



UTHANDO (LOVE) SOUTH AFRICA

# PROJECTS REPORT 2026

Thank you to “The Tribe” for supporting our community of changemaking social development projects in 2026!



# TABLE OF CONTENTS

About Us.....	1
Stats SA.....	2
Pitch For Peace.....	3
Kind Heart Bench.....	4
Christel House.....	5
Abalimi Bezekhaya.....	6
Ladles of Love.....	7
SEED.....	8
Eyes2Eyes Foundation.....	9
IsiXhosa Youth Choirs.....	10

# ABOUT US



## UTHANDO (LOVE) SOUTH AFRICA

Uthando (Love) South Africa, is a South African Public Benefit Organisation, operating in the tourism industry, as a Fair-Trade Non-Profit Company, linking the tourism supply-chain, to a broad spectrum of impactful & inspiring community development projects, that are making a difference on the ground, within under-resourced communities.

## WE ARE AFRICA'S PARTNERSHIP WITH UTHANDO

Uthando (Love) South Africa is profoundly grateful to the team at We Are Africa, for their generosity, trust & ongoing support since 2016.

Last year, our organisation received R466 125 from "The Tribe", which helped us support 16 initiatives across food-security, education, shelter, arts & culture, healthcare, & animal-welfare!

This year, "The Tribe" has raised R493 500, which will support 10 initiatives across food-security, healthcare, skills-development, education, sports, arts & culture.

**To learn about this years projects & impact, read the pages that follow.**

## SOUTH AFRICA TODAY

A rising cost of living (3.1%) in conjunction with a substantial unemployment rate (31.4%) in South Africa, highlights the challenges millions of people are facing in obtaining their basic necessities. Uthando has partnered with changemakers on the ground, shining a light on their incredible work, so that we can create a South Africa where people can thrive, despite the high levels of inequality experienced in our society.

## STATS SA

Poverty Rate (56.8%)

Definition: Inability to afford basic necessities, including: food, clean water, shelter, clothing, and income.

- **Food-security** (As of 2024 statistics) : 14% of households reported inadequate access, and 8.2% reported severe inadequacy
- **Cost of Living** : 3.1% increase over the last 12 months, ending March 2026
- **Unemployment Rate** : 31.4%
- **Secondary School Completion Rate** : 68.3%

## PITCH FOR PEACE: VANGUARD PRIMARY SCHOOL

### Impact Area: Sport

At Uthando, we utilise sport as a tool, to make a difference in the lives of youth who are living in vulnerable communities. “A child in sport, is a child out of court”

Pitches For Peace 5-a-side soccer pitches, are spaces in vulnerable communities, where youth can experience joy, be safe, develop their motor skills, & their life skills i.e. team-work, discipline, & honesty.

This year, We Are Africa & “The Tribe” have funded the Vanguard Primary School 5-a-side Soccer “Pitch For Peace”, in Heideveld, Cape Town! Through this development, Vanguard Primary School will compete in the interschools league that we are currently in the process of planning, fostering long-term youth participation & sporting opportunities.



WAA Pitch At Vanguard Primary School



Completed Pitch At Blomvlei Primary School

## KIND HEART BENCH

[www.kindheartbench.co.za](http://www.kindheartbench.co.za)

### Impact Area: Mental Health

Across many South African communities, the silent weight of mental health challenges continue to grow, often compounded by loneliness, stigma, and limited access to immediate support.

For many, there are no safe or accessible spaces to pause, reflect, or simply be heard in moments of emotional distress. The Kind Heart Bench Project, based in Cape Town, responds to this need with a simple yet powerful intervention: creating visible, welcoming spaces that invite connection, compassion, and support.

More than just a bench, each installation serves as a gentle beacon of hope, offering practical resources such as emergency contacts and coping techniques, while encouraging human connection in its most natural form. In doing so, the project transforms public spaces into places where kindness begins, conversations unfold, and lives can be quietly, yet meaningfully, supported.

To We Are Africa & “The Tribe”, we thank you for donating your 2<sup>nd</sup> bench, and spreading the support for those suffering with mental challenges!



A Kind Heart Bench unveiling at Blomevlei Primary School

## CHRISTEL HOUSE SCHOOL, SOUTH AFRICA [www.sa.christelhouse.org](http://www.sa.christelhouse.org)

### Impact Area: Education

Christel House South Africa, based in Ottery, Cape Town, is committed to breaking the cycle of poverty (56.8% RSA) through a holistic approach to education, developing the mind, body, and spirit of every learner. What sets the model apart is that it directly removes the financial barriers that prevent so many children from accessing quality education, by covering the full cost of schooling, including tuition, meals, healthcare, transport, and essential support. Christel House ensures that a child's ability to learn is never limited by their family's economic circumstances. In the context of South Africa's current education landscape, where financial pressure often forces difficult trade-offs for families, this approach is critical.

Many learners face challenges that go far beyond the classroom, making it difficult to stay engaged and succeed academically. Christel House's holistic approach with each learner, ensures that the impact of domestic challenges can be managed effectively.

