

# Annual Report Newsletter

## Celebrating 20 years in 2026

**2025**

### Introduction

#### Where it all began



Ubuhle Bezwe Child Care Centre is an orphanage, child care and child development home that was established in 2002 by Barbara Mtimkulu Sithebe, who was a professional nurse providing voluntary services to help disadvantaged children in her community with clothes, food. As well as helping them with their schoolwork and, when possible, school shoes. Barbara kept her doors open to senior citizens too, however, her main focus has always been children. Barbara has always said that children are our future, "if we fail to make our community a better place maybe they will... they are our hope and security."

With this mission and goal in mind the centre was established to address issues facing children who had nowhere to go in the afternoon; children who had no food at home; children who needed help with their school work and other school related needs, children who had no clothes, school uniform and school shoes; as well as children who have been abandoned. As a result Ubuhle Bezwe attends to the needs of all the vulnerable and disadvantaged children in the community of Tembisa and surrounding area.

Ubuhle bezwe also caters for woman with children who have been abused and provides them with a temporarily place of safety. This year (2025) we have assisted about 15 women with children who had no place to go. This number is more than in the past where we recorded 10 woman.

The total number of children catered for in our care is 50 from the ages of 0-20, however at times we exceed the numbers since we cannot turn down women and children in desperate need. Some of the children in our care have chronic illnesses and receive their treatment from our local clinics. We also support around 200 children from very disadvantaged families in our community annually.

**"Every child you encounter is a divine appointment" ---- Wess Stafford**



**NPO No: 050-148**

**PBO No: 930046724**

#### Address:

222 Libya Street, Isivana Section,  
Tembisa  
1632

#### Contacts:

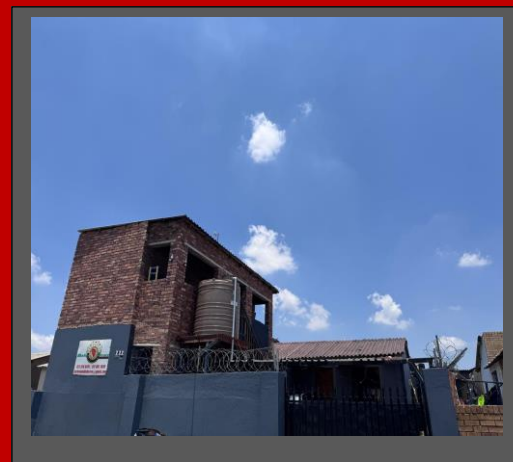
072 578 6431 / 064 539 2436

#### Emails:

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[www.ubuhlebezweorphanage.org.za](http://www.ubuhlebezweorphanage.org.za)



A major issue we face is receiving undocumented children. These individuals are brought to us by police officers, social workers and community patrol officers. We try our best to register them with Home Affairs. This is never an easy task but we persist and remain resilient. We believe that whether a child is south African or another nationality, he or she is still a child and needs to get help and have a safe home. We created this home due to a need we recognised in our community, and we forever trust that God will pave the way and help us in the mission he sent us.

Ubuhle Bezwe is a registered NPO and we have been operating for over 20 years. However we are not funded by the government. We survive and grow through your kindness and generosity and by fundraising. Most of our donations received are from companies, individuals, other NPO's and churches. We continue to strive for government funding. As a centre, our priority is to serve try and serve the children by giving them a place to call home, and to cater for all their basic needs, most importantly education and self-development.



*Ubuhle Bezwe Child Care Centre is Celebrating 20 years this year, 2026!*



## Challenges

Financially, 2025 was a good year, considering that we do not receive monthly support from the government. Due to the continued generosity and support from our donors, we encountered fewer challenges than in the previous years. We thank you immensely for that. Your support has enabled us to better serve our children by providing them with safety, food, schooling, clothing, and a sense of family. All the above allowing them to bloom personal development.

As expected, there were challenges that we faced. Our plumbing needed a lot of attention and maintenance, and we encountered an exorbitant water bill from the municipality! We managed to resolve this issue with hard work, sacrifice, commitment and help. We also had a leaking roof issue, our front and back shelter also needed to be repaired due to leaks. Electrically, we had a big problem with our household electrical wiring, and a geyser that did not pump hot water, which malfunctioned and broke some other equipment. Despite these challenges, 2025 was a very successful year.



