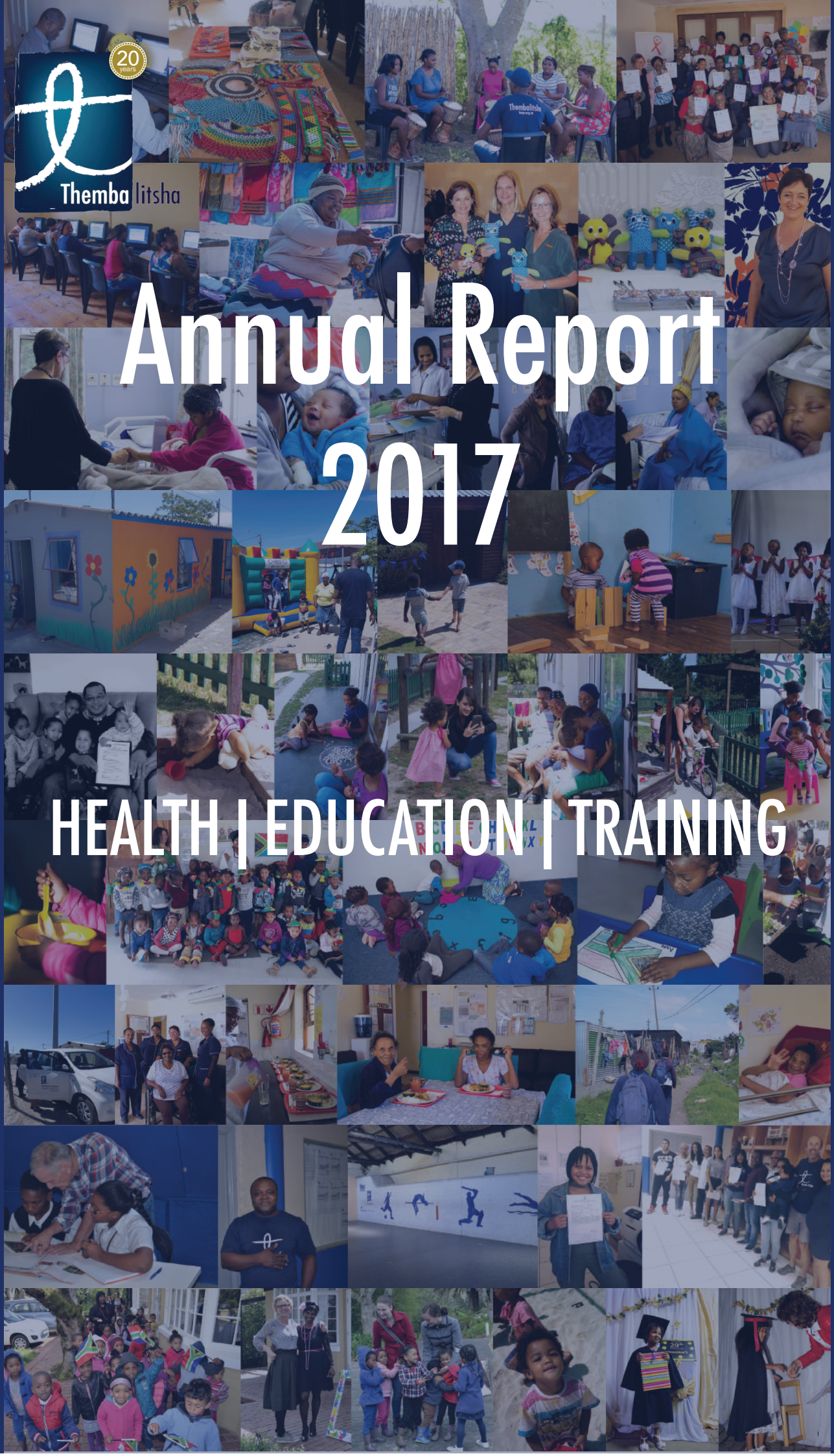




Themba litsha

# Annual Report 2017

## HEALTH | EDUCATION | TRAINING



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## VISION

To restore hope and develop people to a point of self-reliance.

