shaped and guided into being better selves, for us and the people around us. How we would need to conduct ourselves in places of work, business and homes.*

*The best thing after completing my courses at LtE was kickstarting my business. It hit me while I was in class, that I would be making clothing for the girl child as part of much-needed empowerment, as I strongly believe that dressing them well is a step towards a strong, confident and empowered woman.*

*My brand Kasi Baby clothing is growing stronger each day. We are getting more exposure in different provinces and communities.*

*FB tag @kasibabyclothing*



*Honestly, we all owe it to ourselves to work on our dreams and walk our journey the only way that makes sense to us. We owe ourselves that much and one dream becoming a reality, paves a better way for someone behind. To kick start a dream you start with what you have.'*

## Pam McOnie Cape Fusion Tours supports Masi Creative Hub

Thank you to Pam McOnie for nominating Uthando as her charity of choice as a result of her winning the "Audley's 25th Anniversary Global Guide Awards". Pam was one of 25 winners from around the world to be selected for this prestigious award from Audley Travel. The R3962.40 donation received from Audley Travel in lieu of this award was matched by Uthando and R8000.00 was donated to the courageous women at the Masi Creative Hub. Pam and her team accompanied Uthando in August 2021 to visit Masi Creative Hub to see firsthand the awesome being done by Mama Yandi and her team.

After the visit Pam wrote :

*"Thank you so much for a lovely day with Uthando. So special to spend time with you guys and to see the amazing work being done by Masi Creative Hub. Thanks also for including my team. They loved it."*

*– Pam McOnie, Cape Fusion Tours*



Mama Yandi from Masi Creative inside the kitchen with Pam, Shelley and Chongo from Cape Fusion Tours



The strong beautiful women holding the blankets of Of love made by the ladies at Masi Creative Hub



# COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS

## Major Voices Choir

People and organisations that rely heavily on tourism continued to suffer terribly due to lack of tourists in 2021

Many of these people could not claim on unemployment because they are entrepreneurs with no formal employment or pay slips. Every week since March 2020 and throughout 2021, Uthando was able to support such people and organisations.

The Major Voices Choir sent the following note for the Uthando donors:

*"We hope you are still well and healthy during this hard time of Covid 19 and also your team. It is a high time of the virus going wild on every part of the world and more opportunities for us are on pause at the moment. Although it has been hard you have never stopped supporting us from the beginning and you still keep us going, we say thank you from the bottom of our Hearts. May God keep on blessing you and your team (Uthando SA)."*

*Much Love ♥"*

Major Voices



## Investing in Moya We Khaya "Spirit of Home" Garden

In November 2021 following a social media post by Uthando requesting funding to install shade cloth at the Moya Garden in Khayelitsha, funding materialized, and the shade cloth was installed. In addition to the actual shade cloth, Uthando provided the financing for the installation of an ADT armed response alarm system, additional housing in the garden in which a family is living to provide extra security, and the payment of insurance to ensure that the investment is protected.



*An aerial photograph of the Moya we Khaya Garden*

## Computer Lab sponsored by Youth Edutainment

In August 2021 Uthando facilitated the donation of 10 desktop computers from the Youth Edutainment NGO co-founded by Katrin Haunreiter from Switzerland. Youth Edutainment is an initiative that empowers young people from underprivileged communities through education and entertainment.

Youth Edutainment supplied 10 computers to the Philisa Abafazi Bethu Centre in Steenberg and 5 computers supplied to the Ikhaya Home Garden in Khayelitsha. The computers will be used for basic computing (typing, word, CV), school-based work and research (assignments and homework) and internet access.



*From left: Lucinda Evans (Philisa Abafazi Bethu), Crosby Bolani (Youth Edutainment), Katrin Haunreiter (Youth Edutainment) and Xolani Maseko (Uthando SA)*



# COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS

## Schools Environmental Education and Development (SEED)

Uthando is extremely proud to be working with and supporting SEED (Schools Environmental Education and Development) based at Rocklands Primary School in Mitchells Plain.

In November 2021 Nicole van Heerden, operations Manager sent the following email recently regarding their Seeding Futures Resilience Training which aims to grow real resilience in unemployed and under-employed youth and connect them to work opportunities in the local circular economy.

*"We are coming to the close of our onsite training today, as our students embark on job shadow opportunities next week. This particular group have also really made use of the Uthando ping pong table, lunch times games provide great entertainment as friendly competition is fierce! This really adds to the overall atmosphere on our site, thank you!"*

*Our vegetable garden is pumping, we recently planted for the new season and are starting to reap the benefits of that now, we struggle with some theft of produce from time to time, but fortunately are gardens are abundant. We are doing a lot of work on our site and have a new Easy Peasy product as we continue to promote and enable a culture of home gardening. Winter provides a time to look at our infrastructure and get organised for Spring.*

*Uthando's continued support allows us to have a big focus on our garden to continue to produce making our community impact meaningful. We are so appreciative."*



## Supporting our beautiful senior citizens

The relationships that Uthando has nurtured with the community development projects is deeply personal. Despite not running the excursions and facilitating the spirited engagements between visitors and the lively seniors, Uthando continued to keep the seniors in our thoughts through small monthly support grants.

We received this beautiful email from Neighbourhood Old Age Homes (NOAH) in early April 2021.

*"We are coming to the close "Thank you so much for the great gift to NOAH's, so much appreciated. At NOAH, we are so privileged to have people like you who care so much for our elderly. Enkosi kakhulu tata wethu ngenxaso yakho engapheliyo (Thank you so much, tata wethu, for your endless support to NOAH and care). I have no words to express our appreciation to you and Uthando with Love. With much love from NOAH family. Stay blessed"*

**Ntsiki Dwangu**

## The Team Uthando assisting Seniors to register for their COVID-19 Vaccines

With more than 100 seniors, 32 of them from the Sinovuyo Seniors Centre and others from the communities of Ilitha Park and Harare in Khayelitsha got their 1st Pfizer vaccine jabs on the 2nd of June 2021. There was much excitement and anxiousness during phase 2 of South Africa's vaccine rollout program, targeting people aged 60 years and older that began on the 17th of May 2021.

Uthando's Xolani Maseko helped register the seniors for their doses via the health departments electronic vaccination data systems. The vaccination process was conducted by the Kuyasa Community Day Centre (CDC) Clinic.

*"We thank you Xolani and Uthando for the support you have given to the seniors, your care, patience and love really took away the fear of getting the vaccine. Keep doing the good work, may God bless you always for your hard work and dedication" – Sinovuyo Seniors.*



*Uthando's Xolani Maseko helping to register the seniors for their doses.*



# COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS

## Zama Dance School Russian Ballet Society Competition

Many of the Uthando clients have visited Zama Dance School over the years as part of the Uthando Excursion. As a prelim to the Russian Ballet Society's [www.russianballetsociety.co.uk](http://www.russianballetsociety.co.uk) (Legat) online video competition, Zama Dance School held a mini competition at the school in Gugulethu on 22nd of May 2021 where parents and friends were able to see their work.

