



LERATO'S HOPE
Love always hopes 1 cor 13:7

ANNUAL REPORT

2019

LERATO'S HOPE is an NPO based at Pinelands Baptist Church focused on wellbeing of children and families, educational support for children and family strengthening in a few Cape Town areas where partnership with the community has been sustained over the years.



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.



CHAIRMAN'S REPORT



It has been my privilege to have served for another year with men and women with similar values and dedication to service. Thanks to their commitment and the ongoing participation of the local schools, affiliated churches and community leaders, Lerato's Hope has been able to successfully fulfil its mandate and provide the services detailed in this Annual Report.

We continue to strengthen our relationships with aforementioned partners and our association with Pinelands Baptist Church (PBC). In particular we are grateful for our Urban Missionaries and to have been able to add to their number with the inclusion of the Thrive feeding programme in Bonteheuwel in the Western Cape and our association with Ms Bernadette White-Phillips who fills a pastoral role to the homeless via the U-Turn ministry.

We are inspired by the dedication of the leadership of the Thabo Mbeki community, Mama Beauty at the Abahlobo Educare Centre, and in particular by the initiative of an exemplary young man, Sipelele Bushula, the founder of the non-profit organisation, Masifundisane Family and Children's Ministry, who started out in his parent's garage hosting reading and learning classes for young vulnerable children.

Lerato's Hope's participation in PBC's Mercy and Justice Ministry continues to provide opportunities to reflect on past injustices, facilitate reconciliation and provide opportunities for participation in community service such as the primary school reading programmes.

I would like to extend a special thank you to Vaughan Stannard, our unofficial CEO, and his very able assistant, Stephany Rajagukguk, for their tireless commitment and dedication.

Finally, I need to extend our deep gratitude to our unsung, loyal and regular donors without whose support we would not have been able to reach half of the beneficiaries we have been able to serve.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jonathan Lewis'.

Jonathan Lewis
Chairman



URBAN GLEANING

Our volunteers for the year of 2019 came from four schools. Big thanks to *Cannons Creek Independent School, Pinehurst Primary, Pinelands High School and Rustenburg High School for Girls.*

Thank you the teachers representing each school and overseeing the ambassadors — James Currie, Kelly Widelko, Michelle Owen-Barnard & Riedwaan Toyer, Biddy Ryan respectively.

Most of the food items were transported to one of our main partners, Abahlobo Educare Centre in Gugulethu.



IN TOTAL, FOOD TO THE VALUE OF **R18,550** WAS RAISED THROUGH OUR VOLUNTEERS SERVING AT OUR SATURDAY FOOD DRIVES.

FOOD DONATIONS FROM PINELANDS CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH (PICTURED LEFT) AND PINELANDS NORTH PRIMARY TO THE VALUE OF **R8,800** WAS ALSO RECEIVED. WE THANK THEM TOO!





PARTNERSHIPS





PARTNERSHIPS

URBAN MISSIONARIES

LH wishes to appreciate the work and support of the following urban missionaries from PBC who were serving in the following projects during the year 2019:

- U-turn - Bernadette White-Phillips
- Thrive Social Development NGO based in Bonteheuwel – Chloe Pop
- Abahlobo Educare - Dan and Jenny Overett (educational and administrative mentoring)
- Reading For Hope Programme – Colleen Rinquest (Silverlea Primary), Nicky Benting (E.A. Janari Primary), Helen Harrod, Sharon James and **20+** volunteers
- Beautiful Gate - Cindy Duvel (staff discipleship at Beautiful Gate, Gospel Programmes, assistant to executive director)



Bernadette White-Phillips began joining our board meetings Feb 2019 and at the time was an elder at Pinelands Baptist; our partner church. She holds a counselling, pastoral and teaching role at U-turn. This is a Christian NGO that equips the homeless with skills to overcome homelessness and offers a work-based learnership.



The phased programme starts with basic needs relief (food, shelter, clothing) at the Service Centre or Powerhouse in Claremont. When ready, the clients are offered a chance to enter the Life Change Programme and are placed at one of U-Turn's 7 charity shops or the laundry for on-the-job training.

Participants also access weekly occupational therapy, relapse prevention and formal training in English, literacy, IT, as well as accredited business management for selected participants. After about 2 years participants graduate into the open labour market.

I met with the pastors of churches in Pinelands to make them aware of issues related to homelessness, to encourage responsible giving and to support the work being done at U-Turn. I preached at church, led Bible studies at retirement villages in Pinelands and spoke at youth groups about the issues relating to homelessness. In April 2019, a clothing donation bin was placed at PBC, U-turn vouchers are available to be purchased by PBC congregations to give to anyone living on the streets and who approaches them for money.



BEAUTIFUL GATE SOUTH AFRICA

CINDY DUVEL

While I have been heading up the Spiritual Development of Children, it was great to have Minah join me as together we pursued bringing Jesus into our Beautiful Gate Space.