## MISSION

To transform the lives of the destitute, sick and vulnerable in South Africa through educational, health and training projects.



*"Our human compassion binds us to one another – not in pity or patronizingly, but as human beings who have learnt how to turn our common suffering into hope for the future."* – Nelson Mandela

During 2017 Thembalitsa Foundation celebrated its 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. What a humbling milestone! What makes this milestone even more impressive is the political and socio-economic environment in which we deliver our crucial services:

- SA is a country with a population of 57 million.
- The Government is increasingly unable to deliver basic services.
- 10 million people are unemployed, 33% of whom have not completed matric.
- 17 million people are reliant on government grants for daily survival at an annual cost of R150 billion.
- 500 000 new cases of TB are recorded each year, 57% of these patients are also HIV+.
- More than 150 000 non-profit organisations compete for the ever-shrinking pie of available funds to support crucial services to the vulnerable and poor.

It is so easy to give up hope in the face of the overwhelming poverty, inequality, unemployment, HIV and TB deaths, child abuse, drug addiction and crime that have become part of the daily lives of millions of South Africans.

Changing our reality means changing our suffering into hope... one person at a time. This is what we continued to do at Thembalitsa Foundation during 2017: changing lives through the restoration of hope. Restoring hope is a shared vision of the 100 employees and many international volunteers at our 9 projects, who are committed to transform the lives of thousands of South Africans on a monthly basis. We see the results of our efforts on a daily basis, we call it our "stories of hope" and this is what motivates us to continue despite the many challenges facing non-government organisations in our beautiful country and an overall feeling of hopelessness amongst the millions affected by the socio-political climate.

Through our 3 service focus areas, Education, Training and Health, we are making a difference, we are changing lives. We also need to take into account the ripple effect of a life transformed. One person in a family of 6, who after being empowered through a training course to start a small business or completing matric and earning an income or improved health after treatment enabling a person to return to caring for a family, impacts many secondary lives.

## **2017 Monthly beneficiary numbers:**

Why monthly and not annual statistics?

Some of our beneficiaries receive repetitive services over an extended period e.g. educational services at our school or early childhood development centres

Some of our beneficiaries receive once-off or limited duration services, e.g. testing or treatment for HIV or TB

Some of our beneficiaries receive set time frame services, e.g. attending a training course or staying at our safe house for vulnerable children

Some of our beneficiaries receive multiple services, e.g. education plus 2 full meals per day, or HIV testing plus health education and treatment

Being a service delivery organisation, the annual number of beneficiaries does not account for all our expenses, but rather the total number of services delivered to beneficiaries, whether it is once off, limited duration or repetitive services.



## Challenges faced during 2017:

- Unsafe working conditions for staff and volunteers due to the culture of crime and increasing disrespect for lives, property and assets.
- A decrease in available funding from government departments due to corruption, an imbalance in distribution of state funding and the inability to address critical service areas.
- An increase in non-profit organizations to address the inequalities and desperate plight of our people and the dilution of available funding as a result thereof.
- Donor fatigue as the huge plight desensitized many funders and lack of visible results amongst non-profits had led to a situation of donor distrust with a ripple effect on non-profits that do provide effective and proven results.

## Highlights celebrated during 2017:

- Being able to continue our work of hope for 2 decades.
- The positive results of our medium term strategic plan implementation.
- Identifying and managing of all risks to the foundation and projects quarterly.
- A 100 % matric pass rate at our school for high risk youths.
- Expansion of our early childhood development centres from 3 to 8.
- Increasing and renewing our training programmes in 2 provinces.
- Official registration of our own Child and Youth Care centre.
- Continuous health services of a high professional standard in medical facilities and within the communities.

In a country where services are focused on quantity, we believe in quality. Yes, the more people we reach the more lives we can change, but it should be sustainable and real, not just a once-off statistic. All our health and education projects are monitored and evaluated by outside entities to ensure that we meet standards and criteria for that sector.