To up-the-game, Zama introduced financial awards that were sponsored by Uthando South Africa and Zama Dance School Trustee, Freya Griffiths. The theme for their student's choreography was, 'My Life During Covid -19 Expressed Through Dance'. The students had to choreograph their own solos (no help from dance teachers Miss Leanne or Mr Andrew) and were given free reign to use the ballet studio in the mornings and the Zama wardrobe. James Fernie was asked to sit on the panel of judges together with Daniel Rajna and Mantu Jakavula who were tasked with picking a top 4. Not an easy ask, when all 9 solos were of such a high standard. All the dancers were winners and all 9 were put through as entries into the competition.



## The Ulwazi Educare Centre (Delft) –Uthando's Flagship Project for 2021 / 2022

In partnership with donors and various organisations, Uthando has helped to transform five Early Childhood Development Centres (ECD's) since 2010.

The 6th pre-school, Ulwazi Educare was due to commence construction in April 2020 but Covid-19 put an abrupt stop to that plan.

On Friday the 11th of June 2021 the building contract was signed and construction of Ulwazi Educare Centre commenced in September 2021. This project is particularly exciting as the builders are Natural Building Collective, they are specialists of sustainable building practices.



*The building contract being signed onsite at Ulwazi Educare Centre*

The building plans for Ulwazi Educare in Delft were approved by the City of Cape Town on the 26th of July 2021. It was all systems go for construction to start in the middle of September 2021.



*The site of Ulwazi before construction*



*The "turning ground" ceremony at Ulwazi Educare*

Construction commenced on Ulwazi Educare on Tuesday the 14th of September. Ulwazi Educare is Uthando's 6th Early Childhood Development Centre (ECD) construction project. Ikamva Labantu provides the quality training and education to the principals and teachers at the ECD's, thus ensuring that quality education is being undertaken in quality buildings. We are extremely grateful to Mitialto Stichting (Belgium) for passionately supporting our educational goals in South Africa, and would like to appeal to other donors to assist with this important project.

The principal of the school, Patiswa sent the following email to Uthando;

*"I have no words to describe our sincere gratitude and appreciation to Uthando and your donors. We promise to work hard and deliver the best quality educational experience to our learners"*



# COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS

Uthando is extremely proud to be part of this exciting project. It is the very first Early Childhood Development Centre (ECD) or pre-school in South Africa that is being built out of tyres and sustainable building materials.

During the construction phase, Uthando hosted visitors and donors at the. A regular donor and friend, Cathrine Filipson from Sweden wrote the following after her visit in January 2022:

*"Today I had the privilege to visit Ulwazi Educare in Delft, Cape Town, a project close to my heart. The preschool will have space for 120 kids, aged 2-6. Recycled materials such as tyres, ecobricks, cob, reclaimed materials from the film industry, glass bottles and reclaimed doors and windows are used.*

*The filling material for the tyres is from recycled building waste, mixed with earth from a site excavation to make an easy to compact material. The yard it was located at also provided many of the large window and door frames and was located fairly close to the site.*

*The outside walls will get a final cement plaster for ease of maintenance and the inside walls will get a lime plaster. This was all explained to me by Peter McIntosh founder of Natural Building Collective.*

*A play area and trees will complete the school yard and make it fun and inspiring for the children to play in. Thank you, James Fernie, and Xolani at Uthando (Love) South Africa who support projects all over Cape Town. If you are visiting Cape Town and would like to get a better insight into projects like this or help sponsor, please book a tour with Uthando."*



Left to right) James Fernie, principal Patiswa Bangani and Cathrine Filipson onsite at Ulwazi Educare

A big thank you to the Belmond Mount Nelson hotel for donating decent size trees in March 2022 which were planted all around the school in July 2022 as part of the Mandela Day celebrations.



The roof being installed at Ulwazi

## Uthando supports "Buckets of Hope" at Christel House School

In November 2021, thanks to 80 Days from Denmark, Uthando was able to transfer money to Christel House South Africa School to purchase 125 "buckets of hope" so that 125 families who are extremely vulnerable and living on or below the breadline could have a little extra food on the table this festive season.

Each "Bucket of Hope" cost R200.00 and was filled with non-perishable food items and giving some hope during these extremely challenging times. The Uthando Team spent two hours at this AMAZING non-profit school in November, they provide top quality education to 800 children who come from the most challenges communities in Cape Town. Please help us to support many more families with these "buckets of hope" for the festive season this year.

Heather Van Wyk from the school sent the following note:

*"I have no words to describe our sincere gratitude and appreciation to Uthando and your donors. We promise to work hard and deliver the best quality educational experience to our learners"*

*The beautiful children at Christel House School. The school is looking to sponsor another 400 families with these "buckets of hope"*





# COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS

## Ludwe Qamata “I am a Ghetto Gardener, carry the spade and walk with us”

Uthando really does try to reflect the many incredible stories of resilience, determination, passion and triumph over adversity that characterizes so many of the project activists.

Ludwe Qamata is the gardener who is based at the Sinovuyo Seniors Centre in Khayelitsha. He is part of the “Ghetto Gardener” movement and Uthando is very proud to work with him and support his efforts. He is a remarkable young man; gentle, soft spoken and passionate. Like so many young men of colour in SA, his life has not and is not an easy one, but despite the limitations he shines like a bright light of hope and inspiration, especially to other young men who are looking for role models.



*Ludwe standing proudly with the seniors in the garden at the Sinovuyo Seniors*

This is Ludwe’s story of triumph over adversity:

Ludwe Qamata was born on 8 October 1988 in Khayelitsha, a 3rd born of 5 children from a single mother. Due to financial challenges experienced by his mother, Ludwe and his siblings went to live with their grandmother in Lady Frere in the Eastern Cape. Life in the Eastern Cape was not easy, they grew up struggling with very little money. In the village, people had farm stalls where they planted mostly maize (corn), beans, pumpkin, potatoes and cabbages. These vegetables were their staple food at home. When it was harvest time, Ludwe would fill-up iBhekile (a tin can) with the maize and go exchange it at the local shop for a tin of salt. The salt would then be distributed in all the homes close to them; this was done with the purpose of sharing between families.

Ludwe came back to Cape Town when his was 10 years old, to live with his mother and stepfather. His stepfather was verbally abusive towards his mother and physically abusive to them, this led to them separating. Ludwe always thought that the man he grew up under was his father only to discover all along it was his stepfather, this came as a big shock to him and ignited in him a curiosity to know to who his real father is. At the time he was around 17 or 18 years, by focusing on finding his father he failed grade 11, this seriously affected him and as a result he started drinking alcohol, smoking drugs and being out at night doing mischievous things. The pain led him to being violent, he started getting into fights and he got stabbed multiple times in his chest and This was the beginning of his downward spiral to a life of anger and frustration which led to more and more fighting.

He was involved in a fight with 4 other men where he stabbed 1 of them to death, he got arrested and was sent to the notorious Pollsmoor Maximum prison at age 20 and was sentenced to 25 years behind bars. Ludwe spent 3 years in prison and was released on Parole and leaved with his brother at the hostels in Nyanga Township.

