



**The Children's
CARDIAC FOUNDATION**
of Africa

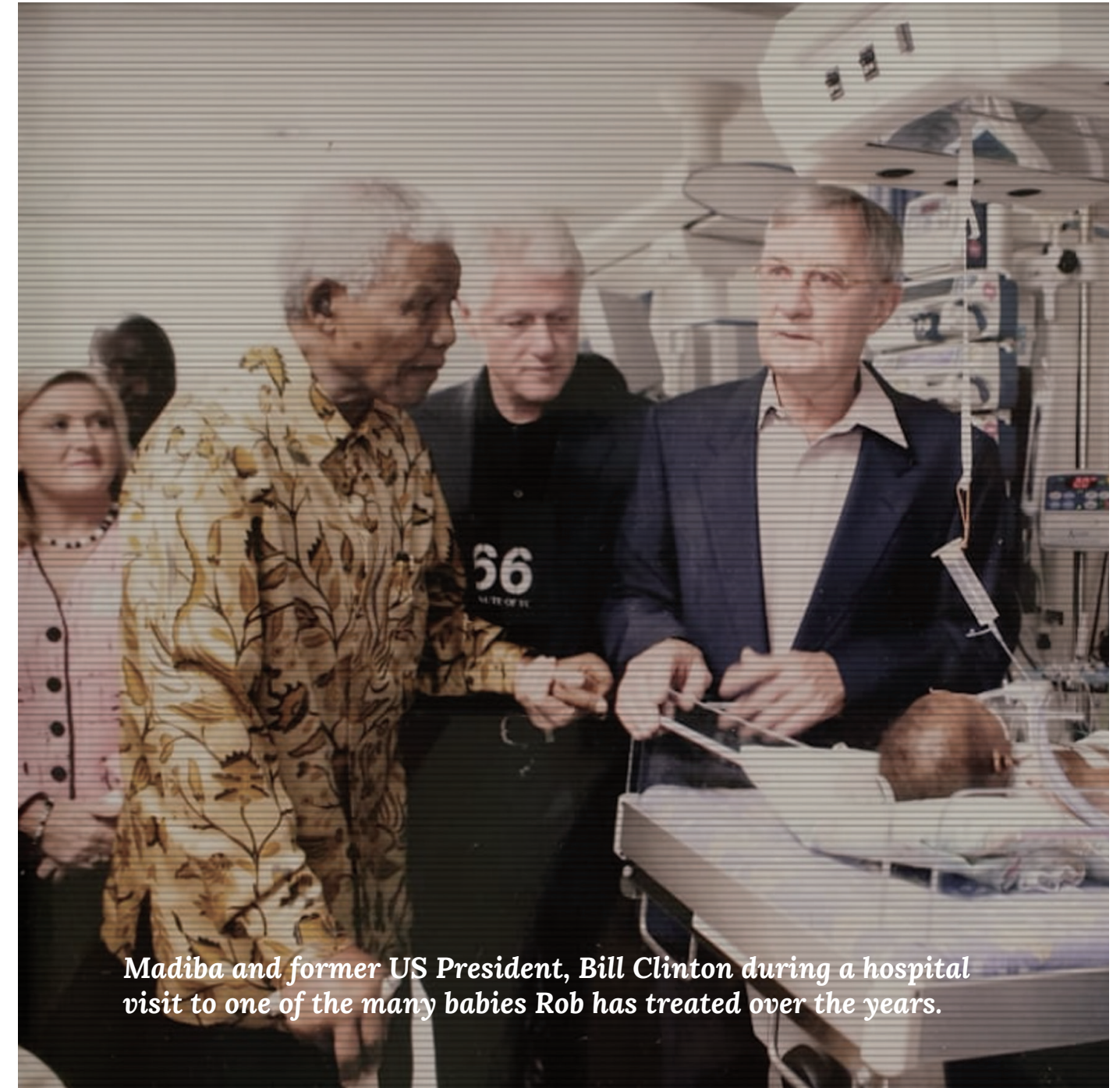


Our Founder – Prof. Robin Kinsley

In his 50-year career, Professor RH Kinsley has performed more than 15,000 heart surgeries. He has trained more than twenty cardiac surgeons who currently practice in South Africa and abroad.