*"After climbing a great hill one only finds that there are many more hills to climb." – Nelson Mandela*

We have many more hills to climb in 2018. It is certainly going to be a challenging financial year. However, with a South African Board of Directors who governs with fidelity to purpose, integrity, non-discrimination and the optimization of resources, our committed funding arms in the USA and the UK, a strong group of project managers, a dedicated staff and volunteer team and our faithful donors, we are thankful for the support we received during 2017 and looking forward to serve alongside our supporters and beneficiaries in 2018.

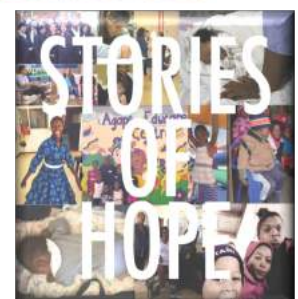
Open your heart to the following individual project reports for 2017 to get more information on our specific areas of service and become a part of restoring new hope.

*Monica Folscher*

**Managing Director**

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PS. Take a peek at our Stories of Hope, an inspirational look at some of our beneficiaries' stories on how we have restored hope and assisted in transforming their lives, visit the URL; <http://bit.ly/2ErQJ0N>



# MAMA THEMBA ANNUAL REPORT 2017

*The importance of appropriate infant feeding and the vital role played by breastfeeding in child survival, growth and development are well known. Breastfeeding helps to protect the infant against some of the major causes of childhood morbidity and mortality. - World Health Organization*



At Mama Themba our main objective is to educate, empower and support vulnerable mothers to be and mothers of new babies in the communities of The Helderberg Basin. During 2017 we implemented this through support to pregnant women at 4 local clinics, maternity units at 2 local hospitals; peer counselling to pregnant and breastfeeding women in our local communities and postnatal care to mothers at Macassar Hospital. Peer counselling is conducted in a caring and confidential one-on-one basis with pregnant women who are HIV positive. They are taught that exclusive breastfeeding for 6 months gives their babies the best start in life; encouraged to take their own anti-retroviral medication and to ensure that their babies do so too. With a small staff component and a large group of dedicated community volunteers which we trebled this year, we have empowered vulnerable mothers to nurture new life and feel confident in caring for their little ones.

## Highlights of 2017:

- During 2017 we delivered services to 7 853 beneficiaries (5 803 women, 2050 babies).
- We offered volunteer opportunities to 45 community members.
- We facilitated and supplied 2 050 care bags to newborn & premature babies.
- We offered education to 3 730 pregnant and postnatal women.
- We strengthened relationships with the staff at the Maternity Units.
- We recruited & strengthened our Ambassador & Volunteer base.

## Challenges during 2017:

- Sponsorship for sustainability.
- Increase in numbers of poor and vulnerable mothers to be.
- Influx of pregnant women from other countries in Africa and in particular from the Eastern Cape to our already full and busy maternity units.
- An increasing level of low birth weight babies born in our district.
- Heavily impacted by the water crisis, in what we provide for the beneficiaries and by the need to wash donated baby clothing.

We are grateful towards every funder, ambassador, volunteer and supporter who contributed towards the nurturing of new life. We could not serve our communities as we do without this invaluable assistance. We are looking forward to 2018, as we continue to ensure that vulnerable pregnant women are equipped with the knowledge and support to nurture their babies into adulthood.

Lindy Officer  
Project Manager



# THEMBACARE GRABOUW ANNUAL REPORT 2017

*You matter because you are, and you matter to the end of your life. We will do all we can not only to help you die peacefully, but also to live until you die.*

- Dame Cecily Saunders, the founder of our modern day Palliative Care



Those words truly rang true at ThembaCare during 2017, with regards to all that we do, for our HIV/AIDS, TB, Cancer, Chronic, Rehab, terminally ill & vulnerable patients in the community of Grabouw & the surrounding farming areas. Each patient that we came into contact with 'truly mattered' and we ensured that they received a better experience of Ubuntu & healthcare, than they were accustomed to.