During his parole, Ludwe would go to the Nyanga Police Station to sign and do his community service duties of cleaning the police station in the morning and during the day queue at the SHAWCO hall for soup and bread. While at the queue he noticed a garden at the hall that was in a very bad condition and asked for permission to work on it. He started planting and the people were impressed by what they saw and started asking for his help with their own gardens, that’s when his passion for household gardens began. With his friend Xolisa Bangani, Ludwe’s journey to transformation started, volunteering at the Abalimi Bezekhaya garden centre in Nyanga he learnt about organic gardening concepts and techniques. He would go door-to-door helping and advising people with their household gardens and as a result he started an organization called Imifuno eFresh eKasi (Fresh Produce in the Hood).

In 2013, he met up again with his friend Xolisa and helped start Ikhaya Kulture Garden at Isikhokhelo Primary School in Site C, interacting with the children this truly encouraged him to share his knowledge and skills with the community and was personally inspired to help household garden movement and as result he focused on this movement. All this was disrupted by the chaos of the neighbourhood, guys his age were involved in gangsterism as means of protection, and this led to Ludwe joining the gang and started selling drugs.

Uthando’s support to Ludwe came at a very critical time, when he was in a brink of giving up and was in a very dark space, involved in criminal activities. The opportunity to work with the seniors at Sinovuyo Club was life changing, started the “Ghetto Gardeners” project and allowed him to achieve his dreams of being involved with household gardens. Uthando has provided Ludwe with all the necessary support from garden tools, seedlings, irrigation system and a weekly stipend which have been extremely helpful and motivational to him, and the love of Uthando, the seniors and the community is what gives him strength and encouragement.

## Rosmead Central Primary School

In February 2022 Uthando provided the money to repair the borehole at this school which has more than 850 learners. The sports field is an integral part of the school and the children’s broader physical education. Uthando received the following note from the school for our donors.

**“Dear Uthando South Africa**

**The learners, parents and educators would like to thank you so much for your incredible contribution to our school.**

**Our learners come from the disadvantaged areas of Khayelitsha, Gugulethu, Phillipi, Manenberg, etc. Many learners are reared by a single mother or grandmother. Some are even reared by an extended family member. The circumstances of each learner differs but they are trying for most. It is a constant battle for learners to pay the minimal school fees charged by the school. When our pump broke unexpectedly we found ourselves in a difficult position whereby we could not water our field.**

**It is the highlight of most learners at Rosmead to get to do their Physical Education, Soccer and Cricket lessons on the field. Most learners will tell you they love school because they can play on the field.**

**Thanks to your incredible generosity, we were able to fix the pump and make sure that the field was watered. Our learners, educators and parents would like to thank you, from the bottom of our hearts, for your generous donation.” Principal, Xoliswa Tono-Nazo**



# COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS

## Sponsoring the “Gift of Sight” for Nobendiba (Kanya) through Eyes2Eyes Foundation

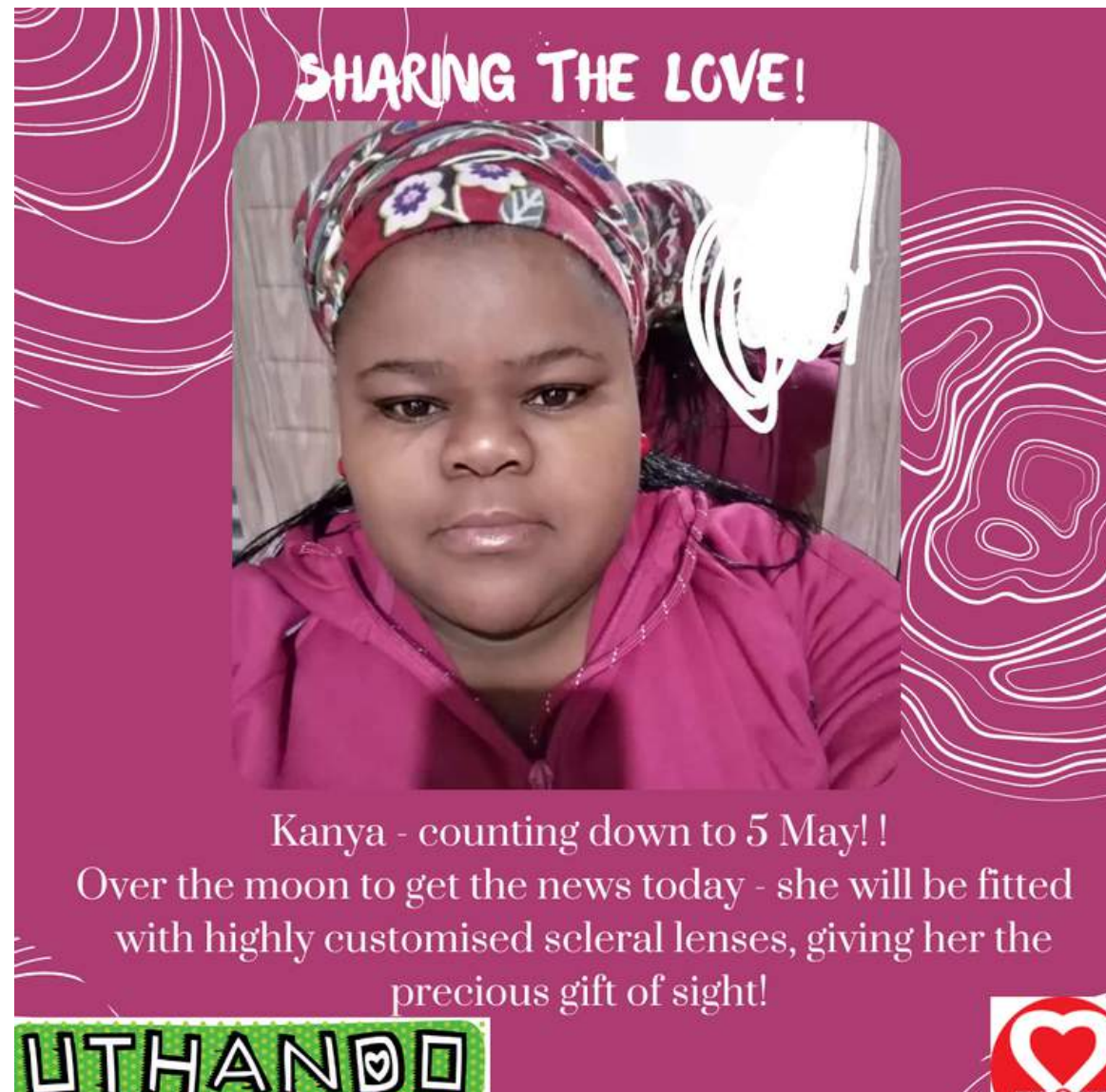
Uthando started supporting the Eyes2Eyes Foundation during this financial year.

Nobendiba (Kanya) is 33 years old and lives in Crossroads, Cape Town. Kanya was diagnosed with advanced keratoconus by the Groote Schuur Cornea Clinic in September 2021. Her sight cannot be helped with ordinary glasses or contact lenses.

By the end of 2021, her eyesight had deteriorated so badly she could not see a computer screen. She failed her last subject for her N6 certificate at the College of Cape Town and had to drop out of the course.

