



## ANNUAL REPORT 2018

Lerato's Hope is a non-profit organisation based at Pinelands Baptist Church, Cape Town. We are focused on areas of poverty alleviation, child development and social justice.

### OUR OBJECTIVES

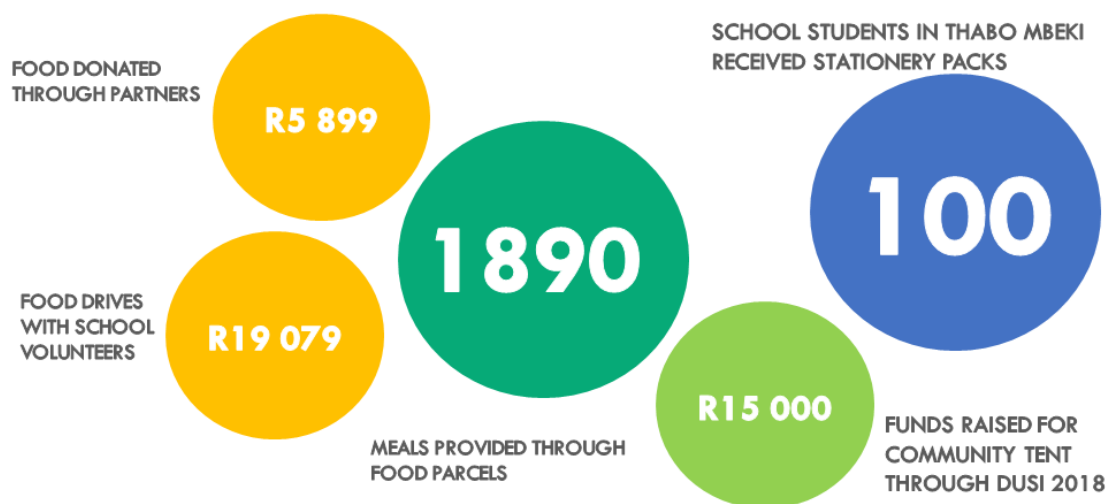
To support the development of and access to equal education for all children

To support the preservation and strengthening of families affected by poverty, illness or disability

To represent the broader church of Jesus Christ in ensuring justice for the poor and needy

We aim to achieve these objectives through urban gleaning which includes working with volunteers to collect food items to distribute to our partners in areas such as Gugulethu and Lower Crossroads. We support social justice ambassadors who work in different fields, from education to sports where their individual passions concerning Mercy & Justice overlap with our objectives. In our local church partnership we support the Mercy & Justice Ministry where we connect with our congregation to also engage and volunteer in similar activities.

## 2018 IN NUMBERS



## CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

*Jonathan Lewis*

We are pleased to be able to deliver this report on the financial health of Lerato's Hope as at 31 December 2018. This is the first year of the change of our status from a non-profit company to a non-profit organisation. The reasons for the change were purely financial, namely, to reduce operational costs and maximise the funds available for our objectives.

Although the financial results are important for the sustainability of our organisation, as an NPO our measure of success is not how much surplus we generate, but how well we have applied the funds that our donors and volunteers have entrusted to us. In this regard I am pleased to be able to report that 97% of the revenue received was applied directly to the charities, projects and urban missionaries that we support. We managed to contain the administration expenses - limited to accounting verification, printing, bank charges and vehicle expenses, including insurance - to just 3% of revenue. Furthermore, we managed to allocate almost all of the R217K revenue received to various causes with just R4 532.00 remaining as a surplus.

1890 meals were provided to the children of the Abahlobo Creche excluding the support provided to families in distress at local schools.

We are intentionally not a cheque-book charity. Whenever deciding which ministries or causes to support falling within the parameters of our mandated objectives, a critical consideration is always how the proposed support will enhance and improve our relationships with the supported communities. The underlying intention being to encourage the communities/urban missionaries to identify the best ways to serve themselves/their communities and then partner with them in executing their implementation.

For this reason, it's particularly pleasing to see growth in ministries arising from our involvement in Mercy and Justice initiatives, like the school reading programmes and the closer relations being forged with the leadership of the Thabo Mbeki community.