## Highlights of 2017:

- ThembaCare reached & impacted the lives of 7,817 beneficiaries.
- The In Patient Unit cared for the following: 49 HIV, TB, Cancer & terminally ill patient admissions of whom 13 died within the facility and 36 were either stabilised and discharged back home or transferred to hospital for further medical management.
- 3 patients remain as long term stay patients with challenging psychosocial issues, external social workers battled to find alternative healthcare facilities to continue their care, as their families are unable to care for them.
- Patients continued being assisted with Funeral Policies & Care Grants in liaison with SASSA & the local Grabouw Funeral Directors. Patient Medical Rounds in the IPU were done by the Department of Health's Doctors from the Grabouw Day Hospital and the Dietician for nutritional monitoring & advice.
- The Home Based Care team cared for +- 300 patients.
- 4,450 clients were screened & reached by the HBC NCD programme during 2017.
- The HIV Counselling & Testing team tested, screened & provided health education to clients either by attending to individual walk in clients or by doing outreaches to the local farms & business areas in Grabouw e.g; Oude Molen Distillery, Two-a-Day, Molteno farms & others, in the surrounding farming areas and also providing this service to some of the local schools. 2,920 clients received voluntary testing for HIV and 3,018 clients were screened for TB.
- We underwent 2 Audits and a Site Assessment Visit, by the Department of Health (Sept & Oct), and was found to be fully compliant with flying colours, on each occasion. This stamp of approval by DOH made us proud and paved the way for continued funding for the IPU, for 2018 / 2019.
- ThembaCare submits Quarterly Reports & Stats (HDMS) & attends Quarterly meetings with the Hospice Palliative Care Association of South Africa. ThembaCare's HBC team, was funded for the Non-Communicable Disease Programme by the HPCA from July 2016 to June 2017 and received an excellent reviews regarding the quality of work done & number of beneficiaries reached in the programme.

## A bird's eye view for 2018

ThembaCare has a myriad of rivers to cross during 2018 and some of which include the project's financial sustainability. Being a Priority 1 Project in 2017, was quite challenging and it was really disheartening to see so many funding proposals submitted and yet none bearing any fruit. Our passion at ThembaCare will always be to see "that Hope" is restored to the most vulnerable & terminal patients and that they get treated with loving care and compassion. Our prayer is that, there will be new & likeminded individuals / organisations, who share the same heart for Improving & Strengthening Community Healthcare Systems & Services which impact and change people's health & lives, at a grassroots level. We can all join hands together to help turn the tide against HIV/AIDS & TB and thus see a much healthier, brighter future & thriving community in Grabouw and the surrounding farming areas. Now that is the "Spirit of Ubuntu!"

*Thandi Sifiso*  
**Project Manager**



# VILLAGE OF HOPE ANNUAL REPORT 2017

*We owe our children – the most vulnerable citizens in any society – a life free from violence and fear.*  
– Nelson Mandela



Unfortunately thousands of children in South Africa are made vulnerable through crime, violence, illness and the resulting fears have a tremendous impact on their whole being. At Village of Hope, a 6 hectare smallholding outside Grabouw, we were privileged to offer a safe haven to 13 children during 2017, in a loving but disciplined centre for temporary care. Each child received holistic care under the supervision of our social worker, the local courts, health facilities and other social development agencies.

Every child is unique and our focus was on supporting and developing each child to leave their fears behind and empower them with skills for their future, through proper education, after school programs, holiday programs, but most of all a loving and safe “home”.

## Highlights of 2017:

- Holistic care to 13 vulnerable children under 12 years of age.
- Granted full registration as a Child and Youth Care Centre until 30th June 2020.
- Capacity building of our staff to deal with the challenges of each and every child.
- In partnership with GoodSport, offering sport to 450 young community members per month.
- Receiving 793 national and international guests on our smallholding during 2017, including an InFocus Mission Team from Georgia.