“The heart has always been a symbol of love. A symbol of affection and care. It represents all that is good in life. It represents hope and happiness. The fact that there is still such a high heart-related death rate when it comes to children living on my own continent, is unthinkable to me. My journey has been tough, but so rewarding, and I’ve learned a lot along the way. And some of my greatest teachers have been children. Now, I believe it’s the time in my life to do something really good. All over Africa today there are children who desperately need life-saving heart surgery – and we can give it to them. My dream is to save the lives of children. To heal their broken hearts. To watch them grow up and kick a football around. To grow hope and happiness. And I believe in this dream...with all my heart.”

~ Prof. Robin Kinsley



Madiba and former US President, Bill Clinton during a hospital visit to one of the many babies Rob has treated over the years.

Our Vision

All children born in Africa have access to high-quality heart care.

Our Mission

To save the lives and improve the health of children born with congenital heart disease in Africa, by raising funds for heart surgeries and by training specialists and support staff in the field of paediatric cardiac care.

The Need

One in 100 babies are born with a structural heart defect, making congenital heart disease (CHD) the most common birth defect in the world. It is approximately 60 times more prevalent than childhood cancer and about 25 times more common than cystic fibrosis.

Each year, an estimated 3,000 South African children die or remain disabled, from their diagnosed and treatable CHD. The treatment of the four most common CHD – Atrial and Ventricular Septal Defects, Patent Ductus Arteriosus, and Tetralogy of Fallot – covers approximately half of the need. These children can be treated on an elective basis, transported over long distances to a private facility, and the heart disease is likely resolved, at least for several years or even decades, with one operation or intervention.

Throughout the continent, it is notable that CHD and acquired heart disease has been largely been left to non-governmental organisations, like us, to address. This is due to the challenges around cost, technology, availability of trained personnel, and the expertise required to affect change.

The Children's Cardiac Foundation of Africa as a force for Social Good

The consequences and costs of untreated CHD are considerable. Survivors of CHD without surgical intervention require frequent hospital visits and repeated admissions for the complications of unoperated CHD. The continued need for highly specialised medical treatments places a significant financial and psychological burden on already impoverished caregivers, with up to 15% of families requiring mental health services due to the child's condition. It is even more frustrating for both families and health care personnel when they are aware that effective treatment is possible, but unavailable because of the patient's geographical and economic situation.

Our work with children's heart disease acts as a strong commitment to attending to the health care needs of South African children and families affected by CHD. Better care for these children will not only result in significantly fewer missed school and work days (for parents) but can act as a catalyst to improve paediatric health care nationally, by freeing up resources previously used to treat unoperated CHD patients.