## Building Community Clinic with Dr Ayanda

*“True success is not measured by how far you rise, but by how faithful you return to lift the hands that helped you stand.”*

*“God blesses us not to elevate ourselves alone, but to return and bless those who walked with us before the victory.”*

If you have ever managed to find the time to read our previous Annual Newsletters in full and take note of our children who have made notable achievements, you may be a bit familiar with the name Ayanda Maghagha. Today known as Dr Maghagha.

Dr Ayanda was one of our children. He grew up at Ubuhle Bezwe. As a child Dr Ayanda was bright, driven and very determined to achieve something great and do something special about his life. Dr Ayanda is a living example and testimony that any and everything is possible with vision, commitment, hard work, time and God’s grace.

Ubuhle Bezwe collaborated with Dr Ayanda Maghagha to build a Community Clinic to serve all the Ubuhle Bezwe children, and Ubuhle Bezwe referred children, free of charge. Dr Ayanda will also provide 24 hour medical assistance for our children in the event of emergencies. Our community will benefit greatly from the clinic as some services will be free of charge. People will no longer have to travel long distances for medical assistance, and the expertise given are affordable. The clinic is currently operational, thanks to the support we received from Netcare and Babies R Us, a subsidiary of Toys R Us. Thank you so much to Sharlene Swart from Netcare and Ronel Grant from Babies R Us for your help and contribution towards this community clinic.



## Youth Development Programme (Financial Literacy Course)

FINTER in association with Fimmark Trust and Ubuhle Bezwe, held a short Financial Literacy programme for our older children, and youth in our community. The programme was also open to adults in the community, an opportunity to learn vital skills.

The programme took place over a period of three days and participants received a certificate for their participation.

The programme included:



- Budgeting
- Saving
- Debt Management
- Spending Wisely
- Digital Finance Awareness

Knowledge is power and therefore the more we know, the more tools we have, the more options we have and the more room we have to manoeuvre. We become more empowered to act on ideas that help us achieve our goals and realise our dreams.

The significance of this Development programme was imparting relevant knowledge and information that one can use to make financial decisions. Knowledge that change one's life through discipline and determination.

We would love to thank Finter, Finmark Trust and World Bank Group for putting this amazing programme together, named Digital Ke Power, for imparting this valuable knowledge to us.

Thank you.



*Everyone showing off their certificates. It's a plus.*



## **Honouring Vivian and her Team of Sponsors who were there at the beginning!**

Ubuhle Bezwe wouldn't be where it is today without Vivian Mesenger and her very dedicated team of Sponsors.

Vivian and team adopted Ubuhle Bezwe in the early stages of its formation and made it a part of their lives for over 20 years, supporting our children in every aspect as though they were theirs, and helping build our home as though it was theirs. They helped us build it to what it is today.

Viv has been one of our strongest support pillars for the longest time and we honour and salute her. Vivian has officially retired from her work here at Ubuhle Bezwe after over 2 decades of service at the blessed age of 82.

We celebrate Vivian and her team of Sponsors. She, and her team, committed over 20 years of their lives, their time, their attention, as well as their resources to Ubuhle Bezwe.

Vivian is an extremely loyal and progressive person who believes strongly in education and helping others. We are by no chance the only beneficiaries of her love, generosity, support and kindness. She believes in giving more than you receive,



Vivian and Barbara outside Ubuhle Bezwe back in 2023.



The little farewell party we put together for our dearest Vivian.

putting yourself in a position to help others - instead of asking for help, she is extremely hard working and as such believes in hard work. She is extremely considerate, thoughtful and friendly. On the day she retired from her long standing service at Ubuhle Bezwe, she gave us a document/report she put together for us and so we will share it on this Annual Report Newsletter.

