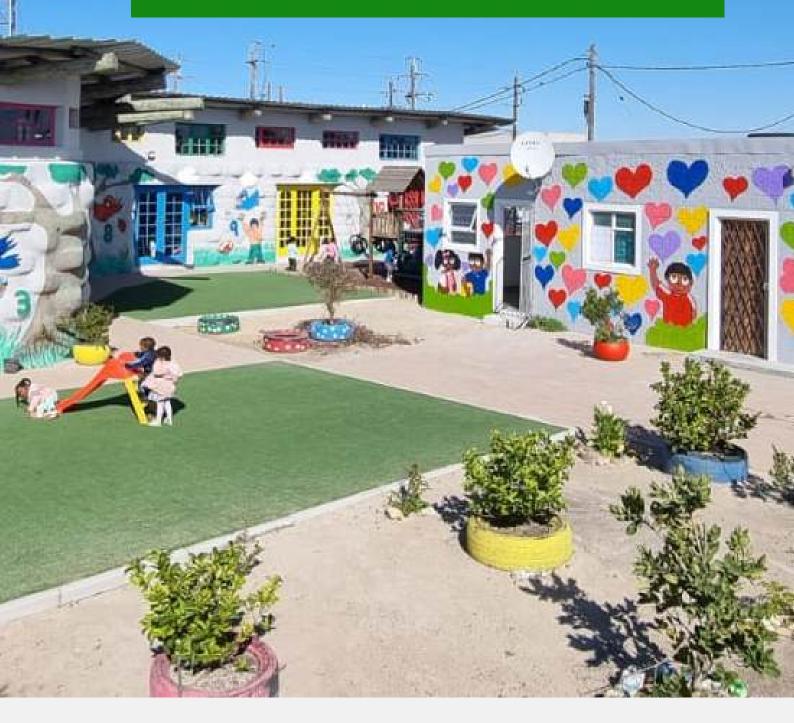
# "OUR IMAGINATION IS OUR LIBERATION"





PRESENTED BY
UTHANDO (LOVE) SA



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## INTRODUCTION

Uthando South Africa is working with and supporting a broad range of inspiring and innovative community development projects and social activists working in a broad range of sectors.

We are privileged to have a bird's eye view on the many impactful and reputable initiatives located in communities right across the City of Cape Town. These projects are merely the tip of the iceberg with many more doing similar work.

This document aims to provide a vision of what could be achieved through collaboration and weaving their work together in a holistic and comprehensive way.

The various initiatives mentioned are addressing some of the most severe and urgent crises facing the residents of the city and the country, namely food security, unemployment, hopelessness, particularly amongst young people, early childhood development, education, gangsterism, environmental degradation and the impact of climate change.

From our experience of interacting with and learning from people living on the Cape Flats over many years, they feel neglected, forgotten, despairing, traumatised by violence and gangsterism. They feel current interventions by government and civil society are not working. They are yearning for something new. Without exception they indicate that what their communities need is love, joy, lightness and, of course, investment in programmes and interventions that will attract this energy.

The focus of the proposed pilot projects to be run at schools emphasise urban farming, art projects, and various skills training programs. These initiatives aim to transform underutilised spaces into productive gardens while also nurturing creativity and practical skills among students and community members.

Through agricultural training, art-based activities, and skills development, the schools will become hubs of empowerment, enhancing self-reliance, environmental awareness, and economic opportunities.

Together, these efforts create sustainable impact, fostering resilience and unity within the communities they serve.









# BEACON OF INNOVATION, INSPIRATION AND LOVE

# Buildings constructed from recycled materials

Igniting a building revolution in South Africa. Creating strong, beautiful and creative buildings using waste and recycled materials.

In September 2022, the Ulwazi "Knowledge" Educare Early Childhood Development Centre (ECD) opened in Delft, Cape Town. This centre is not only highly functional but also a work of art. Constructed by the Natural Building Collective, it was built using tyres, eco-bricks, and polystyrene film set waste bricks. Uthando provided the funding for this visionary ECD.

On 9 August 2024, a ceremonial groundbreaking was held for the next sustainable ECD: Goal50 ECD, located in Heideveld. Attendees included major donors, such as Allianz (Germany), and local government representatives, including Deputy Mayor Alderman Eddie Andrews. This centre will be built using discarded car tyres, building rubble, and rammed earth. The project promises to be the largest sustainable building of its kind in South Africa.