Founder of Eyes2Eyes Foundation, Mandy Seccombe wrote :

*“We are so grateful to Uthando for stepping in to help us fund highly custom designed scleral lenses to give Kanya her sight again. Her lenses are being designed and manufactured in New Zealand following your incredible donation! Kanya and her husband of 10 years are both unemployed - they rely on extended family for their day- to day living. Regaining her sight means she can enroll in college again in July this year to finalize her studies and then start applying for jobs with confidence*



## Hanover Park Cricket Club

If we can get more of boys and men in South Africa playing sport, it would truly accelerate transformation of the nation.

Uthando is passionate about supporting sports organisations and in February 2022 contributed financially to new playing attire and warm-up kit for the Hanover Park Cricket Club flagship team who played in the AMA T20 Final at the Newlands Cricket Grounds. They went on to win the tournament!

Ashraf Allie, Chairperson of the Club sent the following note:

*“The squad and management looked so smart in their warm-up and playing attire and we once again say a big THANK YOU to you and Uthando SA for the contribution and the amazing love and support you offer. I know it’s a cliché, however, words cannot describe what you and others mean to us as a club.”*



**Hanover Park Cricket Club Champions**



# PHILANTHROPIC EDUCATIONAL EXCURSIONS

## 4. PHILANTHROPIC EDUCATIONAL EXCURSIONS

*What a mind-blowing experience!*

*Uthando supports local projects in different townships and really aims to develop and empower the individuals and the groups. It really exceeded my expectations and I would highly recommend it. It's almost a MUST if you are visiting South Africa.*

*The donation is 100% worth it and they deserve even more.*

*Thank you so much for your time and for all the effort you are putting on this project.*

*– Giulia Fogliani*

### Fair Trade Tourism Pledge

Uthando (Love) South Africa is committed to the principles and philosophy of Fair Trade Tourism and at all times ensures that Responsible Tourism best practices are applied and integrated into our business and Philanthropic Educational Excursions. Our Excursions bring significant benefit to local communities by providing income and other forms of assistance, while cultural exchanges are conducted in a sensitive, respectful and mutually beneficial manner.

By running the excursions, Uthando is introducing the amazing community development projects and courageous activists to the world. The excursions really started to pick up as 2021 progressed and this really accelerated in the first quarter of 2022.

The awareness generated through Trip Adviser is really important.

At the start of the new annual year for Uthando, April 2021, Uthando had 450 reviews on Trip Advisor and was listed 13 out of 845 tours in Cape Town.

[http://www.tripadvisor.com/Attraction\\_Review-g312659-d2194811-Reviews-Uthando\\_Private\\_Tours-Cape\\_Town\\_Western\\_Cape.html](http://www.tripadvisor.com/Attraction_Review-g312659-d2194811-Reviews-Uthando_Private_Tours-Cape_Town_Western_Cape.html)



On the 18th of June Uthando hosted the McBroom Family from Texas, USA. We knew the visit was going to be amazing because we had such awesome correspondence with Liz over several months about South Africa leading up to the visit.

12-year-old Cassandra who had done a school project featuring Mandela wrote after the excursion,

*"I enjoyed the tour so much, because I did a project in the United States about Nelson Mandela! It was cool to learn more about the impact he made and how he changed apartheid in real life. It was amazing to hear about the challenges he faced, but how he stuck through it. I'm glad he worked to make equal rights for all people. I really look up to Nelson Mandela."*



*The McBroom Family with the Isibane se Afrika and Major Voices Choirs*

### Philanthropic Educational visit to Animal Welfare Projects

Team Uthando always go the extra mile for our visitors, and always try as far as possible to accommodate their interests when visiting and engaging the community development partners.

On the 23rd of July 2021 Uthando hosted a family from the USA through Uyaphi Travel who were specifically interested in visiting animal welfare projects. Due to Covid-19 regulations the visit to the Cart Horse Protection Association premises was not possible, but before the excursion commenced the clients participated in a zoom presentation given by the fundraiser of the Cart Horse Association. It was informative and very successful. Out on the excursion the family visited the Mdzananda Animal Clinic in Khayelitsha which is providing primary care to thousands of pets in that community.



*Elizabeth being shown around the Mdzananda Animal Clinic Lisa Godana.  
Elizabeth was recently accepted into Veterinary School for her post-graduate degree*



# PHILANTHROPIC EDUCATIONAL EXCURSIONS

## Zohe Serrano (USA) fundraiser for Uthando South Africa

Team Uthando is humbled and grateful for the incredible people from every corner of the world that come out with Uthando to visit, engage and learn about the work being done by the community development partners. Zohe Serrano from Alpharetta, Georgia (USA) came out on an Uthando experience in 2019 and undertook a fundraising initiative to raise funds for Uthando. On the 31st of July 2021 Zohe organized a spikeball tournament and charged a \$5 entry fee. The event was promoted on social media to friends and family and it was a huge success with a fantastic amount of \$445.00 being raised and transferred to Uthando.

Zohe sent the following note:

*"On July 12th of 2019, I was fortunate enough to view the world as Uthando sees it. The Uthando bus set off one of my most cherished experiences. Our tour guide, Xolani Maseko, took us to preschools and after school programs and we were immediately greeted by the warmest smiles and most welcoming people I have ever had the pleasure of meeting. We watched the children sing, recite the alphabet, play tag. We watched, danced, and laughed with teenagers in after school programs. After having the most amazing day completely immersed in the charming culture of Cape Town, I couldn't help but think of one thing: books. I noticed that the children in the schools did not have any books, which was such a vital part of my young education. It was at this moment I decided to give back to the place that had given me a newfound sense of love for people and life.  
I would like to than Uthando for their work in changing lives all over the world including my own."*



Zohe having fun at Isiseko Educare

## Thank you to Ross Family from Germany for years of love

The Ross Family from Hamburg, Germany have supported Uthando for many years. Maria Ross, living in Cape Town, runs the "Ubuntu Beanies" project generating significant donations for Brave Rock Girl. Uthando recently received a donation from Manfred Ross, Maria's father with the following note:

*"At the end of August, I have finished my service for the harbour police here in Hamburg due to my age. Because of my retirement I threw a small farewell party with the theme "support for Uthando in Cape Town". My daughter Maria as well as me presented not just her incredible beanie project to all guests but I also talked about your important community work and how tourism influences the South African economy and what you as "Uthando" have managed to achieve over the past year. Instead of farewell presents I asked everyone to donate rather and was therefore able to collect in total 7000 ZAR for Uthando which I am sure you will need for any expenses made in the past year. Maria will transfer the funds over to you through your website. I sincerely hope that we are able to go on a tour with Xolani at the beginning of next year again to visit a selection of the projects that you support. Many greetings from Hamburg" - Manfred Ross*

## Africa Chic (Italy) Educational Visit

By September 2021 Uthando had a steady stream of visitors and tour operators from around the world coming to visit and see the work being done by Uthando.

On the 6th of September Uthando hosted Antonella Cozzi (Africa Chic from Italy) and her husband Federico visiting several community projects.