Of course none of the achievements over the past financial year would have been possible without the ongoing support of our stakeholders including our board, staff, donors, urban missionaries and volunteers. Thank you for your greatly valued support. We trust that you will recognise from the contents of this report, that your time and contributions have been managed in such a way so as to optimise its impact with minimal deductions.

Words of gratitude seem inadequate which is why we have set aside the 8th September 2018 as the day on which we can say thank you in person and share in the feedback provided by our partners in the communities which we serve. We look forward to seeing you there.

## Staff and volunteer team at the end of 2018



Pictured from left to right; *Audrey Matthews, Bookkeeping; Rodney Kleinsmith, Logistics; Stephany Rajagukguk, Admin*



Board members pictured from left to right; *Jonathan Lewis, Chairman; Vaughan Stannard, Executive Director; Sean McDiarmid, Treasurer; Corné Stannard; JP Lugt*

## I. Urban Gleaning

Our volunteers for the year of 2018 came from four schools. A big thanks to Cannons Creek Independent School, Pinehurst Primary, Pinelands High School and Rustenburg High School for Girls. In total, food to the value of **R19 078.72** was raised through our volunteers serving at our Saturday food drives.



*Cannons Creek Independent School*



*Pinelands High School*



*Rustenburg High School for Girls*



*Pinehurst Primary School*



We also thank Pinelands Congregational Church, and the Meerendal Pre-Primary and Pinelands North Primary schools who collected food to the value of R5 898.21. Most of the food items were transported to one of our main partners, the Abahlobo Educare Centre in Gugulethu.



## II. Partnership with Pinelands Baptist Church: Mercy and Justice Conversations

Jacqui Tooke

Lerato's Hope works in partnership with the Mercy and Justice Ministry at Pinelands Baptist Church in order to activate and strengthen the congregation in their response to the call to "love mercy and act justly" (Micah 6:8)

### Two-part Diversity Conversation with a focus on Youth Voices in June 2018

Ten speakers, of which 8 were youth, shared their personal reflections about how their being different was honoured as well as overlooked, within the church. Each session was attended by over 100 people. Group discussion formed an important part of the interaction between attendees.



The response after the event was as diverse as the participants who shared, just showing the complexity of the nature of what we are doing. It also shows that we are on a journey and are not "there yet". We need God's grace and guidance as we keep in step with Him to untangle ourselves from the injustice that seeks to keep us apart. Here are some reflections from participants:

*"It was good to allow the speakers to share honestly and perhaps 'uncensored' in a sense which I felt was uncomfortable for many people, including myself, but so necessary and appropriate for the format of the event - it's about conversation. The conversation aspect caused us to be vulnerable and perhaps more 'real' than we feel we can be at a Sunday service. This links back to the aim of restoring relationships in our church (we have to get to know each other with whatever history that involves) rather than trying to do it in a secular, academic or intellectual sense."*

## Diversity Dinners

With the logistic support of Lerato's Hope, the Mercy and Justice team provided structure for people from diverse backgrounds to meet together in each other's homes for a meal. This worked well for some, but others met some challenges in making it happen. Eighty-eight people signed up to participate. Eleven groups were formed, and of those, 7 groups managed to meet. Questions asked were:

## Support for The Justice Conference 2018: Let Justice Roll

Lerato's Hope in partnership with PBC provided support in various ways to The Justice Conference South Africa that took place at Spine Road High School 12-13 Oct 2018. The theme was drawn from Amos 5:4. Support was in the form of prayer cover leading up to the event; volunteer clean-up team for the duration of the two days; two PBC leaders contributing to panel discussions; as well as funding.

Following the TJC we hosted an evening reflection where we wrestled with a variety of issues that had been raised at the conference. The stories that were encountered at TJC really impacted those who had attended. There was a deep sense that God wants to show us more clearly how to partner Him to bring heaven on earth in the broken spaces of our city.