Uthando SA was extremely honoured to be nominated by Biomimicry South Africa (<a href="www.biomimicrysa.life">www.biomimicrysa.life</a>) for the prestigious and high profile 2024 Eco-Logic Awards, which identify individuals, organisations and communities that positively contribute towards a sustainable world. <a href="www.eco-logicawards.com">www.eco-logicawards.com</a>

The nomination provided a unique and substatial platform for Uthando to propagate a powerful message and call to action.

#### DEPUTY MAYOR, ALDERMAN EDDIE ANDREWS, WROTE ON SOCIAL MEDIA AFTER THE EVENT:

"I had the privilege of attending the groundbreaking ceremony for the Goal50 Edu Hub in Heideveld — a project that's truly paving the way for sustainable development in our communities. It might sound unconventional, but this innovative centre is being constructed using discarded car tyres, building rubble, and rammed earth. This concept has already proven successful with a smaller Early Childhood Development Centre in Delft, and now Heideveld is set to become home to the largest sustainable building of its kind in South Africa.

Just as we were about to cut the ribbon, it started to rain — a true blessing, symbolising the growth and prosperity that this hub will bring to the Heideveld community.

I'm proud to see our city leading the way in creating spaces that are not only functional but also environmentally conscious. Looking forward to the positive impact this hub will have on the Heideveld community!"

#SustainableDevelopment #Goal50EduHub #Heideveld #CapeTown #InnovationInEducation

Left to right James Fernie (Uthando), Mr Kanning (Allianz), Mario Van Niekerk (Goal50) Alderman Eddie Andrews and Xolani Maseko (Uthando)



The Goal50 ECD's location alongside the N2 Highway will make it a highly visible symbol of hope and innovation. Construction is set to begin in September 2024, with an estimated completion time of seven months.



### SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE:

#### **MOYA WE KHAYA AGRIHUB & THUNARISO GARDEN**

As the construction of Goal50 ECD gets underway, a proposal is being formulated for another innovative project: a Pack Shed and Multi-Purpose AgriHub at the Moya We Khaya "Spirit of Home" Urban Farm in Khayelitsha.

Designed by the Natural Building Collective, this facility will be built using tyres and sustainable materials. The AgriHub will provide local community farmers with an aggregation site for vegetables and a space for agri-processing, training, conferences, and administrative support for non-profits.

Moya we Khaya "Spirit of Home" urban farm in Khayelitsha





Harvest of Hope micro farmers









Thunariso Organic Garden provides young people with valuable life skills by teaching them sustainable gardening practices, instilling a sense of responsibility for their environment and future.

Through hands-on learning, youth not only gain knowledge of food production but also develop leadership and teamwork abilities.

This initiative strengthens community bonds, promotes food security, and inspires the next generation to become mindful custodians of both the land and their community.



# THE POWER OF EXPOSURE AND OPPORTUNITY

Many children growing up on the Cape Flats are caught in cycles of hopelessness and despair. With high unemployment, even those who work hard and achieve academically often see limited opportunities. A significant number of graduates are unable to find work.

Worse still, many children on the Cape Flats have never visited iconic Cape Town landmarks like Table Mountain, Kirstenbosch Gardens, Cape Peninsula, or Boulders Beach. They watch people from around the world enjoying the city's natural beauty, but they remain excluded. This exclusion breeds anger, resentment, and frustration, often leading to negative outcomes.

Uthando has long worked to expose children from financially challenged communities to life beyond the township. Fortunately, there are amazing organisations offering life-changing opportunities, such as surfing and experiential nature trips. These programmes must be amplified and expanded to reach more children.





Visit to the Two Oceans Aquarium

With adequate resources, Uthando and our community development partners could engage in pilot projects across the Cape Flats, providing holistic, positive experiences for young people.



# **FOOD SECURITY AND GREENING**

## **Building Sustainable Communities**

Organisations like Abalimi Bezekhaya

(www.abalimibezekhaya.org.za) and **SEED** (www.seed.org.za) train urban micro-farmers and permaculture practitioners. We aim to establish urban farms at selected schools and integrate urban farming into their curricula.

SEED has already demonstrated success with this model at Rocklands Primary School in Mitchells Plain, where they maintain an outdoor classroom in a garden setting, allowing children to learn while connected to nature.

There are already numerous successful urban farms in operation on the Cape Flats. Investment and proper management are essential to replicate these successes. For instance, Harvest of Hope empowers farmers across the region and has facilitated the sale of over 16 tons of vegetables in the first half of 2024 alone. With further support, this impact can be greatly expanded.