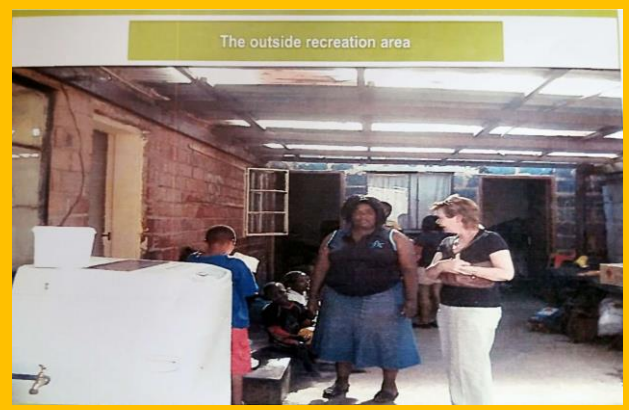
## THE HOME IN 2007

When we took the home over, please note the following:-

- there was no bathroom, only one outside cold water tap
- the children bathed outside in buckets with warm water from the urn
- there was only one outside toilet
- There was no geyser for water
- At the back of the house was a wooden Zozo hut, which accommodated 22 boys. This was completely rotten at the bottom. The children slept on the floor, so when it rained their bedding got wet.
- At one time there were five sick babies in bed. These babes were all only drinking black rooibos tea as there was no formula. There was also a two week old boy, whose Mother of 14 was raped!



The Outside area where the dishes were washed.



The outside recreation area



The first Jungle gym.

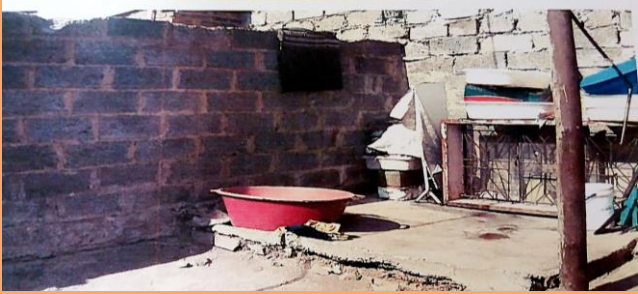
In April, I obtained a history of each child – the stories are horrendous.

All children are orphaned or abandoned.

- One baby was locked in a room and the mother only came home at night, if at all. The neighbours climbed through a window to rescue him and left Ubuhle's details behind. This child now goes to school.

Another child was left at the school by his parents, the Teacher noticed him and brought him to her home for a week before taking him to Ubuhle – he actually slept at the school for a week!

Last year there were four little girls (3/10/13/14 years old) who had been raped. The 13 and 14 year old girls had been raped by relatives and were pregnant!! They only stayed a short time.



*The area where the children washed themselves.*



*The rotten wendy house where the boys slept.*



*The area where the children play.*



*The only outside toilet.*



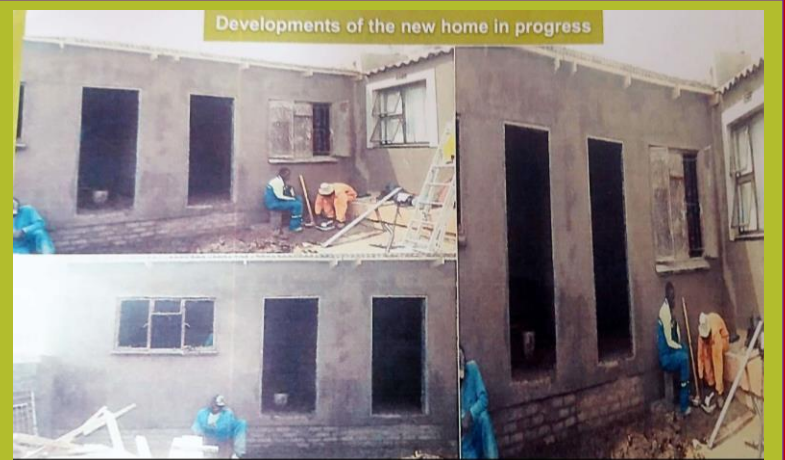
*The boy in the orange tshirt is doing his second year at Varsity. The girl in the white shirt passed her matric this year. The boy in the black jumpsuit is attending at a Private school.*