Antonella sent the following note after the excursion: On the 18th of June Uthando hosted the McBroom Family from Texas, USA. We knew the visit was going to be amazing because we had such awesome correspondence with Liz over several months about South Africa leading up to the visit.

*"I have spent a day with Uthando and I was moved by the African Smile. This day reminds me the Lessons of Don Juan : " You Must learn to make every act count, since we are going to be here for only a short while..... Thanks James thanks Uthando*

Antonella and Federico with Mama Bukeka at Zizamele Educare





# PHILANTHROPIC EDUCATIONAL EXCURSIONS

## Natalia Rosa from BIG AMBITIONS Day with Uthando

The Uthando Team was thrilled to spend the day with Natalia Rosa from Big Ambitions, showing her a range of community projects being supported by Uthando. Big Ambitions is an awesome and trusted PR, content, communication and marketing company with a broad range of very high profile clients. Natalia is also very connected and a leading role player in the South African tourism industry, so it was an excellent opportunity to show her the work being done by Uthando.

Natalia wrote the following message following the day:

*“A wonderful reminder of my recent visit to see what inspiring work the Amy Foundation South Africa are up to with James Fernie. Never forget the power of tourism to change lives and forge a new path Uthando South Africa #IAmTourism #SouthAfricaIsTravelReady”*



*Natalia Rosa and James Fernie at the Amy Foundation*

## Introducing locals to the inspiring and innovative community projects and activists driving change at grass roots

It is a mission of Uthando to expose more locals to the community development projects and local activists through the excursions, thus Showcasing the outstanding and important work being done to develop grass roots communities.

The Paul Family very kindly donated to Uthando's work in 2020 and 2021, so it was especially gratifying to show them some of the programmes supported by Uthando during this time.

In November 2021 Uthando hosted Nick and Steve on an excursion, a highlight was spending two hours at the very inspiring Christel House School which is a non-profit school providing world class education to almost 900 children,

The children were showcasing “20 years of transforming lives” at the school. Nick and Steve Paul were visibly moved by the passion, innovation and love that they experienced during their day long visit with Uthando.



*Xolani, Steve, Nick and James at the “20 years of transforming lives” at Christel House School*

## African Moments

In November 2022 Uthando also hosted local tour operator, African Moments on an educational excursion. Dennis and Nicole from African Moments came out with Uthando together with two of their clients from Germany. Nicole wrote after the excursion:

*“It was so wonderful and such a privilege to be out with you both visiting all the amazing projects! It's so wonderful to be with people, that despite the challenges in our incredible country, see the positive in everything, have a passion for what they do and deeply love this country and its people so! It was truly so deeply moving and touching.”*



*A warm welcome to SEED in Mitchells Plein by Mikal Lambert and Raelene Adams*



# PHILANTHROPIC EDUCATIONAL EXCURSIONS

## Bonnievale Projects Group from Luxembourg visit with Uthando

Uthando hosted board members from the Bonnievale Projects NGO who were visiting South Africa on a fact finding and learning mission. It was a fun and mutually beneficial learning experience spending the morning with Francis Faber, Stephanie Notarnicola and Caty Da Vinha visiting a diverse range of community projects.

Thank you to Caty for the following review on Trip Advisor:

*"The Highlight in Cape Town. The whole tour was such a good experience. James was a wonderful guide. We received a lot of interesting information about the History and Political of South Afrika. The Projects were all such an inspiration of hope and kindness. Don't miss this experience."*



*The group visited Moya we Khaya Garden in Khayelitsha*

## Kugler Reisen (Germany) Educational with Uthando

On the 18th of August Uthando hosted German tour operator Kugler Reisen on an educational excursion for the morning. Helmut and Martina Kugler from Memmingen, Germany and Petra Onel from Cape Town accompanied Uthando visiting several community projects on the Cape Flats. They sent the following note after the excursion:

*"Uthando, thank you for the very special outing you took us on to some of the projects you support. It is so encouraging and delightful to see so much good work being done in the right places. All our love goes out to the amazing special people we met that work tirelessly to uplift themselves and their community with so much love and care."*

**Lots of love, Helmut and Martina Kugler and Petra Onel, Kugler Reisen**



*At Masibulele Educare, Martina, Mama Nwabisa (principal), Helmut and Petra*

## Amazing feedback on our community visits and experiences despite Covid-19

We are so grateful for the generous, intrepid and courageous travellers and visitors who despite Covid-19 have visited South Africa and been on our Philanthropic Educational Excursion. Team Uthando is passionate about sharing so many stories of inspiration, innovation and passion with our guests, and we are so grateful for the amazing feedback.

Below are just a few of the highlighted comments:

*"Our hearts are truly full! It was such a moving and heart-warming experience. We will carry it with us for the rest of our life"* – Jodie and Megan.

*"The work you do is amazing. It was wonderful meeting the participants of your programmes"* – Patti and Leo

*"Amazing work, great eye-opening experience, would like to learn more and help in any way possible."*  
– Bhaskaran

*"Excellent tour guide with profound knowledge. Interesting to visit different projects and not just one. Highly recommended tour"* – Rammer Family

*"We are so grateful for the incredibly amazing and moving day we just experienced. We feel that we were able to see South Africa through a new lens and look forward to learning more and helping these organizations grow."*  
– David and Lindsay

*"Thank you so much for this great experience, and this message of hope and love. We wish you all the best for the future and we will keep with us your energy, positive attitude and love"*  
– Mathilde and Arthur from Paris, France (10/12/2021).

*"Very touching experience – appreciate Xolani providing so much insight/info to us during our tour, love your passion. Thanks for being so accommodating"* – Jennifer and Penny from North Carolina, USA (09/12/2021).

*"Absolutely wonderful experience, thank you. We will tell Hills of Africa to continue to suggest this cultural tour for all of their clients"* – David, Shelby, Mari and Charlie Matthews from Maryland, USA (25/11/2021).

*"Excellent work by Uthando, so good to see what a difference you are trying to do. Changing people's lives for the better"* – Jill and Peter Worobec from Ipswich, England (18/11/2021).

*"We wouldn't change a thing; this was a powerful experience that we will never forget. We especially liked the diverse perspectives – young adults, kids, environment and seniors. Thank you and keep up the incredible work!"*  
– Alyssa from Washington, USA (16/11/2021).

*"Amazing tour! We had a fantastic day and met incredible people. Thank you so much for all that you do! We will forever remember this day"* – Ryan and Allie Mertz from New York City, USA (11/11/2021).

*"We are so grateful to be introduced to this program through our guide – his enthusiasm is contagious. We enjoyed our day, it gave us hope, humility and reminded us it is one world Love"*  
– Rick and Deborah, Denver North Carolina, USA (03/11/2021).

*"Very educational tour - Thank you, most tours will drive by housing that is for people down on their luck, but this was different. We were able to meet people receiving medical & mental health care, got to see some students in their classrooms. The choir we visited brought tears of joy in my eyes; they were beautiful. Our tour guide was extraordinary, he was smart, knowledgeable and funny"*  
– Gail and Lee from Nashua New Hampshire, USA (21/10/2021).