Organisations such as **Harvest of Hope** (<a href="www.harvestofhope.co.za">www.harvestofhope.co.za</a>) continue to empower farmers from different gardens across the sandy Cape Flats. In 2023 alone, over R390.00 was paid to farmers for over 20 tons of vegetables. In the first six months of 2024, this figure already exceeded R340.00 with over 16 tons of veggies sold. With investment and support, organisations such as Harvest of Hope can be dramatically expanded.



Children attending class in the garden at SEED

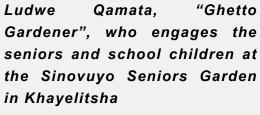






















**Ladles of Love** (www.ladlesoflove.org.za) is a powerful community-driven initiative that has transformed the landscape of food relief in Cape Town.

Operating on a massive scale, this soup kitchen embodies the spirit of giving by providing meals to those in need, especially in underserved communities.

What makes Ladles of Love particularly impactful is its sustainable approach, sourcing the vegetables for its kitchens directly from urban farming communitie, such as Moya We Khaya. This partnership not only helps feed thousands of people but also empowers local farmers, promoting self-sufficiency and fostering economic growth at the grassroots level.

By integrating urban agriculture into its supply chain, Ladles of Love helps build a circular economy, where food security is enhanced while also supporting environmentally conscious farming practices. This collaboration aligns with the broader vision of promoting community resilience and reducing food wastage.







#### **Urban Food Futures:**

There are really so many models and projects pioneering the way forward in food security whilst creating places of beauty and peace.

Community kitchens have been identified with the potential to transform into sustainable hubs. A hydroponic unit has been installed at Athwood Primary School in Hanover Park, providing vegetables for both the school and a nearby community kitchen run by the Alcardo Andrews Foundation. (<a href="https://www.alcardoandrewsfoundation.org.za">www.alcardoandrewsfoundation.org.za</a>)

Inspired by similar projects in Nairobi, this system proves to be climate-resilient and efficient in water and space use. The Alcardo Andrews Foundation kitchen is providing 1000 portions of food per day, Monday to Friday, using the vegetables from the hydroponic veggie garden.

The founder of Alcardo Andrews Foundation, "Aunty" Avril Andrews, asked Athwood Primary School to locate the hydroponic garden at a site on the school grounds because it falls between the OTS Gang (Only For Family Gang), Ghetto Gang and the Americans Gang, which often shoot over that area. By placing the garden at the location, the foundation and the school are helping to reclaim the space from the gangs.

The principal of Athwood Primary School, Mr Evan Petersen, is very eager to paint the school with a theme of hearts and nature, enhancing the ability of the school to transcend the gang violence which the children at the school are subjected to from time to time.



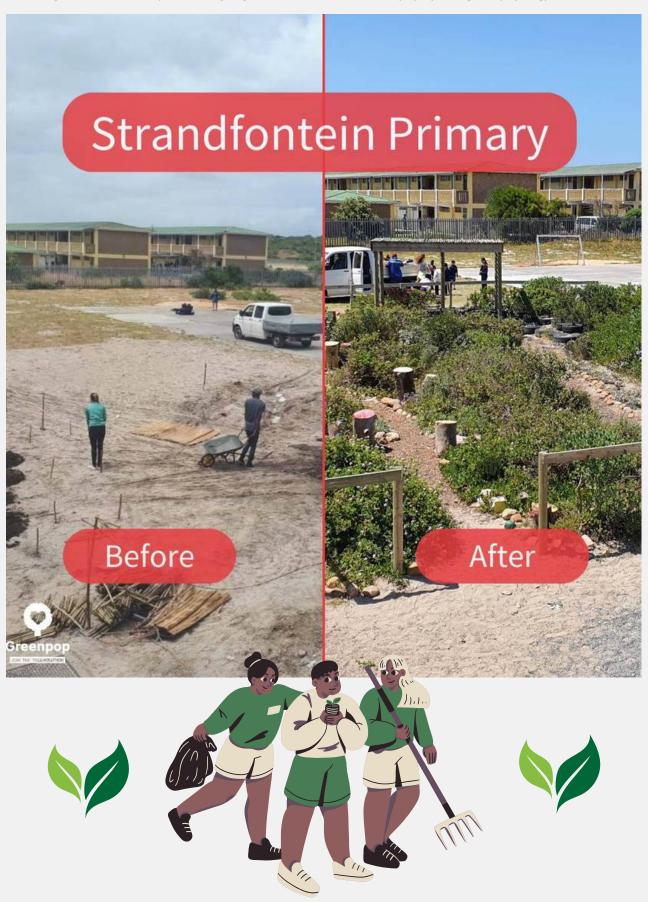


The Alcardo Andrews Foundation feeding scheme



## Greening, sports and art: Engaging children positively

In conjunction with the investment in urban farming initiatives, environmental conservation and greening of school grounds can take place using organisations such as Greenpop. (<a href="https://www.greenpop.org">www.greenpop.org</a>)



In conjunction with veggies gardens and beautiful landscaping, creative sports facilities and art can play an important role in engaging the children in positive activities whilst stimulating their senses.