## Challenges during 2017:

- Community unrest impacted on our outreach initiatives.
- Security on the smallholding, theft of fencing, cost of security guards.
- The lack of a large enough vehicle to transport all children to school.
- Funding towards sustainability and potential future expansion of this crucial facility.
- We have to secure our own source of water as we are 100% reliable on water supplied by our very generous neighbour.

Thank you to our funders, supporters and the Department of Social Development who also believe that all children have a right to a life without fear, a temporary safe haven when families and children are in a vulnerable position.

Looking forward to a 2018, hoping to offer a place of safety, home and hope to many more children.

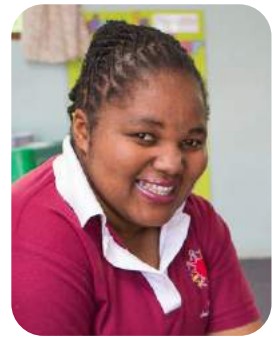
Tim Afrika  
Project Manager



# AGAPE ANNUAL REPORT 2017

*Education is not preparation for life; education is life itself.* - John Dewey

Agape has had yet another good year. Agape started the school year with 91 children. Throughout the year the numbers fluctuated a little, with the winter holidays and a teacher that struggled physically with her health, however, the numbers settled with about 80 children at the end of 2017.



## Highlights of 2017:

- Kate Christie handed over the management of the project to Thabisa Mdolomba.
- We had volunteers every month from Germany and the mission team from Georgia.
- Our staff had the opportunity of attending a Global Leadership Summit-Training.
- Department of Health visited and loved our Facility. We were informed to register 102 Children as we have sufficient space.
- Children were immunised by the Local Clinic at Agape for Measles and Diphtheria
- We made significant progress with our registration with DSD: we acquired 40 new covered mattresses, brand new first aid boxes and a fire extinguisher. For safety, we decided that parents should sign when coming to fetch the kids from school.
- The City of Cape Town approved our application for acceptance of the Grade 0 and 00 classroom. The structures were acceptable and we were exempt from paying any penalty. The Strand municipality approved our application for exemption from property rates and taxes. We have an R8 000 credit on our municipal bill.
- Agape won the Blue Ribbon Bicycle competition, by Onele Swartboo.
- We had a successful Fun Day and received blankets and toys as a donation.
- We managed to find sponsors for the kids whose parents can't afford their school fees.
- We had yet another successful Grade R graduation.

## Challenges during 2017:

- The City of Cape Town is asking Agape for a R143 000 development charge to approve the zoning for a number greater than 34 children. We have gone through all the correct channels, with the help of Retha Botes, Architect, to appeal against these charges. We are awaiting the outcome.
- Shortly after our Fun Day, we had a break in where many of our toys and blankets were stolen. We decided to install an alarm system and Thembalitsha Foundation were able to contribute R10 000 for which we are very thankful.

This had been a successful year because of team work from our Governing Body, help from the Service Centre, our Volunteers and Donors.

*Thabisa Mdolomba*  
**Project Manager**



# EDUCARE GRABOUW ANNUAL REPORT 2017

*Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world*  
- Nelson Mandela

At EduCare Grabouw our main objective is to ensure an early start for a brighter future through the provision of early childhood development facilities and resources, and that is precisely what we did during 2017.



We completed construction on 3 new educare centres, continued our support to the centres constructed or upgraded during previous years and are looking forward to the completion of our last 2 educare centres and the central office to support all these centres in future. In total, by the middle of 2018, we will then have upgraded 3 existing facilities and constructed 5 new facilities giving access to almost 400 children between the ages of 3-5.

## Highlights of 2017:

- During 2017 we delivered education services to 262 children each month.
- We offered employment opportunities to 17 ECD practitioners and support staff each month.
- We offered employment to 56 local residents on our construction sites each month.
- We facilitated training in the new Basic Education Curriculum rolled out by the Government.
- We facilitated and supplied breakfast porridge to 483 children through our partnership with JAM's nutritional programme each month.
- We facilitated early movement therapy to 317 children through our partnership with GoodSport each month.

## Challenges during 2017:

- Rising cost of construction.
- Getting “corporate sponsorship” of our centres for sustainability.
- Community unrest.