# PHILANTHROPIC EDUCATIONAL EXCURSIONS

## Educational Excursion with Livingstone Safaris (Cape Town)

THANK YOU, Livingstone Safaris, for the many years of incredible support and love! The Uthando Family appreciates you greatly. On the 8th of March 2022, Uthando hosted the Livingstone Safaris "Dream Team". After the excursion they posted the following on social media...



**The Livingstone Safaris "Dream Team" visiting Mama Nwabisa and children at Masibulele Educare. Livingstone Safaris was an integral part of the fundraising to build Masibulele Educare**

## Educational visit by Nina Patel (USA)

On the 7th of October 2021 Uthando hosted Nina Patel visiting Dance For All and LAMTA (Musical Theatre Academy). Nina recently wrote from the USA:

*"I was so ecstatic to be spending an afternoon touring with James and Xolani of Uthando on October 7th, 2021, during my first international trip post pandemic. I had done an uplifting tour with them several years ago and was really looking forward to another amazing opportunity to visit different projects"*

*We visited an organization called "Dance for All" which serves local community kids from the townships in various types of dance classes. We had the privilege of watching an Afro-beats and hip hop class in action and it was so inspiring to see the talent in the room and the passion with which the teacher's guide, encourage, mentor and love the kids who participate. These dance classes give them hope, physical activity, friendships and a sense of community in a safe place. More importantly Dance for All allows them to express themselves and become positive role models for their community by staying away from violence and growing up to be productive and successful. The smiles and energy in the rooms just filled my heart to the core. Thank you, James, for sharing these beautiful projects and initiatives for all of us to partake in such meaningful and impactful ways. Can't wait to visit again!!"*



## Best Day Ever in Cape Town

*"What an amazing experience to learn the history of apartheid and see the seeds of love and forgiveness Mandela and the South African people have sown."*

*This is not just any tour. James and Xolani are true stewards of change whose non-profit organization sponsors over 60 diverse grassroots organizations in the townships of Cape Town. It was a privilege to be welcomed by some of them. If you like dancing and singing, this tour is for you. If you like gardening, this tour is for you. If you love animals, this tour is for you. If you love children and value education, this tour is for you. I would highly recommend it for families. Such an educational experience for young and old alike. Be prepared to laugh and be hugged often."*



**The visiting group at the Cart Horse Protection Association**



## 5. TEAM UTHANDO

*"Thank you so much for always surprising and being consistently in our corner. You do amazing work and we are honoured to be in your sphere of transformation. Adri Marais – CEO, Christel House School"*



*James and Xolani onsite at Ulwazi Educare Centre during construction*

James Fernie and Xolani Maseko continue to make a small but dynamic team. Xolani guides the majority of the excursions whilst James manages and runs the organization. For larger groups and special interest groups, James will also get involved in the guiding side of the organization.

### Uthando's fiscal sponsors in the USA

Uthando is incredibly grateful to our "Fiscal Friend" sponsors in the USA. Art Aids Art for facilitating donations from American donors to Uthando who wish to claim a tax deduction for their donations.

## 6. APPRECIATION AND GRATITUDE TO DONORS AND BENEFACTORS

*"One of the most rewarding parts of running Uthando is taking donors and benefactors to see where and how their money was spent, and the impact that it is having on people lives. James Fernie"*

### Travel Beyond (Sweden) visits Zizamele and Masibulele Educare Centres

On the 10th of November 2021 Uthando visited several projects sponsored by Travel Beyond (Sweden) with Maria Sandborg, Sales Manager at Travel Beyond.

Maria sent the following note after the visit:

*" Thanks for an amazing tour, I just don't have words to express the love I feel!"*



*Maria at Masibulele Educare with the principal Mama Nwabisa*



Every single donation, contribution and gift irrespective of the size or amount is highly valued and appreciated. THANK YOU to our kind, generous and thoughtful donors and benefactors from South Africa and all around the world for your kindness, thoughtfulness and support. We love and appreciate you!



## 7. FINANCIAL REPORT

*"Molo Tat'u James and Uthando South Africa family😊*

*Thank you so much for the great gift towards NOAH Khayelitsha.*

*It is heart-warming to see the efforts you make in ensuring that you spoil our elders even during these difficult times.*

*NOAH Khayelitsha elders are truly blessed to have you.*

*We are so grateful Uthando SA for your never ending and eternal love. We will pass your love and regards to the elders."*

**Siyabonga! -Ntsiki Dwangu, Neighbourhood Old Age Homes (NOAH)**

Uthando Social Development Projects, South Africa NPC ("Uthando") is a non-profit and Fair Trade in Tourism accredited organisation that aims to raise funds for community development projects in South Africa.

Uthando South Africa conducts Philanthropic Educational Excursions visiting community development projects to which the income of the organisation is distributed to introduce visitors, donors and potential donors to the community to the projects that they support and to create awareness of the social needs in South Africa.

The costs of running the Philanthropic Educational Excursions are integral and directly related to the sole and principal object as stated in the aims and objectives of the organisation.

Accountant : Demath Accounting and Taxation Services (PTY) Ltd  
Registration no 2017/063488/07  
Maryna Smith  
PO Box 720, Yzerfontein, 7351

Auditors : Ad Valorem Chartered Accountants (SA)  
Registration Number 963374-00000  
Per : H.M Faul, CA (SA), RA  
Registration Number : 765937  
15 Sunset Clam Lane, Melkbosstrand, 7441

Donations Income	R4 753 410.00
Community Project Visits Income	R57 290.00
Interest received on bank balances	R10 082.00
Total Income 2021 /2022	R4 820 782.00
Operating Expenses	R1 100 038.00
Total Allocation to Community Development Projects	R4 458 833.00



### Organizational Details

Full registered name Uthando Social Development Projects, South Africa  
Registered Section 21 Company 2007/030289/08  
NPO 061-321  
PBO 930 026 218  
Physical Address : Office 5, Harfield Village Centre, 48 2nd Avenue, Harfield Village, Claremont, 7708  
Postal Address : PO Box 16491, Vlaeberg, 8018, South Africa  
Office Telephone : +27 21 683 8523  
Twitter : UthandoSouthAfr  
Facebook : Uthando (Love) South Africa (group) / Uthando South Africa (page)  
Instagram : uthandosa  
www.uthandosa.org



*Uthando table tennis table at Woodlands Primary School*



# MESSAGES FROM OUR FRIENDS

## 8. MESSAGES FROM OUR FRIENDS

Uthando is all about stories. Very real human stories.

### Thimna Sitokisi (former student at Zama Dance School)

I was born in Cape Town in a township called Gugulethu (meaning “Our Pride”) and I was raised in a very small house by a single mother, grandmother and close family members. With my mother being the only breadwinner in the house it meant that our situation was very tough, but our strong family values kept us motivated and helped us survive. Living in a disadvantage community such as Gugulethu and faced with many social challenges, I needed an escape. Zama Dance School came at the perfect time.

I found out about Zama through a friend of mine who attended the dance school before me. Her stories of ballet really intrigued me, and she suggested I should give it a try. I couldn’t have known at the time, but this was the beginning of my dance journey which was to transform my life in ways that I could never imagined!