#### Kind Heart Bench Project

WoW! Champion Bradley Bailey relaunched The Kind Heart Bench Project at Grootte Schuur High School. The bench means 'you matter, I see you, I hear you' addressing peer pressure, bullying and promoting mental health.



Install a "The Kind Heart Bench Project" at each school. www.kindheartbench.co.za



Table Tennis Table at Christel House School South Africa



#### **Engaging the Tourism Industry**

The tourism industry can also play a meaningful and beneficial role. Public awareness campaigns could highlight these impactful projects, and competitions between pilot project schools could engage local celebrities, like Siya Kolisi, and monthly winners awarded life changing opportunities. For example, a day with My Octopus Teacher, weekends away at local game lodges, regular school trips to Babylonstoren.

#### **Experiential learning / Wilderness**

Incorporate experiential learning to wilderness areas so that children can connect with and learn about nature and the importance of the natural world. There are many organisations already offering these opportunities, but the programmes cannot be once off, they must be done on a sustained basis and include "teaching the teachers". Just a few examples of such programmes: <a href="www.educoafrica.com">www.educoafrica.com</a>, <a href="www.educoafri



#### Brave Rock Girls from Manenberg

The Brave Rock Girls' "The Daring Disa Project" was a life-changing experience for most of the 75 girls involved. Beyond gaining knowledge about fynbos, conservation, and biodiversity, they discovered a place where they felt they belonged — a place of safety, peace, and healing, far removed from the violence and chaos that often defines their homes and streets. Through immersive experiences, the girls found nature's healing potential. This project was a major success, yielding outcomes far beyond our expectations, profoundly impacting these young adolescent girls.

#### Feedback from our monitoring and evaluation:

- At the start of the Year 3 program, 50% of participants reported that they were unaware of environmental conservation and fynbos. By the end-of-year survey, 100% understood conservation, its importance, and the value of fynbos in conservation efforts.
- Initially, 58% of the girls could not identify fynbos, but by the end of the program, all participants could do so
- Most participants reported sharing the information they learned about environmental conservation and fynbos with others, educating household and community members about the importance of plants and conservation, especially in response to littering.



## Connecting these initiatives to sustainable buildings

Run competitions at these schools for children to collect litter and make ecobricks, which will form part of the buildings being constructed by Natural Building Collective. Together with the wilderness learning experiences, this campaign will dramatically increase their consciousness around respect for their environment.

Children at Woodlands Primary School in Heideveld holding Eco Bricks. They are very excited to collect rubbish to make the bricks which will go into walls at Goal50 ECD. In conjunction with the above, advocate for the education curriculum to include sports, mindfulness, healthy nutrition and respect for the earth. This will, of course, also include teaching the teachers.



The construction of a multi-purpose community centre by Natural Building Collective in the middle of Hanover Park on ERF 114471 would truly mobilise the community of Hanover Park in the most unique way. Children from schools in Hanover Park could collect rubbish to make ecobricks to go into the building.

#### Monitoring and Evaluation of the selected schools running the pilot projects described above.

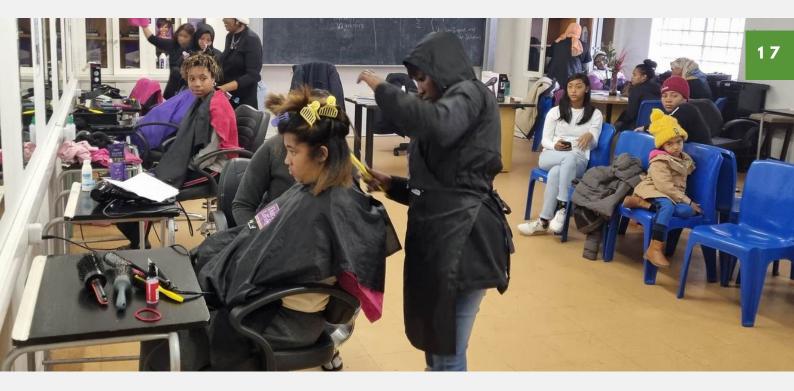
The University of Cape Town and The University of the Western Cape could conduct scientific research on the physical, mental and emotional well-being and development of the children, parents and teachers at these schools.