By addressing socio-economic obstacles and providing consistent, long-term support, Christel House creates the conditions for learners to fully focus on their education. The result is not only improved academic outcomes, but real pathways to upward economic mobility!

To We Are Africa & "The Tribe", thank you for investing in the next generation of South African leaders!



## ABALIMI BEZEKHAYA (FARMERS OF HOME)

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

### Impact Area: Skills Development, Food-Security & Entrepreneurship

Abalimi Bezekhaya, based in Khayelitsha, Cape Town, is a community-driven urban agriculture initiative focused on improving food security, economic-security, and strengthening local resilience across Cape Town's most vulnerable communities.

By providing unskilled individuals with agriculture training, resources, and access to markets, Abalimi enables individuals, many of them women, to grow fresh, organic produce both for their households and for income generation.

In areas where access to affordable, nutritious food is limited and unemployment (31.4%) remains high, this work is deeply impactful. Abalimi not only addresses immediate needs around hunger, but also creates pathways for economic participation and self-reliance.

By turning under-utilised land into productive, life-sustaining gardens, Abalimi Bezekhaya helps communities take ownership of their food systems, restoring dignity, promoting sustainability, and planting the seeds for long-term social and economic growth.

Thank you We Are Africa & "The Tribe", for investing in this incredible project, offering skills, & long-term resources to the next generation of urban farmers!



# PROJECT



## LADLES OF LOVE [www.ladlesoflove.org.za](http://www.ladlesoflove.org.za)

### Impact Area: Food-Security

Ladles of Love, based in Cape Town, is tackling one of South Africa's most pressing challenges i.e. food insecurity, through large-scale meal provision.

What began as a small act of kindness, has grown into a powerful movement, delivering millions of nutritious meals, to vulnerable communities, while mobilising volunteers from all walks of life.

A notable campaign which they call "Nourish Our Children" ensures that children receive two nutritious meals every day at preschools, creating a solid foundation to do well in the classroom.

In a country where many families face daily uncertainty around their next meal (poverty headcount 56.8%), the work of Ladles of Love is vital. It demonstrates how collective action, driven by compassion and purpose, can create meaningful, tangible change at scale, one meal at a time.

Thank you We Are Africa & "The Tribe", for investing in the nutritional wellbeing of young children across Cape Town!



## SEED (SCHOOLS ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION & DEVELOPMENT)

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

### Impact Area: Sustainability

SEED, based in Cape Town, focuses on equipping young people with the knowledge and practical skills to live more sustainably. Through hands-on environmental education, SEED works with schools and communities to establish food gardens, teach permaculture principles, and inspire a deeper understanding of the natural world.

At the heart of their work is the belief that education must extend beyond the classroom. By engaging youth in growing food, caring for the environment, and understanding ecological systems, SEED empowers them with tools that support both personal development and community resilience.

In a country facing challenges around food security (poverty headcount 56.8%), unemployment (31.4%), and environmental degradation, SEED's work is deeply relevant. It nurtures a generation that is not only more conscious of the planet, but also better equipped to create sustainable livelihoods, turning knowledge into action, and action into long-term impact.

Thank you We Are Africa & "The Tribe", for investing & fostering sustainable futures for our youth across Cape Town!



SEED at Rocklands Primary School

## EYES2EYES FOUNDATION [www.eyes2eyes.org.za](http://www.eyes2eyes.org.za)

### Impact Area: Healthcare

The Eyes2Eyes Foundation, based in Cape Town, South Africa, is dedicated to restoring the sight of South Africans living with curable corneal blindness, but are unable to afford the cost of surgery. Through fund raising efforts, Eyes2Eyes change lives, by providing people with an opportunity to experience the world in all of its beauty.

Beyond surgery, the organisation's work carries a deeper impact. Restoring vision opens the door to education, independence, and long-term opportunity, fundamentally altering the trajectory of a person's life. It also supports families, relieving the emotional and financial strain that often accompanies preventable or treatable blindness.

In a country where access to advanced eye care is limited for many, Eyes2Eyes plays a critical role. It demonstrates how targeted medical intervention, combined with compassion and purpose, can transform not just eyesight, but futures.

Thank you We Are Africa & "The Tribe", for assisting the Eyes2Eyes foundation with fundraising for Siyanda Matika's corneal surgery! Siyanda lives in Gqeberha, South Africa.



Siyanda Matika

## ISIXHOSA YOUTH CHOIRS

### Impact Area: Arts & Culture

Unemployment affects 31.4% of South African's, with a large portion being youth. Music is a tool to create employment, while fostering community & joy.

Every year, We Are Africa books our partnering isiXhosa Choirs for performances at the annual tradeshow, and beyond financial support, it is an opportunity for these choirs to showcase themselves to audience of buyers present.

Thank you We Are Africa for booking the following Choir Roster for the 2026 tradeshow:

- Isibane Se Afrika (The Light of Afrika) Choir [www.isibaneseafrika.org](http://www.isibaneseafrika.org)
- Major Voices Choir [www.majorvoices.co.za](http://www.majorvoices.co.za)
- Ithemba (Hope) Youth Choir [www.ithembayouthchoir.net](http://www.ithembayouthchoir.net)

