PARTNERING WITH ALEXANDRA TO CREATE LASTING CHANGE
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.

VISION:
Partnering with Alex to create lasting change

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

3 FOCUS AREAS
Moving from vulnerability to independence

RAYS OF HOPE
started operating in Alexandra Township 29 years ago. There are now eight community-based programmes impacting over 2 600 people. We partner with more than 30 Alex-based organisations to increase our reach. We are supported by many organisations to ensure the sustainability of our programmes. 100% of our beneficiaries are Black South Africans and we are a registered NPO.

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

ITHEMBA LABANTWANA
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. A trained ECD practitioner supports the caregivers in their crèches to implement knowledge acquired through training offered by many parties to Alex caregivers. Every two months a workshop is held for these caregivers facilitated by expert volunteers in areas such as nutrition, first aid, fire prevention and safety, child stimulation. These times also provide networking and interaction between the caregivers.

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.
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.

ROSE-ACT SATURDAY SCHOOL
Equipping students to reach their potential

ROSE-ACT runs every Saturday of the government school terms. This year 280 students from Grades 4-9 will be tutored in Maths and English by volunteer tutors. 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 (chess, arts & drama). 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. This programme has been running since 1991.

ALEXWORKS (PTY) LTD
Skills development for life and work

ALEXWORKS (PTY) LTD is a Level 1 100% Black-owned 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 through the training of life skills, financial literacy and work readiness skills. The training aims to enable young people who have the opportunity to study, complete learnerships or start working to make the most of the chance that they have been given. Training is offered as a 5-day SETA-accredited course, or it can be tailored to the requirements of any company or offered in conjunction with a learnership. All donations made to AlexWorks (Pty) Ltd are eligible for Enterprise Development points on a BBBEE scorecard; and when used as a supplier, Supplier Development points can be claimed.

VIP Parking, Located at Hyde Park Corner and Sandton City, we have employed people from Alex to operate a VIP parking initiative where anyone can park by making a pre-determined donation to Rays of Hope.
FOOD DISTRIBUTION PROGRAMME
Providing extra nutrition to the community
In order to support the physical health and cognitive development of the Alexandra community, we have partnered with Food Forward, Food Lovers Market, Woolworths and Pick ‘n Pay stores to collect food regularly, which is distributed to approximately 1,700 people on a weekly basis.

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. 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 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.

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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 that can acquire shares in a business. Our beneficiaries are 100% black South Africans. Current partners include: British Standards Institute (26%) and F-Secure (30%) – both significant international businesses.

**ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT**: Support our Level 1 business to grow and operate more efficiently.
AlexWorks (Pty) Ltd is a 100% black-owned company Level 1 EME (2012/0066416/07), focussed on the training of life skills and work readiness. The training is beneficial to all ages, but we are targeting young people to assist them to make the most of opportunities that come their way, from studies to learnerships and first jobs.

**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) making it able to provide SED points for all cash and in-kind donations. All cash donations are also eligible for a Section 18A tax certificate.

For more info: www.metrust.org.za or email: tracey@raysofhope.co.za
INTERNATIONAL DONATIONS DETAILS

Rays of Hope is a vetted partner on GlobalGiving and can accept international donations. GlobalGiving provides tax certificates for all donations.

https://www.globalgiving.org/projects/support-a-child-restore-a-family/

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