## After School Skills Development Projects

A big challenge for school leaving children is the lack of resources to pursue further educational studies and opportunities. In this regard, there are many community development partners providing young people with vocational training in a range of practical disciplines such as hospitality, hair dressing, woodwork. Just a few examples: **Amy Foundation** <a href="https://www.amyfoundation.co.za">www.amyfoundation.co.za</a>; **Learn to Earn** <a href="https://www.seed.org.za">www.learntoearn.org.za</a>; **SEED** <a href="https://www.seed.org.za">www.seed.org.za</a>







## After School Skills Development Projects

Established in 2015, **Youth Impact And Sustainable Solutions** (**YISS**) focuses on youth rescue and development to address the social challenges of poverty, crime, gangsterism, unemployment, and substance abuse in communities like Hanover Park, Manenberg, Lavender Hill, Parkwood, Delft, and surrounding areas such as Langa, Nyanga, Gugulethu, Khayelitsha, Philippi, and Mfuleni.

YISS offers a 35-day program with two primary skill sets: Hospitality, Baking, and Beverage Training, and Hairdressing, Barbering, and Beauty Training. The program also emphasizes life skills, business training, career guidance, character building, personal grooming, parental workshops, mentorship, coaching, motivational talks, and aftercare support.

The primary goal is to foster a paradigm shift in students' mindset and character, alongside the practical skills taught. Graduates receive a certificate and a tool kit to support entrepreneurship in their chosen field.

In its 8-year history, YISS has achieved a 69% success rate, positively impacting over 400 students. Beyond youth development, YISS also supports NPOs and small businesses by providing training, development, and compliance guidance, recognizing the vital role these entities play in the community despite often being overlooked by authorities.





# **PILOT PROJECT: HANOVER PARK**

# Investing in Love and Peace: A different approach to communities ravaged by crime, violence and gangsterism

Uthando South Africa has very deep, sincere, personal and heartfelt relationships in many communities across the Cape Flats. Our colleagues are also our friends. We have a shared vision and values which are based on unity, fairness, love, peace, compassion, and common purpose of addressing the myriad of challenges facing communities in severe distress.

Despite huge and constant challenges, our community partners persevere diligently to spread love and peace through their various initiatives.

People living in places like Hanover Park experience trauma living with terrible violence. One can speak to any member of that community, and they say they do not feel that the current solutions of fighting gangs, drugs, violence, poverty are working. They are yearning for a new and different approach and interventions. They want and deserve love, joy, music and lightness.

With the **Heart of Cape Town** (www.theheartofcapetown.org) campaign launched in December 2023, Uthando's partners in Hanover Park initiated and drove a campaign of love into a shining example of success based on Love, Peace and Unity.

On Sunday, 26 May, a truly groundbreaking and unique event was held at Kariba Court in Hanover Park. It was an evening of laughter, dancing, music, joy, fellowship, community and love. One hundred bright, beautiful illuminating hearts were handed to the residents of Kariba Court, which they hung from the windows of the court. Local community groups provided the music and performances. The energy generated by the event was absolutely incredible.



#### **Public Art**

Local artists can transform dull and grey public spaces with beautiful and inspiring art depicting nature and hearts. Local residents can be encouraged to have a handprint as part of the art, giving them a stake in the art and symbolic of them having a stake in their community. Wall murals can be undertaken, particularly in crime and gang hot spots.





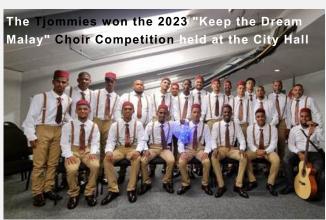


#### Monitoring and Evaluation.

The University of Cape Town and The University of the Western Cape could conduct scientific research into the physical, mental and emotional wellbeing and development of the children and people living in these areas.

Following the very successful event on 26 May 2024 at Kariba Court, **The Tjommies Youth Development and Sporting Club** doubled in size with young men being inspired to engage in positive activities. The group went from 35 young men to 70, and they are now currently rehearsing for the busy season ahead. These young men will grow in the most incredible ways through their joining The Tjommies and going onto stage at upcoming competitions. If properly resourced, organisations such as The Tjommies can expand and change the lives of many young men.