Our Programs

Surgical Program: South Africa

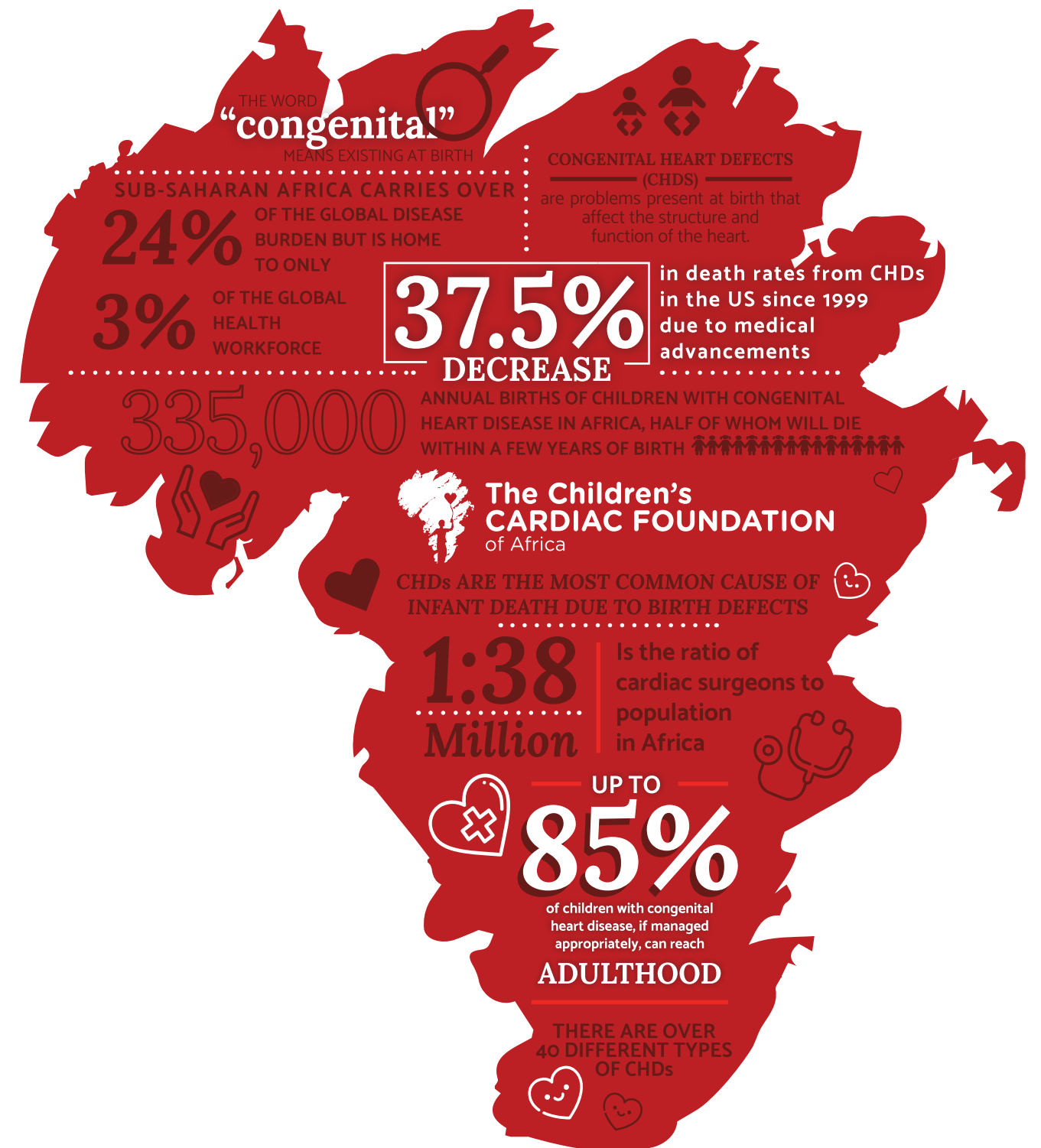
Our model is a public-private collaborative initiative to extend modern paediatric cardiac care to the continent. We utilise excess capacity in a private unit to facilitate surgery for indigent patients who otherwise would have to wait for access to care in a state facility. National waiting lists for paediatric cardiac surgery are currently estimated in excess of 3,000 patients. We aim to reduce the number of children on surgical waiting lists to less than 100 nationally by 2025.

Surgical Program: Rest of Africa

As a South African based organisation, we understand the unique healthcare challenges Africa faces. The Program affords African governments the opportunity to access world-class paediatric cardiac facilities in South Africa, either free of charge or at significantly subsidised rates.

Training Program: Africa

Africa's slow progress in the diagnosis and effective treatment of congenital heart disease in children led us to design a training program which focuses on paediatric cardiac care. Led by Prof. Rob Kinsley, the Program launches later this year and is open to African nationals, presently working in the cardiac field.





Board of Trustees

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Founder. Cardiothoracic Surgeon at Ethekewini Hospital and Heart Centre