I was just 7 years old when I joined the Zama Dance School, and for 10 years (2006-2016) Zama created a secure and supportive environment for me where I was allowed to grow, learn, flourish and be disciplined in my everyday life. Not only did it become a second home, but it had become a part of me – and me a part of it. I gained a new family whilst being taught the basic life skills we all need to survive. Zama’s contribution has been of great help and the school continues to assist me on my journey. Zama have gone above-and-beyond to pave the way for myself and so many young budding dancers from Gugulethu and its surrounds.

During my last year at Zama, my ballet teachers (Miss Leanne and Mr Andrew) prepared me for my next chapter, the Cape Academy of Performing Arts (CAPA)! Although I received a scholarship to study at CAPA in 2017, it did not cover my daily travel, uniform and food costs. I didn’t know how I was going survive over the 3 years without these costs being covered.....then along came UTHANDO and the Mitialto Stichting (Belgium)

In 2019 the biggest highlight was when I officially graduated as a Performing Arts Student from the college. I knew I had to prepare a secure future within the entertainment industry, and I auditioned for one of the biggest dance companies in South Africa called Cape Town City Ballet where I successfully secured myself a contract. Not having had the best first year (2020) of my professional dance career due to the Corona Virus outbreak, which had a huge emotional and psychological impact on me and many other artists around the world, as artists we live for being in the studio, working our bodies and crafting them on stage where we offer entertainment and Storytelling to our audiences. We could not survive with doing Ballet Classes in our living rooms, kitchen counters or any space around our houses over ZOOM.

My biggest highlight was when I performed for the first time this year 2021 in May performing an internationally acclaimed dance production called INGOMA which really took me on a very incredible emotional journey and explored my artistic thinking on a deeper level. Recently I performed my first full length Ballet production titled CARMEN with the company. It was an honor to portray one of the most fun and mischievous characters in the production.

To the Mitialto Stichting, I was so fortunate and blessed to have met you through Uthando South Africa, and I am forever grateful for your kind and very generous assistance with everything I needed to kick start my career and achieving my dreams as a Professional Dancer. I pray and wish you all great health and many more blessings. To James, Xolani and Uthando SA family.... Thank you so much for your generous, kind and humble heart and through your random acts of kindness I am thankful to say through your vision (Uthando) I am living my dreams and excelling beyond.....”

### David Tarrant (Canada)



My first introduction to the dynamic and untiring outreach of UTHANDO (Love) South Africa was in November 2013, when James and Xolani took us on a deeply personal and inspiring tour of some of the vegetable gardening projects in Khayelitsha and surrounding “townships”. I was leading a “gardening tour” of South Africa with a group of people, mostly from North America, visiting some of the most beautiful gardens including Kirstenbosch Gardens of course.



# MESSAGES FROM OUR FRIENDS

We were extremely fortunate to be introduced to Uthando SA through our travel agent in Canada, Linda Sim (Renshaw Travel) and their agent in Cape Town called Trans Africa Safaris. Our day with Uthando was just marvelous. Uthando means love, and that is what we felt and experienced.

I was extremely impressed with the Ikhaya “home” Garden at Isikhokelo Primary School where a group of teenagers was being introduced to the art of gardening by a most enthusiastic and inspirational young man Xolisa Bongani.

Ever since that visit, I have been able to send a small monthly donation of support this beautiful garden. It is so encouraging to see how the project has blossomed especially in the photos in the latest annual report.

Way to go Xolisa, long may your incredible light shine!

I visited South Africa again 2015 leading a similar garden tour and once again we included a day with Uthando, which once again was such an inspiring and motivating experience. Not only did we visit the magnificent gardens around Cape Town, but our group certainly treasured meeting the remarkable micro farmers and seeing their absolutely incredible vegetable gardens in the townships. South Africa is such an interesting and diverse country, but the visits to the community gardens with Uthando really touched my soul.

It is so good to be able to donate to a programme or project where the ongoing results are visible and are actually spreading ongoing positive community love and development.”

Take care  
Love David



## Introduction to Uthando Newsletter by the Boreham Family



In 2009, I brought my family to South Africa on holiday for two weeks for a trip that would take in the best of what this expansive country had to offer. However, we were all aware that for the many advances South Africa had made, it was still a country troubled by poverty and inequality. We discussed whether we ought to take a trip to one of the townships near Cape Town as we wanted to try to better understand the real issues in these areas of South African society. It was important to us that our trip to South Africa provided a balanced view of both the beauty and hardship that existed and decided that without a visit we would be ignoring the problems that are clearly a part of many people's everyday life.

By pure chance we came across Uthando and having looked at how they dealt with supporting projects in a township we made a call to James.

That call remains one of the best decisions we have ever made as the non-profit organisation Uthando offered a visit to some of the grassroots projects that they support in the township of Khayelitsha. We spent the morning visiting three projects, each one an inspiring and fascinating place to visit, but in particular our time at NOAH community centre for the elderly was simply remarkable. The elderly people we met there were just wonderful, joyful, and full of life. The centre gives them an opportunity to come together in a safe and welcoming environment, which is of vital importance as we then found out how many of them suffer violent and abusive home lives.

James was infectious with his enthusiasm, commitment, and love for helping those who face such hardship every day, and without doubt that visit with James changed our lives forever.

In April 2010 I travelled back to South Africa to join James and the affectionately named “oldies” from NOAH on a trip up Table Mountain and to the Parliament Building. The bond of our family with James and Uthando grew even stronger and we have continued to support the work of Uthando in any way we can.

The organisation that James leads represents a beacon for us all in a world that for many vulnerable people is often unjust and unforgiving. The work of Uthando is uplifting and truly inspirational and we feel so fortunate and privileged to have met James.



In the 12 years that have passed since our trip our love and support for James and his work is now woven into the fabric of our family life. The continued work of Uthando remains the anchor that provides us all with a perspective on the true value of love and kindness.

To James, everyone at Uthando and all the projects we send all our love, support and very best wishes for peace in the world, the hope of a brighter future for all and a continued faith in humanity.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to you all.

**The Boreham Family**  
Gosfield, United Kingdom"



*Lucinda Evans from Philisa Abafazi Bethu*



*James Fernie from Uthando SA*

## 9. CONCLUSION

### One Billion Rising – Rising for the bodies of all Women, Girls, LGBTQIA+ and the Earth

Uthando was one of the proud sponsors for the “VDAY” event held at the Philisa Abafazi Bethu “Heal Our Women” Centre on 5 March 2022, bringing together hundreds of people and broadcast live to several African countries, calling for ACTION to protect, nurture and love the LGBTQIA+ community.



James Fernie was invited to offer the opening address. His full speech can be read below:

“Molweni. Goeie middag, Good afternoon! Greetings to all you beautiful human beings, both close and far. To our friends watching this on Facebook live, we hope you find joy, strength and inspiration from this event, and wherever you are, we wish you peace, love and respect.

It is a great honour and a privilege to be present with you all here today and to kick off this meaningful and inspiring ‘Celebration of Love.’

To Lucinda Evans and the Philisa Abafazi Bethu team, thank you for hosting this remarkable and important “One Billion Rising South Africa” event in your beautiful community centre here in Retreat, Cape Town, South Africa.