As part of the Hanover Park pilot project, investment is being made in decent sporting facilities with the Hanover Park Cricket Club. (<a href="https://www.hanoverparkcc.co.za">www.hanoverparkcc.co.za</a>)

"Hanover Park Cricket Club, established in 1991 and an NPO (2016) and PBO (2018), is a beacon of hope and development in our community. Our vision is to harness the power of sport to nurture well-rounded individuals, empowering our youth to become positive change-makers. We've achieved remarkable success, including touring the UK with our under-14 boys' team in 2019, producing talented senior players, coaches, umpires and administrators, as well as achieving promotion of our women's team to the Premier League in just three years.

Our clubhouse and indoor cricket net plans will further enhance our programs, focusing on skills development, employment creation, and entrepreneurial opportunities. We're dedicated to producing ambassadors for our club and community, shaping a brighter future for Hanover Park."

The club has 70 senior males, 30 females and 90 youth (65 boys and 25 girls)

A relatively small investment in the sporting facilities will help to transform Hanover Park. Below are rough estimates to bring the dream to life.

- Steel Containers (used or new):
- Used: R 45,000 R 90,000 (approx. R 7,500 R 15,000 each)
- New: R 120,000 R 180,000 (approx. R 20,000 R 30,000 each)
- · Conversion and Building Costs:
- Windows, sliding doors, and other fittings: R 30,000 R 50,000
- Insulation, drywalling, and ceilings: R 20,000 R 30,000
- Electrical installations: R 15,000 R 25,000
- Plumbing and ablution fittings: R 20,000 R 30,000
- Painting and finishing: R 10,000 R 20,000
- Total: R 95,000 R 155,000
- · Change Rooms, Ablutions, and Tuck Shop:
- Fixtures, fittings, and equipment: R 30,000 R 50,000
- Flooring, walls, and ceilings: R 20,000 R 30,000
- Total: R 50,000 R 80,000
- Balcony and Veranda:
- Materials and labor: R 20,000 R 30,000
- Total Estimated Cost:
- Used containers: R 240,000 R 380,000
- New containers: R 320,000 R 460,000







A neighbouring community to Hanover Park is Heideveld, which is facing similar social and economic challenges.

Great Commission United (GCU) (www.gcu.org.za) was founded in 2001 and provides support to local youth through education, sports and life skills opportunities.



Five-a-side soccer pitch at Woodlands Primary School

#### Establish rehabilitation centres for substance abusers

Hanover Park has long struggled with a severe drug problem, largely driven by gang activity and socioeconomic challenges. Substance abuse, particularly of drugs like tik, has devastated families and contributed to the cycle of violence and poverty.

The lack of accessible support structures for those battling addiction has only exacerbated the crisis, with many individuals finding it nearly impossible to escape the grip of addiction without proper intervention.

Establishing a substance abuse / drug rehabilitation centre in Hanover Park is critical to addressing this issue. Such a centre would provide much-needed support and guidance for addicts, offering them a pathway to recovery through medical treatment, counselling, and community reintegration programs.

By creating safe spaces for healing, these facilities could not only save lives, but also help break the destructive cycle of drug abuse, creating a healthier and more hopeful future for the community.



## **SOUTH AFRICA - THE MUSICAL**

It is a fact that many people are feeling depressed, hopeless, overwhelmed and are struggling mentally, emotionally and financially. Music, dancing, joy, theatre and happiness can help to lift their spirits.

Young people in vulnerable communities need role models, and they need inspiration and hope. So many are stuck in a cycle of hopelessness. A beautifully choreographed musical piece combining two exceptionally talented and powerful music / dance groups from two very challenged communities, could tour schools and truly invigorate young people with inspiration and hope.

Uthando is working with and supporting two award-winning choirs, dance and musical groups.

Isibane Se Afrika "The Light of Africa" Choir from Khayelitsha and The Tjommies Youth Development and Sporting Club from Hanover Park, team up to create a powerful, potent and beautiful performance piece about life, hope, kindness, unity, community and the future.

Isibane se Afrika is a dynamic South African choir founded in Khayelitsha, celebrated for their powerful vocal performances that blend traditional African music with contemporary influences.

Isibane se Afrika (<a href="www.isibaneseafrika.org">www.isibaneseafrika.org</a>) is a choir for change! Their vision extends beyond music, aiming to help children from falling in with gangs and drugs, to stay off the streets - and give them a chance to belong to something positive and up-lifting. The choir strives to uplift the community through the power of music and cultural expression. By sharing their rich heritage, Isibane se Afrika seeks to inspire and bring a positive change to society. Isibane se Afrika has accomplished a lot, such as having the honour of performing for Prince Harry, to give just one example, showcasing their talent on prestigious platforms.