If we want to reach children it is my firm belief that we need to reach and disciples those working with the Children. This was done, through training to run the Spiritual Programmes and through our corporate time of Devotions run every Thursday morning. However, we felt that more needed to be done, so after a very powerful Easter Thursday Devotion, where a number of our Staff gave their lives to the Lord, we decided to start Discipleship Groups for the Staff. These were run every Tuesday and Wednesday morning at 9am. Minah mainly led these, not only did it give her great connection with the staff, but we saw amazing fruit. One of our members spoke of how she was able to break an addiction, because she was in the word and in an accountable community. We took the groups to the Pinelands Week of Prayer, Prayer Room, which was a totally new experience for most people, but very meaningful. One of the Staff, commented how it was so nice to be quiet and pray and to be in a completely safe space.

We ran a Holiday Club in the April Holidays. Our theme was Superhero's were we looked at local heroes of the faith and then at "How I am loved", Prayer, Gifts and Talents and how God can use us. This Holiday's Clubs focus was on facilitating Spaces and Activities where the children could encounter and hear God for themselves. It was absolutely wonderful to see the children interacting with Prayer Spaces, soaking — times of listening to quiet music where we ask Jesus to speak to us and then we respond accordingly in those times.

Our Weekly Gospel Programmes moved to a Friday Afternoon. These were also really great times with the children. The Grade 4-7's would do "Gospel Programme" first, which involved a game or activity that introduced the topic, the teaching and then response or reflecting time. This programme was then adapted and repeated for the Grades 1-3's. Probably the most exciting thing for me was seeing some of our Leaders starting to do the teaching. We would pray and plan the topics and then I would sit with the individual leader and work through the how, why and what of the talk.



Topics that we covered mainly matched the themes of the year. So from "Getting a new Start" in January, "What is love and what does it look like?" In February, to Esther being a Powerful Woman in August. These themes were carried over into the Club Activities and some Life Skills.

For our July Holiday Club, we joined up with Pinelands Baptist Church. We did combined Training and spent time being part of each other's Clubs for a day. Some of our Leaders contributed to the training and we were able to teach some of our isiXhosa Songs. It was really good for our BG team to realize that they have something to give in this space and not just always be receiving.

BEAUTIFUL GATE SOUTH AFRICA

This was an amazing experience and a highlight for everyone. Themes that we looked at were:

- David and how he was made and loved by God
- Peter and his miraculous catch. How God sees more potential in me than I do.
- The woman who washes Jesus' feet. We always have a choice to make
- Paul and Silas in Prison. How we get to invite others to join us.

This was the first Holiday Club that I have done at Beautiful Gate where all the teaching was done by the Leaders and totally in isiXhosa and not through translation. It was great to see the Leaders own and really grapple with what they were teaching.

Clubs:

I believe in the development of the whole Child. While I felt we had made great steps in walking alongside children in a Health, Education, Family Support and Spiritual sphere, we needed to provide a platform for Arts, Drama, Critical Thinking Games and Chess Clubs. This was so rewarding to plan and then put together. The children absolutely loved being part of these clubs and it gave the Tutors and opportunity to get to know the children better as the groups were smaller. Often these times were started with an Emotional Intelligence game, taking the conversations to the next level.

Celebrations:

Part of my role was to help create memorable Celebration Events. All of these events were a real privilege to be part of. When we live in times that are fraught with trauma and sadness, it is important to celebrate and this was the year to celebrate. Beautiful Gate turned 25 years old. We invited Toby and Aukje, Vaughan and Corne and Minah and Brian to join us for the day. We did interviews on the past, present and then asked Minah to share her vision about the future. We had a magnificent Birthday Cake and enjoyed a great lunch together.

Honouring Vaughan: The Thursday Devotion time, before the Annual celebration was set aside to honour and thank Vaughan and Corne and their boys, for the sacrifice and contribution the family had made while Vaughan led BG. Our Annual Celebration: Lots of planning and attention to detail was done so that this could be a wonderful day of celebration and that it was. It was a perfect day weather wise. There was great attendance by both the local Community and our Funders/Supporters. Vaughan officially handed over the leadership of the BG Programmes to Minah. The End of Year Celebration was held at the False Bay Nature Reserve, on the 5th of December with the theme being Vintage/Sophia Town. We were entertained by Asanda's Jazz band and were fed up with a great Spit Braai. This was a time to celebrate and appreciate our staff, to dance and eat together, which was set in a beautiful surrounding and creatively decorated to suite the theme.



Change of Role;

The year ended with my role at BG changing quite significantly. While now I was no longer responsible for Clubs, I was to be Minah Koela's new CEO's, Personal Assistant.