Our funders and supporters who believe in the power of education as a tool to change the world, Thank you to each and everyone.

We are looking forward to 2018, as we continue to ensure that children get the opportunity to start on a high note so that they can look forward to a future without limitations. Who knows, we may just be creating the platform for our next generation of scientists, doctors, community leaders and educators.

*Ferdi Joubert and Unathi Mabufa*  
**Project Managers**



# GRACELAND ANNUAL REPORT 2017

*Teaching is more than imparting knowledge; it is inspiring change - William Arthur War*



2017 has been filled with challenges, achievements and new developments. Donors and funders supported us in a positive way and with all the help of everyone who supported our Project, we made it through 2017. To our Greatest and biggest supporter, our Heavenly Father we want to say thank you, because without Him we could not achieve anything.

## Highlights of 2017:

- The previous Project Manager, Simone van der Berg was promoted to a training manager position at another project and Elizabeth Solomons was promoted to principal and project manager.
- We welcomed our caretaker Leon Solomons back to Graceland and introduced Zainab Pieterse as teacher in the 2-3 year old class.
- We held yet another successful Graceland Tea at the Devon Valley Hotel.
- Ashlyn De Wee did her level 4 Course in Early Childhood Development at TEEC Bronne Sentrum.
- Staff attended a National Curriculum Framework (NCF) Course at Boland College.
- We had students from the Every Nation church Stellenbosch who helped in the Holistic Development of the children.
- This year we were able to fix most of the maintenance work at our school building. We had Wings Of Support do all the maintenance for us; fixing doors, window frames , painting, filling the sandpit and a variety of things.
- We installed a water tank, which has been a great investment considering the current water shortages.

## Challenges during 2017:

- The Department of Social Development has suspended funding for 3 months due to a mistake on their side. We have assisted them in resolving the issue and back payments should resume at the end of February.

We end 2017 feeling blessed and thankful for every child, every staff member that walked together hand in hand to reach our goals through 2017.

*Elizabeth Solomons*  
**Project Manager**



# SCHOOL OF HOPE ANNUAL REPORT 2017

*Education is for improving the lives of others and for leaving your community and world better than you found it - Marian Wright Edelman*



This was a year of change and reward. The decision to hand over the role of school principal to Adekunle Oyewo was effortless. We have witnessed his development as an accomplished academic leader and master teacher. Indeed, there was very little adjustment to make and much progress to enjoy as a result of the hand-over. Separating the role of Academic Head and Project Manager also allowed for new relationships to form with old and new donors. Individual sponsorship of learners doubled and we were able to reach new potential investors through two well-attended events, written proposals and weekly face-to-face meetings.

## Highlights of 2017:

- The school now boasts interactive boards in all but one classroom.
- We are well-equipped to teach our learners using the internet as a resource and endowing the learners with essential future-forward skills such as basic coding and programming.
- A well-stocked library and renovated sports complex provide the more traditional learning experiences.
- Completed our second year with all our academic staff retained. This, and good academic leadership, are the most important contributing factors for improved academic performance.
- The SOH soccer team, Hope United, entered the Southern Suburbs League and placed 4th overall.
- Our academic results improved by 20-30% and the Matrics achieved the coveted 100% pass.
- We added 18 learners to our list of graduates, bringing the amount of learners who have completed their schooling with School of Hope since 2008 to 98.

## Challenges during 2017:

- Water shortages many have a negative influence on the budget.
- We are looking into ways of further improving our performance by focusing on progress in Maths and Maths Literacy.

We are ready to face all challenges in the year ahead, further succeeding in all we set out to achieve. We have increased the amount of beneficiaries admitted from 130 to 145 and we hope to retain our academic staff for a record third year in a row. Without the support of our donors and friends, we would not have been able to celebrate our 19th year in 2018. Thank you!