The Tjommies Youth Development and Sporting Club from Hanover Park is a vibrant, talented and courageous group of young men and ladies led by Washief. Their aim is to uplift the youth of Hanover Park and surrounding under-privileged areas.

Their drive is to keep the youngsters off the streets where temptation is very high, upskill them and ensure that they improve their circumstances whilst building a better future. Tjommies have done exceptionally well over the years, having won the Jive Culture Shock in 2023, as well as the winners of the "Keep the Dream" Cape Malay Choir.



These two groups could combine to produce and choreograph a powerful dance, music and theatre piece that could visit schools and inspire the children and teachers to reach for their dreams. The children and young people can relate to the message from these two groups because they are from these communities and their struggles are the same.

The medium of singing, dancing and theatre is a truly powerful way to shift consciousness because it can touch on all of the challenges faced by young people (and people in general), but also provides inspiration and hope through spreading joy and inspiration.





## Artscape Theatre Piece: South Africa - The Musical

With Isibane Se Afrika and The Tjommies as the two main performance acts, a beautiful and powerful theatre piece can be performed in the Artscape Theatre. A variety show with the extremely talented groups and guest appearances from celebrity singers including Jeremy Loops, Zolani Mahola "The One Who Sings" and Tannie Evita.

The musical can depict life in South Africa in 2024, the struggles, the triumphs, the courage, resilience and tenacity of the people to overcome the daily struggle and challenges.

The musical would bring together artists of all races, cultures and backgrounds in a meaningful and impactful display of unity, love, kindness and compassion – packed with raw emotion, but focusing on the outcome of spreading LOVE and JOY. The musical would not only be for a live performance but professionally filmed with a view to wide distribution throughout the world as a unique way to generate funding for a broad range of community development organisations in South Africa.

A basic website can be created to host the trailer and full musical and this can be promoted to South Africans and people who live all over the world. They would need to pay \$15.00 to watch the full musical.

For an example of how this could work, take a look at <a href="www.joanoceanfilm.com">www.joanoceanfilm.com</a>. It is a beautiful, powerful and impactful documentary, "The Story of the Dolphins and Whales told through the Life of Joan Ocean". All donations go to the projects to share the wisdom of the dolphins and whales.

Millions of people around the world absolutely love South Africa. Not only would they be totally inspired to watch a musical film about the country, but they would be motivated to share it far and wide because it would be packed with pure inspiration and joy from the people of South Africa.

Uthando has, in fact, held three very successful Benefit Concerts since 2008, the last one being in 2014 at the Cape Town City Hall and attended by 1000 people with Premier Helen Zille as the guest of honour. These concerts brought together an incredible mix of local groups including Sin Ngesi as MC for all three concerts, and guest appearances by the 3 Tons of Fun and Gugulethu Tenors. Despite the groups meeting for the first time on the day, the entire show was extremely professional.

The tourism industry rallied together in a show of unity to plan and execute the show, from transport, food for performers, as well as the programme etc.

"South Africa – The Musical" could truly be a powerful and highly symbolic piece bringing together a very broad spectrum of people from tourism, community development, theatre and more. If marketed properly with the help of AI, the website featuring the musical event could generate a significant income whilst beaming out to the world a magnificent, masterful and beautiful South African story of courage, resilience and heartfelt energy.





The seniors choir from Neighbourhood Old Age Homes (NOAH) stole the show because of their performance which truly came through their hearts.





## A CALL FOR COLLABORATION

Uthando's mission extends beyond the arts. It's vision is an interconnected network of sustainable development and community empowerment.

If given proper attention by the government and investors, these projects can act as catalysts for significant change in township communities across Cape Town and South Africa.

Thoughtful public-private partnerships could mobilise stakeholders around critical challenges, including genuine sustainability, early childhood development, education, food security, and the social issues of crime and gangsterism.

This call for collaboration is a call to action for government bodies, businesses, individuals and global partners to join forces in addressing these pressing issues.

We encourage the government to take the lead by calling for a summit that brings together experts in education, urban micro-farming, sustainable building, and wilderness experiential learning. These fields can profoundly help young people discover their potential and overcome trauma, illness, violence, and poverty.

We invite collaboration in areas such as:

Sustainable Urban Farming: Partnering to develop food security projects in Cape Town's most underprivileged areas.

Innovative Building Projects: Leveraging eco-friendly construction to create community hubs and educational centres.