*Barbara, the house mother outside the old house.*



*Construction of the new home.*

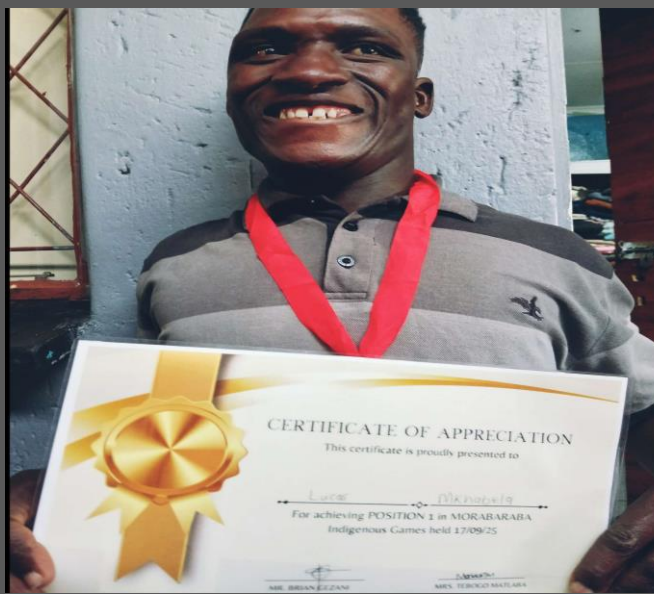


*The New Home Vivian is speaking about here is our current home 222 Libya Street.*

Per the previous slide,  
this is the back of  
the home where  
additional bedrooms  
have been built.



Despite his  
disabilities, Lucas  
always has  
a smile!



Lucas in 2025. Still keeping the biggest smile, still working hard and still being a high achiever.



Viv at our little Farewell party.



Vivian and Barbara, well over 20 years later.

I have sent you some photos from my phone – like my farewell party. The best would be to copy photos to my comments – eg there is a photo of the outside toilet.

I will just add my comments and maybe you can add these to the photos you have received.

I can't believe that the orphanage is now 20 years old! When I think of the humble beginnings, when Barbara and Andries Sepota opened up their home to 6 children who were living out of dustbins. Within a year Barbara was caring for 20 children and battling for funds. We at Sasfin heard of this home, at the time we were giving under privileged children a Christmas party. During that time Nashua, Head Office in Rivonia were sponsors, and continue to be one.

At that time there was only 1 toilet. The children washed outside with a bucket of water before going to school.

The boys lived in a rotten Wendy house, and when it rained all their bedding got wet. During that time Claudia Lord from Sasfin organised a golf day and we were able to build on 3 showers and 3 toilets. Also a dormitory for the girls to sleep in.

Recently the home moved to a rented property not far away in Libya Street. I believe this property is in the process of being transferred into Ubuhe's name.

Once again thanks to our Sponsors we were able to increase their living space and add more toilets. The Presbyterian Church in Edenvale had a maintenance crew who repaired the home from time to time. Maintenance is ongoing with 40 or more children in a small home.

In December this year I stopped assisting the home. And Barbara gave me a very emotional send off with flowers and cake, and even hand written notes from the children.

Luckily 3 of my Sponsors continue to support the home, and thanks to this we continue to pay monthly into their 1<sup>st</sup> National account.

Thanks goes to Barbara and her husband, for their continued commitment. Barbara you are a STAR and may Ubuhe Orphanage continue under your guidance. Vivian Mesenger

We asked Vivian for a few words for the Annual Report Newsletter, and above are her words



Thank you for Everything to Vivian and her great Team of Sponsors!! You all did a marvellous Job! God is always Good.

## Dimakatso Passes Matric

Dimakatso was an infant when her mother came with her to Ubhle Bezwe. Her mother, a child herself, had nowhere to go with Dimakatso, so we took them in.

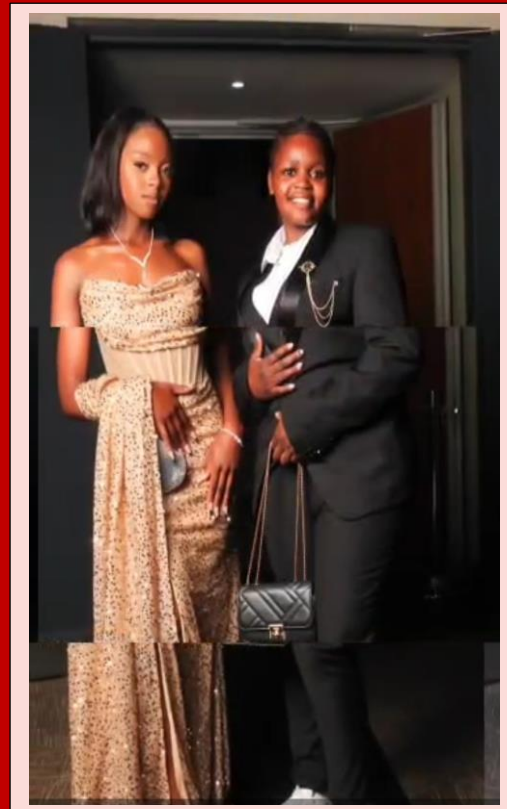
Dimakatso grew up at Ubhle Bezwe, she was under one year old and she is turning 19. Growing up, she was very sweet, with a big smile that brightened the day. In the mist of all the



challenges she faced, she managed not to lose the smile, and that is a very beautiful thing.