*Laura Coflura*  
**Project Manager**



# THEMBA CONNECT ANNUAL REPORT 2017

*The key to getting things done is connecting people. Often I find that the right people are already in place, they just need to focus on the greater good to be energized, utilized and encouraged to work together. - Miles Atkins*



Connecting people with opportunities in the rural Adelaide area of the Eastern Cape has been our main focus in 2017. We did that through leadership training, financial training, providing access to educational and other resources by encouraging and focusing on existing skills.

Adelaide is a beautiful but poverty stricken area with very little employment opportunities and a lack of infrastructure. Providing training and support without creating unrealistic expectations, forms an integral part of this young and developing project.

## Highlights of 2017:

- We provided financial training to 30 community members through the SaveAct program.
- We offered computer training to 25 unemployed adults.
- We delivered Toy Library Services to 5 local educare centres and 224 pre-school children.
- We facilitated youth leadership workshops for 30 young adults.
- We upgraded our computer facilities which were utilised by 120 community members.
- 118 community members used our facilities for meetings, motivational groups or training.
- Facilitation of a craft and sewing group, as well as a donation of 10 industrial machines added to the available resources.
- A South African Mission Team of 43 members visited, assisted and inspired us.

## Challenges during 2017:

- Operating without a project manager to supervise and guide our 2 staff members.
- The lack of a vehicle or transport for our Toy Library, along with transporting of educational equipment over long distances.
- Funding towards sustainability of this worthwhile initiative.

We appreciate our funders and supporters who believe in the power of connecting people to their potential, thereby encouraging them to change their lives for the better.

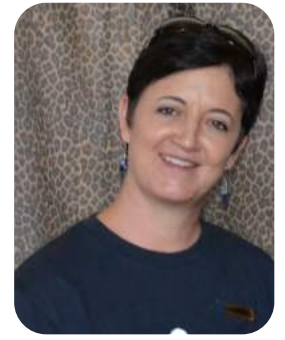
We look forward to 2018, with new opportunities for connecting people to their true potential.

*Sonia Mboyiya*  
**Project Co-ordinator**



# THEMBA TRAINING ANNUAL REPORT 2017

*Job training empowers people to realize their dreams and improve their lives.*  
- Sylvia Mathews Burwell



Our main objective in 2017 remained to train unemployed adults in different skills to empower them in creating an income for themselves and their families. We did that through computer, business, entrepreneurial and sewing training.

We trained unemployed women in business and sewing skills during a 10 week course. Community members received computer training combined with business training and were enabled to write a CV, send and receive e-mails, apply for jobs online or start a small business. Mentoring of trainees after completion of business and entrepreneurial training took place. On site visits to new small businesses, support in buying of stock and marketing the business were all in a day's work.

## Highlights of 2017:

- We delivered sewing training to 45 unemployed women.
- We offered short term contract opportunities to 8 women who have completed the sewing course.
- We offered computer training to 50 unemployed community members.
- We presented entrepreneurial and business skills training to 60 community members.
- We received funding to enable us to buy 10 laptops for our new mobile computer lab, enabling us to take computer training where it is most needed.
- Our trainees made over 500 products for distribution in SA and abroad.

## Challenges during 2017:

- Safety issues forced us to move from a high crime rate area in CrossRoads to The Helderberg area, as many staff and trainees were attacked on their way to training sessions.
- AWe received limited funding to cover basic training costs, expansion of our training programs and staff salaries remained a challenge.
- We said goodbye to project manager Portia Motjuwadi and welcomed Marla van der Merwe to give us new strategic direction after the forced move.

Thank you to our funders who believe in the power of training as a tool to improve lives and assist the vulnerable to realize their dreams. We look forward to 2018, as we put new strategies in place to offer training and short term employment to many more as we focus more on production. Look out for our online shop planned for 2018, showcasing the products from our trainees.

*Marla van der Merwe*  
**Project Manager**



## BOARD OF DIRECTORS: SOUTH AFRICA



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*Frank Christie* / **Vice Chairman**



*Monica Folscher* / **Managing Director**



*Jan Truter* / **Secretary**



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*Nkosinathi Mbuyazi* / **Community Liaison**

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