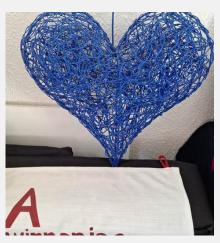
Holistic Education and Wilderness Learning: Providing experiential learning programmes that foster environmental stewardship and leadership among youth.

By weaving these initiatives together, we can build stronger, more resilient communities capable of overcoming adversity.









## CONCLUSION

The various initiatives outlined in this document – from community-driven arts and sports projects in Hanover Park, to the innovative urban farming and micro-farmer training in schools, to the far-reaching impact of "South Africa: The Musical" – illustrate the transformative power of creative expression, environmental sustainability, and youth empowerment in vulnerable communities.

These programs not only address the immediate needs of the community but also offer long-term solutions that build resilience, promote food security, and uplift the human spirit.

Initiatives like Abalimi Bezekhaya, Harvest of Hope, Moyo We Khaya and Ladles of Love exemplify how urban farming can be integrated into feeding schemes, ensuring both the health and well-being of local communities.

Through collaboration with local organisations such as The Tjommies and Isibane Se Afrika, and strategic partners like the Artscape Theatre, we can magnify these efforts and share South Africa's stories of love, courage, and perseverance with the world.

With focused investments and innovative partnerships, these initiatives have the potential to transform not only the physical spaces within communities but also the hearts and minds of individuals, both locally and globally.

This document serves as a blueprint for action and a celebration of the profound potential for positive change through collective efforts across these diverse projects.







Minister Naledi Pandor visiting Hanover Park in May 2024

"I also said one of the things we have to have, is we have to have love in our homes because maybe our children are not getting love from us and they're angry and they're acting out this anger against us. So we need to find a way together as a community of inserting heart in our young people. So i like this heart project and i would like you to embrace it"

## Dr. Grace Naledi Mandisa Pandor - Minister of International Relations and Cooperation and new Chair of the Nelson Mandela Foundation Board

Dr Pandor worked closely with Madiba during South Africa's first democratic administration in the 1990s and is one of South Africa's longest serving members of Parliament. She has served in numerous leadership roles with distinction, the most recent being that of International Relations minister. "I am both honoured and delighted to be entrusted with this role," said Dr Pandor. "In a world facing so many complex challenges, mobilising Madiba's legacy becomes more important than ever. I believe that the Nelson Mandela Foundation is doing critically important work in the social justice space, and I am looking forward to making a meaningful contribution."

Dr Pandor will become only the third person to hold the position since Nelson Mandela established the organisation in 1999







#### **UTHANDO (LOVE) SOUTH AFRICA**

Uthando Social Development Projects, South Africa Registered Section 21 Company 2007/030289/08

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#### **Fair Trade Certification**



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 organization 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.

- 2023 Global Winner Responsible Tourism Awards Best for Meaningful Connections
- 2020 WTM World Responsible Tourism Awards. Highly Commended
- 2020 Trip Advisor Travelers Choice Award
- 2020 Winner: Africa Responsible Tourism Awards, Caterogry: Benefitting Local People
- 2019 Certificate of Excellence Trip Advisor
- 2018 Award Winner: Cape Town Tourism Future Forward Thinking for Community Benefit
- 2018 Certificate of Excellence Trip Advisor
- 2017 An Ashley Award : Recognizes, celebrates, creates & guides people to perform deeds to help communities
- 2017 Certificate of Excellence Trip Advisor
- 2017 We Are Africa Innovation Awards Joint Winner in category Engage Africa
- 2017 African Responsible Tourism Awards Winner Best Tour Operator for Impact in Urban Areas
- 2016 National Winner, Lilizela Tourism Awards, Best Cultural Tour Guide in South Africa
- 2016 Western Cape Winner, Lilizela Tourism Awards, Best Cultural Tour Guide
- 2016 Certificate of Excellence Trip Advisor
- 2015 Certificate of Excellence Trip Advisor
- 2015 Best Charitable Organisation in Africa The Good Safari Guide 2015
- 2014 Best Charitable Organisation in Africa The Good Safari Guide 2014
- 2014 Certificate of Excellence Trip Advisor
- 2013 Winner Cape Town Tourism Responsible Tourism Award
- 2013 James Fernie Finalist on the "Who's Who" in African Diaspora World Tourism Awards
- 2013 Certificate of Excellence Trip Advisor
- 2012 Winner Skal International Sustainable Development in Tourism Award Category Cities-Villages
- 2012 Certificate of Excellence Trip Advisor