She worked very hard when she was in grade 11 and she worked even harder when she was in Matric. As her guardians, we are very pleased with her efforts and we congratulate her on this very important achievement! For reaching this milestone in her life. We will continue to support her on her journey to university and to do our part in making sure that we position her for success in her life. Thank you to everyone who supported her, thank you to Angela Ferguson who bought Dimakatso her Matric Dance outfit with very little notice, and thank you to everyone who supports Ubhle Bezwe. Because of your support, it becomes possible for us to keep serving our children and to make positive changes in their lives. We ask for all of you to please support Dimakatso on her Journey to University.

**Congratulations Dimakatso, well Done girl!!**



## Nelson Mandela Day (18 June 2025)

“I am because we are”- success, humanity, and dignity are only complete when they uplift others.

“Ubuntu does not mean that people should not enrich themselves. The question therefore is: are you going to do so in order to enable the community around you to be able to improve?”

-- Nelson Mandela

This Nelson Mandela day 2025, was full of love and support. Nelson Mandela Day is a very big day on our calendar because it's the one day that all the children get to be spoiled with treats, fun, food, gifts, love and attention, it is a very special day for our children, and home.

We always hope that donors do not make Nelson Mandela Day a once-off thing, but that Ubhle Bezwe will continue to receive support from the people, organisations, and companies consistently. Our home looks like a true hive of activity on Nelson Mandela Day. We hope to build lasting relationships with each person who has helped us.

We express our deepest gratitude and appreciation to everyone who showed their love and support on Nelson Mandela day.

- Netcare
- Dinkindja Legacy NPO
- Mfundopedia
- The Particle Group
- Mustard Outdoors
- Matriach
- GPSSBC
- Africa Skills
- Faith on Fleek
- Heart and Stroke Foundation
- All Stars Bets
- Amis
- Orchem
- Mutun
- PepsCo

## Family Fun Day Charity Initiative (Dinkindja Legacy NPO)

“It takes a village to raise a child.”

A child does not only belong to his/her parents and family, but he/she also belongs to the village, the community.

As Bantu people, the Sesotho have a saying: ‘Motho ha lahlwe’, which translates to: ‘a human is not thrown away’.

This then begs question: As Bantu people living in one village/community, why are our orphanages all full? Who do all these children belong to? What happened to Ubuntu? What happened to Motho ha lahlwe? What happened to “it takes a village to raise a child? We have clearly lost our ways, and therefore it would be necessary and essential to remind ourselves of who we really are.

This Family Fun Day Charity Initiative was done with the intentions to remind the community that we are all one family. To ignite the community to support Ubhle Bezwe and other children’s homes in the community. To raise awareness and rally support for all the orphanages that are raising our children. Support for the organisations that are carrying our essential community work.

The Family Fun Day Charity Initiative was to gather members of the community, and sponsors. To have an amazing, fun-filled day, spoiling all the children of the community as one big family. The secondary purpose was to raise funds and support (in



The Village Babies... #Family



Everyone got a chance to be a Super Star get their 5 minutes of fame.

various forms) for the orphanages and child centres in our community. The initiative included 100 children from 2 charities, Ubuhle Bezwe Child Care Centre, and Bula-Mahlo Home and Day Care. The initiative is driven by Dinkindja Legacy NPO, a community development centred organisation based in our community, Isivana, Tembisa.

The day was a wonderful success filled with laughter and joy.

Our most grateful thanks to Dinkindja Legacy NPO for initiating this Fun Day. We thank Angela Ferguson for her generous contribution. We appreciate you, and we hope that the initiative grows, boosting long lasting relationships with old and new sponsors. The importance of the Family Fun Day was only too clear clear and showed a deep need in the community for fellowship and mutual upliftment.