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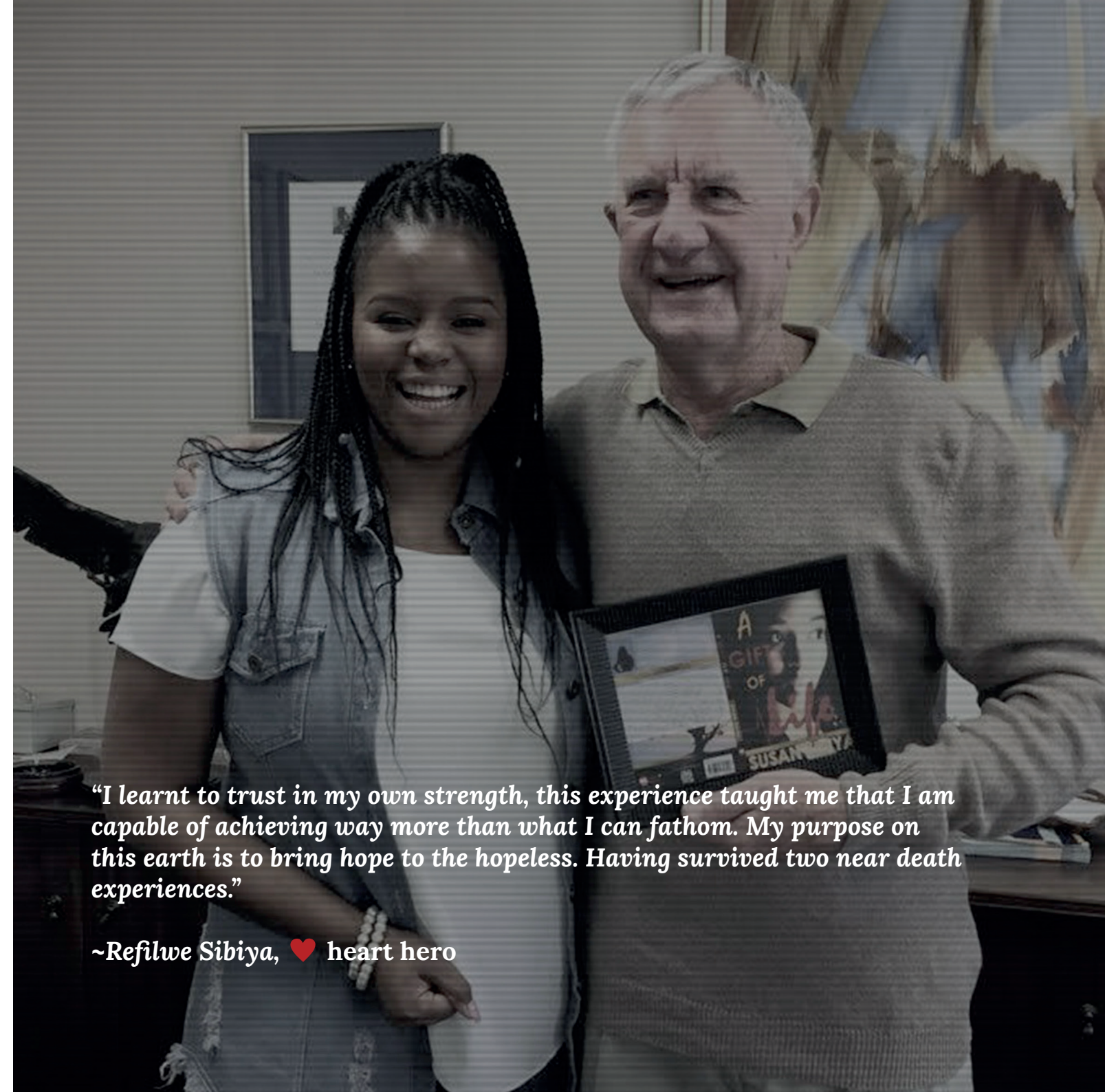
Dr Darshan Reddy

Cardiothoracic Surgeon at Ethekewini Hospital and Heart Centre

Our 2021 Targets

We aim to meet the following targets by 28 February 2021 which marks two years since the Foundation's first open heart surgery in February 2019.

- 300 Surgical Beneficiaries - Number of children receiving heart surgery through the Foundation's Surgical Programs.
- 98.5% Post-Surgical Success - Patient post-surgical survival rate means the child survived at least 30 days after receiving surgery. This is considered world class for paediatric cardiac programs as per the UK's National Institute for Cardiovascular Outcomes Research.
- 4 Medical Staff - Number of doctors, nurses and/or support staff trained in paediatric cardiac care by Foundation's Training Program.
- R125 million in Funding Raised – This represents the total funding required to achieve the above targets. The Foundation allocates at least 92% of all funds received directly to its Surgical and Training Programs.



"I learnt to trust in my own strength, this experience taught me that I am capable of achieving way more than what I can fathom. My purpose on this earth is to bring hope to the hopeless. Having survived two near death experiences."

~Refilwe Sibiya, ❤️ heart hero



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The Children's Cardiac Foundation of Africa Trust (IT000006/2019(N)) is a registered NPO (222-720 NPO).

We subscribe to the Independent Code of Governance for NPOs in South Africa.