Blessings
Cindy Duvel



THRIVE SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

Thrive Social Development is a community-based organisation established in the community of Bonteheuwel in 2018. The organisation was birthed through a passionate group of young adults who attended the same church.

THRIVESD.ORG.ZA

Thrive runs a feeding scheme that runs every Friday and Sunday, a fives football gathering and programmes to educate youth on issues of justice. LH supports Thrive through a small monthly financial contribution, and is connected through Chloe Pop who is part of our partner church, PBC.



ABAHLOBO EDUCARE

Dan and Jenny Overett continued to assist in meeting with Mama Beauty at Abahlobo Educare centre once a month during the year to deliver food and check in with the creche. Located in Barcelona, Gugulethu.

The Ladies' Craft group under the direction of Heather Banks 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.

THABO MBEKI COMMUNITY



Once again, Lerato's Hope were able to support the stationery drive for students of Thabo Mbeki Community. Handover event took place Feb 2019. Other NPOs contributed school uniform and sponsored more stationery packs so that in total 500 children were covered for the new school year. Co-ordinated by Thabo Mbeki leadership.



READING FOR HOPE

SHARON JAMES

A new chapter of the reading programme started by Colleen Rinquest (teacher at Silverlea Primary Athlone) and Helen Harrod (member of PBC) was started at Bonteheuwel school E.A. Janari Primary in late 2018.

Members of the PBC congregations volunteer once a week to read with grade 1- 3 students who need support in developing their reading abilities. The teacher at E.A. Janari part of the programme is Nicky Benting. Sharon James also joined the team to help oversee the running of the programme.



- Dusi Canoe Fundraiser March 2019 – Annie Smith helped raise funds towards upgrading the library at E.A. Janari Primary in Bonteheuwel
- A volunteer at the reading programme nominated the programme to her company and through Lerato’s Hope NPO as a channel, funds were given towards upgrading the library from this corporation that wishes to remain anonymous
- Construction work on the library commences 2020



MASIFUNDISANE FAMILY & CHILDREN’S MINISTRY

SIPHELELE BUSHULA

“Masifundisane Family And Children’s Ministry is a registered Non-Profit Organization working to uplift the lives of vulnerable children, young people and families in Cape Town. Masifundisane Family And Children’s Ministry has made an impact in this society in the transformation of our Educational Reading Programme and Youth Development Programme in our community.” Read more [here](#)



“In 2019 we implemented two children and youth safety holiday programs during June and December school holidays and 98 children and youth benefited. We also conducted two leaders’ trainings in June and December to our volunteers.”



EMERGENCY RELIEF 2019

Every year there are various emergencies that occur in vulnerable communities due to seasonal changes and the infrastructure of these communities. Lerato's Hope is part of a network of churches and organisations called RESPOND Coalition who mobilise resources to assist in these emergencies.

Rise Against Hunger hosted by PBC 18 Aug 2019 – 10 000 meals



MERCY AND JUSTICE CONVERSATIONS

There is a ministry arm at Pinelands Baptist Church called 'Mercy and Justice'. Lerato's Hope assisted in the process of facilitating Mercy and Justice gatherings around the following topics:

WHEN STORIES COME TOGETHER

- Churches in Cape Town and Slavery - Saturday, 09 Feb 2019
- Transport in Cape Town - Saturday, 19 Oct 2019

These were pilgrimages where members of PBC could journey with the M&J team. More can be read at the website:

<https://mercyjustice.wixsite.com/mercyjusticepbc/events>

OPEN DAY 2018

Unfortunately, we cannot host our annual Open Day this year due to restrictions on gatherings given the pandemic. Here we look back on last year's celebration event.



We heard from our partners, news on the initiatives they run. Pictured left, Helen Harrod from **Reading For Hope** spoke about literacy challenges of the children they work with

From **Thabo Mbeki Leadership** — Bulelani Ndabeni speaking on spatial challenges faced by the community | Sipehele Bushula who founded his NGO **Masifundisane F&C Ministry** spoke about educational challenges



We thanked our partners from schools who help us send groceries to **Abahlobo Creche**

We also heard from Jacqui Tooke about Mercy & Justice; Cindy Duvel about Beautiful Gate (not pictured)

THANK YOU



BGSA, RESPOND Coalition, Rise Against Hunger, Abahlobo Creche, Masifundisane F&C Ministry, Thabo Mbeki Community



Rustenburg High School for Girls, Cannons Creek Independent School, Pinehurst Primary School, Pinelands High School, Pinelands Congregational Church, Meerendal Pre-Primary, Pinelands North Primary School



Pinelands Baptist Church, U-turn, Thrive Social Development

STAFF AND BOARD



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



Board members pictured from left to right; Jonathan Lewis (Chairman); Corne Stannard, Vaughan Stannard (Executive Director); Sean McDiarmid (Treasurer); Bernadette White-Phillips, JP Lugt, Chris Wise



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