## Appreciation

We are extremely humbled by all the love and support that we have received from all our donors, supporters, friends, churches, individuals and companies. Our full time sponsors are the reason we can continue to keep Ubuhle Bezwe open and put food on the table.

We would love to show our appreciation and say thank you to:

***Vivian Mesanger, Chemgrit (now Nyeleti), TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, Beth Sheasby, Peter Sheasby, Helen Fraser & Jade Copans (Nashua Children's Charity Foundation), Bronwyn Hattingh & PepsiCo, Angela Ferguson, Antoinette Badenhorst (Special Steels), Xoli Dlamini, Lindiwe Kabini & Multotec, Justin Blend & Africrest Properties, Sharlene Swart & Netcare, Act of Love Ministries, PICK N PAY (Irene). Thuli Davane & Tembisa Child Welfare, Thawanda & Vuyokazi (Siege), Russell Strike (HAI NPO), Revelation Reach for a Cure, Fikile Mavangwa & The Particle Group.***

We Love and appreciate you with all our hearts. Thanks to your continued support, we are able to continue to carry out our mandate and do what we believe in: caring and supporting disadvantaged children in our community, and being a pillar of hope.



*PepsiCo Green Team preparing the land to set up our second shade netting tunnel for our community food garden. We have two community gardens now. Great work PepsiCo!*



Sasko Sam is a longtime friend of ours. In fact Sasko Sam is family.

We would not be here without your support.

May the Almighty God continue to bless your life and lift you to unimaginable heights. We thank you all for all the support and donations; made in kind and in cash. Therefore, on behalf of the children, management and staff of Ubhle Bezwe we say thank you and may you continue to be blessed as we continue our journey in 2026.



## Special Acknowledgement to donors and visitors

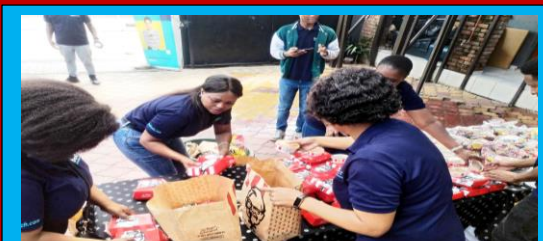
To all our Donors we thank you for the smiles you put on our children's faces, both by visiting them and all the donations made to us. May God continue to bless you, and we look forward to seeing you again 2026.

Thank you to:

Shoprite Soup Kitchen, Independent Regulatory Board for Auditors (IRBA), Sasria, Nashua, Ethafeni Clinic, Christ Embassy Kempton Park, BMW, Nando's Feitoria, Bolttech SA, Bolttech SA, Smart Office Connection, Leica Geosystems, Curro Sagewood Midrand, Rodecon Engineering, C.White, FFS Refiners, Eskom, Tembisa Online, M.Mogapi Attorneys, Fintr, GPSSBC, Africa Skills, Faith on Fleek, Heart and Stoke Foundation SA, Rock of Victory, Zarc, Al Stars Bet, TLC, Brothers, Dis-chem Foundation, Bodhgyashanthi Sanctuary, BMW Motorrad Mini, Tembisa Saps, AMIS; Ethel Vent, Siege, GPSSBC, Dinkindja Legacy NPO, Mfundopedia, Netcare, Orchem, Mutun, Nedbank, Debonairs, Sasko Olifants, Miss Tembisa.



Humohawk gave all of our children eye tests, as well as glasses to those who have eye problems.



The Bolttech Team preparing food for the kids.

## Wish list for 2026

- ❖ Monthly Food (Groceries) support
- ❖ Minibus Taxi (Children's School Transport)
- ❖ Cleaning Material
- ❖ Medical kit
- ❖ Stuff Stipend Sponsor
- ❖ Fire extinguisher replacement/services
- ❖ Water & Electricity monthly support
- ❖ Excursion sponsor
- ❖ School requirements support (Uniform, school shoes, bags, stationery etc)
- ❖ Colour printer
- ❖ i-7 Heavy duty work computer
- ❖ Deep freezer



## Future Plans, goals and Programs

## Raise Them Up! In association with Dinkindja Legacy NPO (Human Transformation Program)

Our 'Raise Them Up!' programme is a Development and Human Transformation project designed by our Admin focusing on our children aged 8 to 20. The purpose of the programme is to expose our children to life changing experiences.