To view more from this ministry, visit <https://mercyjustice.wixsite.com/mercyjusticepbc>

### III. Urban Missionaries

LH wishes to acknowledge and voice its appreciation for the work and support of the following urban missionaries during the year 2018:

- Abahlobo Educare - Dan and Jenny Overett (educational and administrative mentoring)
- Beautiful Gate - Cindy Duvel (children's discipleship mentor)
- Reading Programme – Colleen Rinquest, Helen Harrod and 12 volunteers at Silverlea Primary

#### Abahlobo Educare Centre

*Dan and Jenny Overett*



It has once again been an honour for Jenny and me to serve for another year as mentor assistants to Mama Beauty at Abahlobo Childcare Centre in Barcelona Township, Gugulethu.

I have continued to visit Mama Beauty about once every six weeks roughly. When supplies from the Lerato's Hope food drives need delivering I take these down on my visits. Stephy always provides support and back-up when needed. On arrival at Abahlobo there is usually quite a crowd of eager young helpers to unload the Avanza. Mama and I then have a catch-up chat to find out how she and her family and helpers are doing and things to note for reporting such as any particular needs she has.

As always the Christmas party in late November 2018 was a great event. PBC members were once again generous in donations and gifts in kind so that we were again able to meet our budget for the event. Steve Bardwell through Salty Press once again provided the very attractive parcel labels as well as colouring in books for the children. Anne McDougall was once again our photographer for the occasion. Candice and her interns again did a splendid job in rehearsing and performing a children's drama which went down extremely well with the little ones – they loved every minute of it as could be read on their faces. We will miss Candice's input this coming year now that she is no longer with us. The shoe box parcels were well received by the children and their families. A great big thanks needs to be expressed to our Heavenly Father for providing through His people once again.

The Ladies' Craft group under the direction of Heather Banks has once again generously supplied hand-knitted blankets, jerseys and beanies for the children during the year and these are always received and distributed with great appreciation.



Repair work after last year's fire has been slow and there are ongoing problems with the electricity connections which were damaged. Mama has a handyman/electrician contractor who is slowly getting the job done when he is available.

Things move very slowly when it comes to informal settlement upgrades and nothing further has been done to upgrade Barcelona township.

The number of children, aged between two and five years, attending fluctuates considerably from day to day and during the year. Numbers have gone down this year. It is hard to maintain a vision for any sort of development or progression in a temporary sort of situation like Barcelona and there have been many discouragements. We need to renew our prayer for Mama Beauty and the future of the Childcare Centre at Abahlobo.



In December last year we were able to bless Mama Beauty with the means to have a holiday back home in the Eastern Cape where she comes from and this was the first time she had been able to go “home” for a number of years.

We remain thankful for safety in travelling to and from Abahlobo and for the way God is providing and we look to Him for the future of Abahlobo.

## Beautiful Gate South Africa

*Cindy Duvel*



I consult to the Primary School Learner Educational Support Team, with my focus on the Middle Management Team and the Gospel Programmes. I started off with doing training in understanding Children and working with Children, included is a Devotional aspect as well as some Team Building stuff. This was held at PBC with lunch.

Wow, what a year. My first task was to organize Holiday Club in April 2018. Theme was ‘Heroes of our faith’. I really wanted to change the way Holiday

Club was done from an organizational point of view, to having a structured planned Spiritual Programme and adding a Training element to it. It really was great that BG could join PBC for the Training Weekend. That was beneficial to our team and club. Also, volunteers from PBC helped in the kitchen during the week of holiday club at PBC.



*Holiday Club 05 – 06 April 2018*



happen both in the Schools and during Holiday Club.

*Christmas Party 2018 Preparation*



The Gospel Programme at the Schools went well and was commented on quite a bit by the children, when asked what they enjoyed in the After School Programme. I have written the programmes for this, however as of this past year, the team developed the material with my oversight. This to me is the highlight. Working with the team as we work through the material before doing it in the schools. My emphasis has been on not just telling nice stories but creating environments to encounter Jesus. I have special memories of seeing just this

We had a really good Prize Giving for the learners of the Early Childhood Programme and their parents, a very busy Christmas Party, a great Team Christmas Party and then a good Staff Party. November was very, very busy.