May you continue to be blessed on your passionate path and programme of action, of supporting community (and I mean the local and broader community) and spreading love and compassion.

I have brought two props with me here today, my cub shirt (which I wore when I was around 7 years of age way back in 1978) and my matric shirt which I wore on my last day of school back in 1989.

By and large I have good memories of my childhood, but when looking at these shirts I am also reminded of the terrible anxiety, self-loathing and deep emotional confusion that I had to endure for much of my young life growing up in apartheid South Africa in the 1970’s and 1980’s, when it was illegal to be different, when being, and being called a ‘moffie’ meant enduring mental, emotional and possibly even physical abuse.

I grew up on a farm in the Eastern Cape of South Africa, a very rural and conservative part of the country. People used the word ‘gay’ to refer to you as being happy...oh what a gay sense of humour that fellow has. The concept of a man loving another man, i.e. being gay, was totally foreign.



# CONCLUSION

To use the words of the fictional character, Daffyd Thomas, from the British comedy series called Little Britain, “I felt like the only gay in the village” and at that time there were no cellphones, no internet and nobody to share my innermost feelings, desires or emotions. There was just no outlet. Revealing one’s thoughts or identity risked being referred to a psychologist for ‘healing’ of this terrible affliction of being a sexual deviant.

In addition to struggling with my own sense of self, I just could not understand or comprehend why people with a different colour skin and different racial characteristics could not live next door to me, could not swim on the same beaches, could not attend the same school. The violence metred out to innocent and decent people who were striving for their basic rights and freedoms, was totally beyond my comprehension, made even worse by the prevailing sense that this was morally justified by the ruling class. I was so overwhelmed with the unfairness and injustice of it all. The world made no sense at all to me.

Apartheid was far more than just a system of racial discrimination. It was an all-encompassing system which demonized and criminalized ‘the other’, people who were different and who did not fit into the mold of the white Christian nationalist. It was incredibly difficult to bear witness to the inhumanity of human beings to other human beings.

To give you some idea of the depth of depravity, violence and humiliation suffered by gay and lesbian people during the dark days under the National Party government, one need look no further than Dr Aubrey Levin (otherwise called “Dr Shock”), who headed the medical team in the infamous Ward 22 of One Military Hospital in Pretoria, where Dr Levin practiced what has come to be known as “The Aversion Project”, where he subjected white gay and lesbian individuals to electro-shock therapy.

His project was expanded when, in 1970, he oversaw the building of Greefswald, a farm just outside of Limpopo province in the north of South Africa. The farm was used as an experiment where many young men were subjected to forced labour and physical torture in a bid to “peel [them] like an onion”. This meant that those who were not cured of their deviance while under Levin’s care in Ward 22 were sent on to Greefswald. Here, patients were subjected to a rogue version of military training; they were forced to march for hours through the bush, build barracks, shoot wildlife, and were deprived of food and sleep. They were not allowed any contact with their families, who believed they were still being treated at Ward 22.

In 1995, Dr Levin fled South Africa with his family and relocated to Canada in order to avoid being held accountable for his mistreatment of gay and lesbian people, and very interestingly on the 28 January 2013, Dr Levin was convicted by a Canadian jury of sexually assaulting his male patients. More than 30 male patients came forward with stories of sexual abuse at the hands of Dr Levin. If ever there is an example that LGBTQIA+ phobia is driven by fear, this story is just that.

During my teenage years in the 1980’s, I personally cannot recall one gay role model at all. The AIDS pandemic was sweeping the world and news was emerging of high-profile Hollywood actors and entertainers such as Rock Hudson and Liberace dying from this ‘gay disease’. Most of you here today will have no clue who these people are, but at that time it was a big deal. To an impressionable, ignorant and totally naïve young boy struggling with his identity and sexual orientation, AIDS reinforced the absolute dread and fear about myself, about who I was a human being. Self-love gave way to confusion, fear and guilt.

In that process, this beautiful, decent young gay boy with a kind heart and a good soul, struggling to find his place in the world, had thoughts of disgust and fear for the type of life that he would one day lead. It felt like being stuck in some kind of no-man’s land.

I, like many gay boys and men, grew up leading double lives, because being honest and truthful meant the risk of ridicule, separation and exclusion. Many of you listening here today might relate to this feeling.

It has taken me much of my adult life to find my own freedom of self-acceptance for being different. Without the emotional tools or any real ‘gay compass’, I came screaming out of the closet in London in 1995, and very often I found love in all of the wrong places.

Coming out in the midst of the rave scene in the 1990’s was truly a liberating experience. We had lots of fun but also plenty of tragedy with many of my young friends and party acquaintances ultimately landing up in drug rehabilitation centres or worse, losing themselves forever in the prevalent culture of excess.

South Africa has come a long way from those dark days.

In May 1996, South Africa became the first jurisdiction in the world to provide constitutional protection to LGBT people, via section 9(3) of the South African Constitution, which disallows discrimination on race, gender, sexual orientation and other grounds.

Since 1994, when the new government came to power, gay and lesbian people have gone to the courts to make some important changes to the law concerning them. They have worked hard.

In fact, since 1994 Parliament has passed more than 30 laws that make sure that gay and lesbian people are treated fairly and are protected by the law.

Despite the legal victories for the LGBTQIA+ community in SA, the promise of true freedom and the ideal of each and every human being to fulfill their true potential still evades large sections of this community, even in progressive countries like South Africa.



*Children at Pebbles Project*



# CONCLUSION

Sadly, there are many places in the world which are still stuck in those old chapters of history of fear, discrimination and violence against 'the other'.

If you are living in one of those communities, just know that you are not alone. History is on our side.

Whenever you feel lonely, sad or despondent, just remember human consciousness is now changing faster than ever. It might not seem like it, but tidal waves of love are crashing over the human race.  
Just remember:

Women only received the vote in 1918!

Homosexual acts were only legalized in the United Kingdom in 1967.

The profound emotional struggles that I have had in my life ultimately led me to starting a non-profit organisation in 2007, called Uthando South Africa. Uthando means love, and it is only through kindness, empathy, compassion and love, that can we truly change the world.

I have had to learn through some very dark and difficult times to be kind, loving and gentle to myself. To overcome those deeply entrenched emotions of self-loathing because of the hatred and bigotry towards people like me. I know how difficult this journey can be, but the journey of self-discovery and self-love is also so rewarding.

The world still makes no sense to me: the inequality, discrimination and bigotry, all of which takes a very personal toll on the souls of sensitive people. I am grateful for my work which allows me to be in the world, to try to be the best version of myself and to overcome my limitations, many of which are deep rooted in feelings of shame and inadequacy from my struggles of dealing with my identity and sexual orientation.

My advice for you today is short:

Find your community

Be kind, loving and gentle with yourself

You are not alone

Be Strong

Be Safe

And always remember, it might not feel like it right now, but the collective human heart is changing for the better, and history is on our side.

We love you, wherever and whoever you are!"

Thank you.

**James Fernie**

Saturday, 5 March 2022



[www.uthandosa.org](http://www.uthandosa.org)

