



***Rays of Hope***

**PARTNERING WITH  
ALEXANDRA  
TO CREATE  
LASTING  
CHANGE**



**VISION:**  
Partnering with Alex to create lasting change

**MISSION:**  
Building mutually transforming relationships to realise individual potential, creating opportunities for development to independence

**RAY'S OF HOPE** started operating in Alexandra Township 28 years ago. There is now a network of nine community-based programmes, impacting over 2 600 people. We are partnering with over 30 Alex-based organisations, and funding organisations in South Africa at large, to ensure the sustainability of programmes in Alex.

### 3 FOCUS AREAS

#### Moving to independence

**ORPHANS & VULNERABLE CHILDREN**  
We walk alongside to bring hope, health and dignity through nurturing and equipping.

**EDUCATION**  
We bridge educational gaps through thoughtful and purposeful intervention.

**WORK READINESS**  
We unlock economic potential via learnership, technical skills, mentoring and life skills

**OUR VALUES:**  
“Love your Neighbour”, Partnership, Sustainability, Reconciliation



# GET TO KNOW OUR PROGRAMMES

## EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT

### Laying a solid platform

**THE EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT (ECD) programme** partners with caregivers in crèches equipping them with the skills and knowledge to nurture 0-6 year olds so that they can develop and thrive. The focus is on health and the early educational needs of the children laying a solid platform for later learning. A trained ECD practitioner supports the caregivers in their crèches, and a multidisciplinary team of volunteers offers training.

## ITHEMBA LABANTWANA

### Hope for orphaned and vulnerable children

**ITHEMBA LABANTWANA (IL)** programme focuses on over 120 orphaned and vulnerable children living in Alex. While some have a relative or caring adult somewhere in the community, most still live in desperate situations. The IL team partners with family members or caregivers to assess and determine the best possible care plan for each child. They work with schools, authorities and other organisations to best meet these children's needs. Through love, practical care and comprehensive programmes, it is hoped that each child will be able to break the cycle of victimisation, and have a solid foundation on which to build a healthy and fulfilled life. Needs addressed range from emotional support, material provision (food, clothing, shelter and health care) to school assistance, job training and recreational activities.

**SUPPORT GROUPS:** Every week, a girls' support group is run for the young girls that are part of the various programmes. This provides them with a trusting space to talk about issues and concerns, as well as for the facilitator to build meaningful relationships with the young people, and often with their parents and care-givers too. The boys get together with mentors and coaches for a boys support group. This is an activity-based group, that engages in a way that suits the boys, such as playing soccer, chess and other games.

**HOMEWORK CLUB:** For four days every week, homework club is run to encourage at least 75 children to complete the work that they are given at school, as well as providing extra time for one-on-one reading, enrichment exercises and facilitated study time. Every Monday and Wednesday, the little ones (Grade R - 4) come through, and on Tuesday and Thursdays, the Grade 5 - 12 are welcomed.

## ROSE-ACT SATURDAY SCHOOL

Equipping students to reach their potential

**ROSE-ACT** is based at the Central Johannesburg College, Alexandra Campus, where more than 300 students each year from Grades 4-9 are tutored in Maths and English. Students are rewarded for academic achievement throughout the year, and Rose-Act also provides social and spiritual enrichment through holiday clubs, an annual camp and extramural activities. This positively impacts the children's well-being as well as their academic results. The Saturday School encourages the growth of students' self-belief and nurtures hope for a meaningful future.

## IGNITION

Tertiary education and mentoring of matriculants for employment

**IGNITION** aims to light the future dreams of township matriculants by equipping them for meaningful employment through tertiary education, supplemental training and mentoring. The programme selects students who are tenacious and motivated. We provide thorough career guidance, assist with finances where necessary and equip students with the hard skills they need to succeed at university. We invest in their personal development and prepare them for working in professional environments. This is achieved through bi-annual training workshops and one-on-one mentoring. Our aim is to substantially increase their chances of success at tertiary studies, to launch successful life-long careers in order to break the cycle of poverty.

## AlexWorks (Pty) Ltd

Skills development to improve increase employability

**ALEXWORKS (PTY) (LTD)** is a for-profit company founded to provide a sustainable stream of income for Rays of Hope. AlexWorks' strategy is to create sustainable economic independence through skills development. We focus on skills development and work readiness, through the training of life skills, financial literacy and basic business skills. As the company expands, the plan is to deliver literacy and language training to both young and old, and to offer several practical courses, such as sewing and bricklaying.

