

Focus on iThemba *End of Year Report 2017*

Focus on iThemba (RF) NPC is an accredited non-profit, public benefit (18A) organisation - a place of Hope
www.focusonithemba.org +27 31 710 1800



FOCUS ON ITHEMBA
111 NGWELE ROAD, HILLCREST
KWAZULU-NATAL, SOUTH AFRICA

COMPANY REGISTRATION NO: 2003/009035/08
NON-PROFIT ORGANISATION NO: 035-958-NPO
PUBLIC BENEFIT ORGANISATION (PBO) NO. 930003051

Who we are



Creating
choice
and
opportunity.



UPDATED GOALS

OUR GOALS

- To identify and collaborate with Friends & Donors with common passions and connect them with our programmes and initiatives to experience the contagious joy of giving.
- To expand our Early Childhood Development Programme to ensure more little children receive quality age-appropriate education within their first 1000 Days and beyond.
- To engage with our community by sharing knowledge, building partnerships and thereby uplifting the crèches.
- To expand our iThemba Scholars Programme to broaden the opportunity for previously disadvantaged boys and girls to attend Waterfall Preparatory and Waterfall College and to guide them through their 12 year educational journey.
- To ensure our iThemba foster children have continued support for their education and tertiary training through to their early adult years.
- To continue creating an indigenous haven for flora and fauna on the iThemba Campus.
- To ensure the organisation is sustainable over the long term and to prioritize effective communication with our Friends & Donors.

OUR STORY AND FOCUS

OUR PILLARS

A place of Hope exists. In 2003, Danie van den Heever and his wife Judy established a haven for hope near Hillcrest in KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa. Realising the need for positive change for South Africa's youth they drove the process to form Focus on iThemba. 'iThemba' is the isiZulu word for 'hope'.

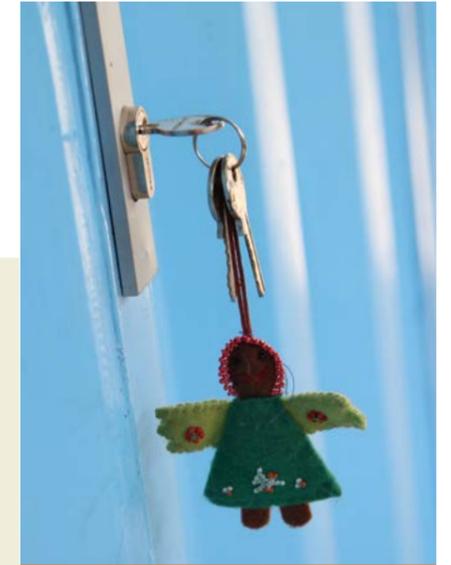
Danie, a successful businessman and executive CEO, is involved on a voluntary basis and does not draw any salary for his work at Focus on iThemba. The business skills of Danie have been instrumental in ensuring that Focus on iThemba has a sustainable impact on the surrounding community today. The organisation was built on the values to raise leaders who will have a positive impact on future generations to come. The 48 acre iThemba Campus sits adjacent to Embo Valley and is ideally situated for working with previously disadvantaged children in the rural area of Hillcrest.

Focus on iThemba has five main pillars which steer and root this non-profit organisation: iThemba Community, iThemba Scholars, iThemba Homes, iThemba Campus and iThemba Friends & Donors.



Founders Danie and Judy

Overview



Catalyst
for
contagious
joy.



#MyFirst1000Days

Early Childhood Development



ECD
is
Everyone's
Business.



EMPOWERING AND UPLIFTING

ITHEMBA COMMUNITY

Focus on iThemba believes in the power of Education and more research is highlighting the significance of the first 1000 days of a child's life in terms of crucial brain development. We currently work alongside eight crèches in the Valley of 1000 Hills and Molweni areas to ensure tomorrow's generation gets the best start today.

- The model aims to upgrade existing crèches to become legal and sustainable businesses.
- The children receive quality ECD care enabling them to thrive at later Foundation Phase Schooling.
- The Principals and teachers receive support, training and mentorship.

The model is holistic in nature with its core strength being our ECD Monitor, Khanya Gama. She spreads her time across the various crèches and at our iThemba offices. Her role is vital as she provides support and motivation and ensures that the training is being implemented correctly.

The 8 crèches we are in partnership with are: Embo Child Educare Centre; Swelihle Crèche; Sizakancane Crèche; Siyajabula Crèche; Entokozweni Crèche; Sthandokuhle Crèche; Smiley Kids Day-Care and Siyabaphephisa Crèche.