Raise Them Up was designed 4 years ago. However, due to no sponsorship, we have not had the opportunity to implement it fully. Currently we are doing it unofficially on a small scale with the aid of some of our supporters. We have collaborated with Dinkindja Legacy NPO to assist with the execution of some aspects of the school/programme.

The reason and purpose of designing Raise Them Up is because we realised that we need a department that will strictly focus and deal with children development and human transformation, from a holistic approach. To give children the skills, knowledge, experiences, abilities and tools to be great. To invest more time, effort, resources and attention to each child. To expose all our children living at Ubuhle Bezwe to more progressive and empowering experiences, and activities.

The Objectives of Raise Them Up is to:

- ✓ Create and improve social development in the community through child development, children mentorship, edutainment, sports, tourism, academic support and spiritual growth and understanding.
- ✓ Have regular fun days for orphans, so that they may be able to integrate with other children in the community.
- ✓ Provide opportunities for parents who can't afford to entertain and bond with their kids.
- ✓ Acts as a channel that unites absent parents with their children if need be.
- ✓ Create a social Brother/Sisterhood, by training the children at an early age to support each other: always, under all circumstances. To build a stronger community, (UNITY IS STRENGTH)



The Babies are locked-In, learning and mastering the art of Biscuit decorating.



Her shirt reads, "Kind people are my kind of people." The future is for those who spread kindness.



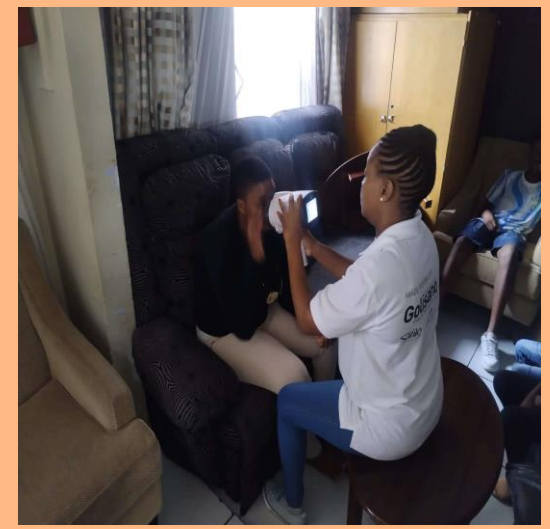
Powerpuff Girls.....

- ✓ Work and collaborate with other Organisations, individuals and companies as channels of opportunity for various aspects of our programme.
- ✓ Provide mentor-ship for the different career fields our older children would like to embark on.
- ✓ Provide training and share knowledge about financial stability and wealth.

How parents choose to raise their children has a profound result on who they become as adults. We want to raise our children to be the future leaders of our country, to be worthy citizens who think, behave and contribute to a better future. It is vital how we choose to raise our children. The environment we create for them and the things we expose them to plays a major role. The mission of Raise Them Up is to create a better community, society and world by focusing on our responsibility as adults on how we raise our children. Adults need to put in a concerted effort on how we raise our children, with the clear comprehension that we are purposefully shaping and creating our world and future, through impacting individual lives.



*Baby Boy turned 1 year in 2025. That's his Birthday cake that he is trying to strangle.*



## Successes and Children's Achievements

We are extremely proud when our children achieve their goals especially in education and in career fields. One of our child is doing her 4<sup>th</sup> and final year at University in 2026. In 2025 we had only one learner in Matric who passed her Matric, she will be going to university soon, and she will need your support for her first year. We also have a few success stories and children from Ubuhle Bezwe who are high achievers and have started their careers:

- ✓ Ayanda Maghagha - doctor.
- ✓ Simphiwe Maghagha - engineer.
- ✓ Portia Tsotesti - teacher.
- ✓ Mpho Mokwena and Nomkhosi Mthiyani - beauticians.
- ✓ Mbali Dubazana - social worker.

Children are the future and when they contribute to society in a positive way Ubuhle Bezwe is proud.



*The BMW Bikers Clubs brought out all the motorbikes. Even the classics.*



Thank you to everyone who supported us in 2025, we ask for your continued support in 2026.

May you have an amazing year!



Every year we make sure that we do a bit of swimming, and have fun. Life is very precious and lets embrace it every chance we get.