At the end of the year, Alice, my boss and I went through a process of looking at the Volunteer Programme. I felt that we really needed to develop a Discipleship and Self Development Programme. The Discipleship

and Self-Development Programme is going to be integrated into the Organization as a whole, which is awesome as many more people are now involved.

## Reading Program

*Helen Harrod*

There is an illiteracy problem and inequality in education in South Africa. More than ¼ of Grade 2 learners from schools in disadvantaged areas cannot read a single word. Only 40% of those who started school in 2007 passed matric in 2017. The quality of education depends on your social circumstances. I realised the inequalities in the education system due to my children being in a local government school which was more privileged. I started a reading programme 2 ½ years ago in a school located in a previously disadvantaged area, Silverlea Primary School. This has now expanded to a 2<sup>nd</sup> school E A Janari, Bonteheuwel.

Children have been selected for intervention if they are struggling in class. Each child receives 30 minutes of one-on-one attention for them to work on phonics, spelling and confidence in reading.

### Reading Ministry in Silverlea Primary School

We currently have 12 volunteers at Silverlea. Colleen Rinkwest, a member of Pinelands Baptist, is a Grade 3 teacher at Silverlea Primary School. By reading with children on a weekly basis, volunteers are able to show the love of God in action through their care, commitment and concern to children who often do not receive this one-on-one attention. For many years, Silverlea did not have a library at the school. However we thank God for his provision last year of a library container and finances for books to enable the children to access books for themselves.



*Colleen, Grade 3 teacher*



*Reading with children at Silverlea*



*Books in Silverlea*



## Reading Ministry in Bonteheuwel

Since the start of 2019, each week 10 volunteers from Pinelands Baptist Church (PBC), under the leadership of Nicky Benting and Helen Harrod, visit E A Janari School in Bonteheuwel to read to 20 children. Nicky is a member of PBC, and a teacher at this school. Nicky and her family live in Bonteheuwel and are deeply committed in prayer for God's kingdom to come in their neighbourhood and in the school where Nicky works.

This reading ministry has opened up doors to a prayer walk in the community, and we hope to find ways to build bridges between our communities. We pray that God's love will be revealed to these children as the volunteers are empowered by the Holy Spirit to represent Jesus in the school. There is no library at the school yet, although a wendy house has been donated last month by an NGO. We are praying that various secondhand books can be donated to fill this library for the school. We are looking into partnership and funding for the library from a few different sources.



E A Janari school



Nicky, Grade R teacher



the new empty library



Sharon James



Helen Harrod



reading with children

## Thabo Mbeki Community

Annie Smith assisted in raising funds through her Dusi Canoe fundraiser 2018 for a community tent to the value of R15 000 to be purchased for the community of Thabo Mbeki Informal Settlement. We also thank the Lugt Family for their donation of 20 chairs.



## THANK YOU

To all the PBC staff and volunteers for all the support and love over the year. Special thanks to the Pastors, Eldership, Lydia Jones and Andrea Brown for support and administration assistance.

## Partners



Volunteer schools from left to right; *Pinelands High School, Rustenburg High School for Girls, Cannons Creek Independent School and Pinehurst Primary School.*



Partners from left to right; *Pinelands Baptist Church, Abahlobo Educare (run by Mama Beauty Sixoka), Beautiful Gate, Thabo Mbeki Informal Settlement (led by Buzwe Kali)*





## CONTACT

**Name of organisation:** Lerato's Hope  
**NPO Number:** 032-481  
**Tax Exempt PBO Number\*:** 930 007 514

## DONATION

Standard Bank  
 Branch no. 036309  
 Account no. 073047171  
 SWIFT number. SBZAJJ

**\*We provide Section 18A Tax certificates for donations made to Lerato's Hope. Contact us for more info.**

**Do you feel inspired to get involved in a justice initiative?  
 Or simply want to learn more about mercy and justice?  
 We encourage you to contact us and we will connect you  
 to our Mercy & Justice network.**

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