We continue to partner with excellent, respected organizations to achieve our goals:
ECD TEACHER TRAINING - NELRU (23 teachers received training in 2017)
MANAGEMENT TRAINING - Ikhono Business Solutions
NUTRITION - Joint Aid Management (JAM)
EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS & EQUIPMENT - The Unlimited Child

The official opening ceremony of Bright Zondi's crèche, Siyabaphephisa, in Molweni on Monday 31 July was a festive and poignant occasion. Siyabaphephisa Crèche, meaning 'we are keeping children safe' in isiZulu, caters for 35 children from babies to 4 years. Designed by Lead Architects, it is a unique cheerful welcoming space utilizing three brightly painted shipping containers for classrooms including an astro-turf play area. The original crèche had been operating in temporary facilities which were far from ideal. The team at Focus on iThemba with the support from 13 donors came together to create a new exceptional facility which has far surpassed Bright's dreams. We are excited that renovations are currently in progress for Sthandokuhle Crèche and upgrades to Siyajabula included landscaping, a vegetable garden being planted and new kitchen equipment.

Our team visited Swelihle Crèche in July for Nelson Mandela Day where we donated books and read to the children. This was a fantastic team building event.

#DeepGiving

iThemba Scholars Scholarships

A 12 YEAR EDUCATIONAL JOURNEY

ITHEMBA SCHOLARS

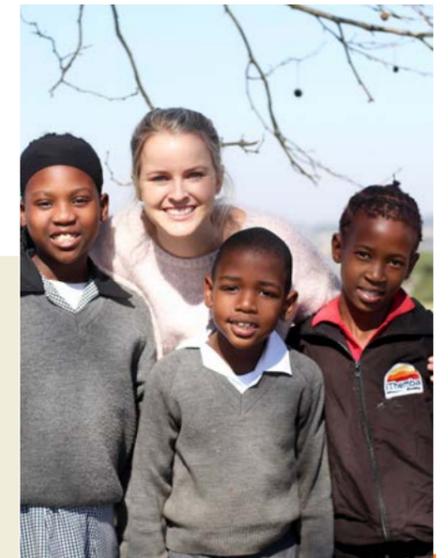
From 2016 we initiated the iThemba Scholars programme where scholarships are offered to attend Waterfall Schools to learners from our ECD partners who demonstrate the potential to thrive academically.

Located on our iThemba Campus, Waterfall Schools, encompassing Waterfall Pre-Primary, Waterfall Preparatory and Waterfall College, offer quality education from 6 months to Grade 12. These co-educational independent centres of excellence provide quality holistic education with a caring, innovative, personalized approach interwoven with Christian values, community outreach initiatives and affordability. Looking ahead the schools have an ambitious masterplan which is currently being implemented.

The appeal and uniqueness of the iThemba Scholarship programme is that the recipients will receive 12 years of funding to attend Waterfall Preparatory and Waterfall College from Grade 1 to Grade 12. The schools are members of ISASA (Independent Schools Association of South Africa). For more information on the trio of schools please visit: www.waterfallcollege.co.za and to view the Masterplan video. Our objective is to fundraise for the iThemba Scholars Scholarship Fund. From 2018 we aim to support **eight boys and girls**. The Fund will collectively support two children annually commencing their schooling from Grade 1 level. Current iThemba Academy pupils have been selected for scholarships for 2018 with two commencing their journey this year.

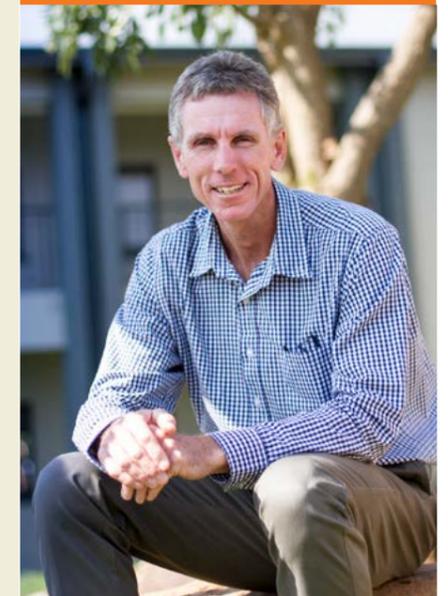


iThemba Campus



"Waterfall Prep is extremely excited and committed to embrace the iThemba Scholars Programme. The programme aligns with our school values and our goal to make a positive and tangible impact in the lives of children who reside in our nearby communities."

Brad Cooper, Headmaster



#FoundationOfLove

iThemba Kids and Fledglings



Love and support



GROWING HEARTS

ITHEMBA HOMES

For over ten years, Focus on iThemba has been involved with cluster foster care for orphaned and vulnerable children on the iThemba Campus. From 2016 the iThemba Homes concept was adapted into the **Esther Model**. This model allows families who wish to foster an iThemba child to do so in their own home.