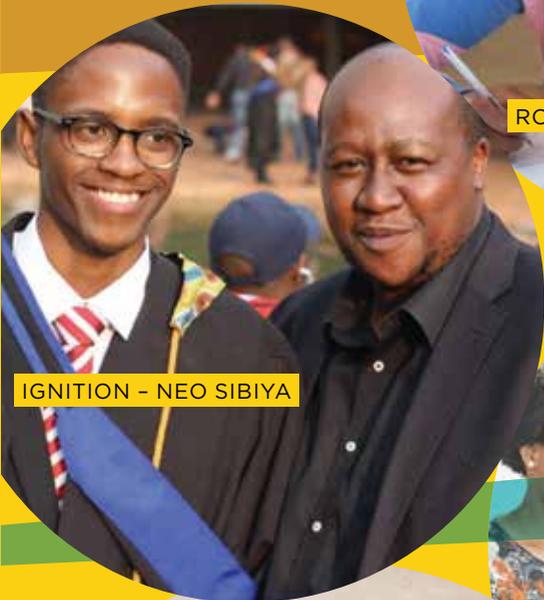
Two sub-programmes operate under AlexWorks:

**Knox**, "the school of hard knocks", constitutes a group of adults who live in Alex and are without formal employment. They meet on a Saturday to receive life coaching from entrepreneurs and business people who support them through life's challenges with counsel and encouragement.

**Depot** trains members of our Ithemba families as well as a few other women from Alex in basic business skills to enable them to earn a living by selling quality second-hand clothing that is donated to Rays of Hope. This provides a hand-up and not a hand-out and restores dignity and self-esteem to the sellers.



ROSE-ACT SATURDAY SCHOOL



IGNITION - NEO SIBIYA



ALEXWORKS



GOGOS OF HOPE



## **GOGOS OF HOPE** Care, encouragement and support of grandmothers caring for orphans

**GOGO-HEADED** households are very common in Alexandra, where grandmothers have lost or buried their children, and become parents once again.

They are the unsung heroes of the community, and fill in the family gap as nurturers for the next generation. The vision for the Gogos of Hope support groups is to provide a place where grannies in Alexandra can be cared for, encouraged and supported, so that they can carry their unexpected and untimely burden effectively. They are also taught skills like crocheting, sewing and beading, which assists them to supplement their income and support their families.

## **HOME-BASED CARE**

Medical care and support to the sick and terminally ill

**THE HOME-BASED CARE (HBC)** team visits the sick and dying in their homes in Alexandra on a weekly basis, in particularly HIV/AIDS patients. They provide advice, comfort, encouragement and spiritual support through prayer and Scripture. Practical items such as food, clothing, bed linen and household equipment are also provided. The HBC team repair and clean the shacks, and take the patients to the clinic or call an ambulance when necessary. They continue to visit patients until they are stable.

## **FOOD DISTRIBUTION PROGRAMME**

What children eat and its nutritional value contributes to both physical health and cognitive development, influencing their school readiness and academic success. Conversely, there is a direct link between food insecurity resulting in weakened immune systems and lower academic scores. Rays of Hope is providing fresh fruits and vegetables nourishing approximately 1 700 beneficiaries on a weekly basis.

# RAYS OF HOPE – THE PERFECT B-BBEE PARTNER

**B-BBEE** is a reality of doing business in South Africa and Rays of Hope have positioned themselves to assist companies to achieve maximum points. Through a partnership of this nature, companies are contributing to the sustainability of the work being done in Alex.

## **OWNERSHIP\*: Partnering with businesses for the long- term**

The Masibambisane (“Partnership”) Empowerment Trust (IT4207/2008) is a broad-based ownership trust can acquire shares in a business. Our beneficiaries are 100% black South Africans.

## **ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT\*: Supporting our blackowned business to grow and operate more efficiently.**

AlexWorks (Pty) Ltd is a 100% black-owned company Level 1 EME (2012/0066416/07), focussed on training and development in Alex.

## **HOW CAN WE PARTNER WITH YOU?**

\* Priority elements on the scorecard

## **SKILLS DEVELOPMENT\*: Upskilling black South Africans in skills needed to change SA.**

Facilitating the upskilling of black South Africans in a variety of fields through bursaries, learnerships and short courses.

## **SOCIO- ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: Getting points for your CSI contribution.**

Rays of Hope is a registered non-profit organisation (063-389-NPO); other donation options include Payroll Giving and the Rays of Hope birthday initiative

## **CONSULTING: Assisting with a company’s scorecard alongside your rating agency**

Rays of Hope is a Section 18A registered organisation (9300 26797 PBO).

For more info: [www.metrust.org.za](http://www.metrust.org.za)  
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## FOR BBBEE-SPECIFIC QUERIES

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**Rays of  
Hope**

## BANKING DETAILS

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Account No: 1972 126 903  
Swift Code: NEDSZAJJ

## US DONATIONS DETAILS

[lovingallnations.org/donate](http://lovingallnations.org/donate)

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