Focus on iThemba provides professional support for the family through our Social Worker, Lunga Mazeka, and the funds required for education, clothing and food. Our original iThembaKids (foster children) have mostly completed their schooling with a few finishing their Grade 12 studies. We continue to support and love our Fledglings who are currently completing their tertiary studies.

Update on our Fledglings:

From December 2017, four of our fledglings will reside in a flat in Pinetown near to transport and their places of study. Three of our iThembaKids are currently in Grade 12 and they have all been accepted to attend Varsity College in 2018 to study towards a degree in Bachelor of Commerce (Business Management), Bachelor of Commerce (Law) and a diploma in Sports Management respectively.

It brings us much joy and encouragement to witness how these resilient children, who have overcome so many obstacles in their young lives, are now walking a road to independence.

Lunga meets regularly with the foster parents and children to access their social, emotional and academic progress. We continue to fundraise to support these families and to ensure these special children and our fledglings receive quality educational support

ITHEMBA CAMPUS

Our 48 acre iThemba Campus continues to be an indigenous haven for flora and fauna. Last year marked a significant turning point at Focus on iThemba with the opening of our state of the art Waterfall Pre-Primary school. This success story is indicative of the great need for quality affordable schooling in the Waterfall and Hillcrest areas.

#TogetherWeAreStronger

Heroes of Hope

OUR FRIENDS AND DONORS

Waterfall Preparatory School welcomed its first pupils in January 2017 from Grade R to Grade 3 and in 2018 Waterfall Preparatory will welcome Grade 4 to Grade 7 pupils. The Waterfall Pre & Preparatory School and Waterfall College are part of the greater sustainability programme for the future of Focus on iThemba as the occupation of these classroom buildings will result in funding being raised for Focus on iThemba into the future. We aim to be the best schools in the area for quality, personalised, IEB education where children can thrive. As such Focus on iThemba is now looking to build the required road infrastructure within the iThemba Campus and to enhance the schools offerings. We invite you to partner with us in developing our sustainability model through the funding of this infrastructure, and would **love you to visit our exciting new educational Campus**.

ITHEMBA FRIENDS AND DONORS

Our friends and donors continue to be the catalyst that enables Focus on iThemba to achieve our goals. We are extremely grateful for each and every gift we have received and we are committed to ensure that your gifts will bear much fruit in the lives of children in the years that lie ahead.

All our finances are externally audited and we are proud to mention that once again this year we received an unqualified audit from Baker Tilly Morrison Murray. Focus on iThemba is a Public Benefit Organisation (PBO) this allows donations received to be tax deductible. In addition we are BBBEE compliant and have up-to-date BBBEE certificates available to donors. Our Friends from the USA are able to donate through our accredited 501(c)(3) educational foundation company, Friends of iThemba, which provides an opportunity to receive tax deductions. *To support us and to make a positive difference in the lives of children please refer to our contact details on back page.*



BBBEE Workshop Attendees



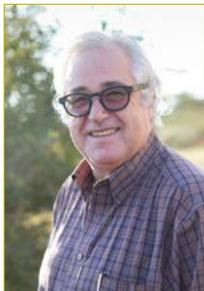
Life-altering positive change.



#TeamworkMakesTheDreamWork

One of our core strengths is our professional team who have an inherent passion for non-profit work and for making a significant difference to South Africa's youth.

Our Team



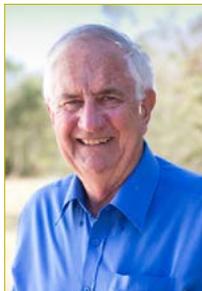
* Danie van den Heever
CEO and Founder



Tayla Blades
DONOR RELATIONS MANAGER



* Camilla Blomfield
MARKETING



* Gavin Kruger
STRATEGIC VOLUNTEER



Khanya Gama
ECD MONITOR

Staff Development

Tayla Blades attended a Bequest and CRM workshop

Khanya Gama attended ECD related workshops

Lunga Mazeka has attended Social Worker workshops



* Lunga Mazeka
SOCIAL WORKER



Prudence Mbambo
HOUSEKEEPING



* Mariska Paul
BUSINESS MANAGER



* Gavin Simpkins



* Rikki Thoreson
MARKETING



Lene Venter
FINANCE

* Part-time

Our Board Members

Danie van den Heever
Judy van den Heever
Ronel Goosen
Richard Stanley
Patrick Tsele
Rudi van den Heever
Anthony Gibb

Focus on iThemba Founder and CEO
Focus on iThemba Founder
DanCor CFO
Headmaster at The Ridge – Johannesburg
Pastor
DanCor Development Director
DanCor COO

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