

Dear Friends of HOPE Cape Town,

At HOPE Cape Town as the year slowly draws to a close and the staff and volunteers take their well-earned break it is important to remember that the essence of the work the organisation does is ongoing. Sustainability is key to everything at HOPE Cape Town.

The articles in this newsletter demonstrate how the concept of sustainability runs as a thread through the various programmes and activities. The educational, environmental, training garden is taking shape and soon not only vegetables will grow but also the confidence and ability of members of the community to learn a new trade.

Learning must start early for children, and screening for special needs is vital to prepare this groundwork to develop a healthy interest in learning, for example through play and about robotics.

Our work over the year would not have been possible without the support of our dedicated donors and well wishers and I thank you all most sincerely... because sustainability also means sustainable support.

Many individuals and organisations would like to contribute to improving the lives of children, youths and families, especially at this time of the year. HOPE Cape Town can translate this desire into meaningful action, ensuring a donation, whether large or small is accounted for and put to good use. Please follow the link: [HOPE Cape Town](#) for more information.

May this festive season be a peaceful and joyous one and may we all share in the spirit of Christmas giving.

Also if you haven't yet been to the Nex -Indawo Yethu Campus, we look forward to welcoming you in the new year.

Kind Regards

Carole

Carole Armstrong-Hooper
Chair HOPE Cape Town Trust



**HOPE Cape Town's
"Cycle of Life"**
Improving Lives together



DATES TO DIARISE

SOUTH AFRICA

10.05.25 Ball of HOPE Cape Town

GERMANY

25.10.25 HOPE Gala Dresden

USA

TBA – Evening of HOPE,
Ann Arbor, Michigan

CULTIVATING GROWTH: AGRICULTURAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL TRAINING CENTER AND COMMUNITY GARDEN

One year ago, the land adjacent to The Nex -Indawo Yethu campus in Delft was bare, cleared by bulldozers with a vision in mind. Today, it has blossomed from overgrown bushes and sandy dunes into a hub of sustainability and innovation and represents a shared vision of sustainability and resilience, equipping individuals with the skills to grow and thrive.

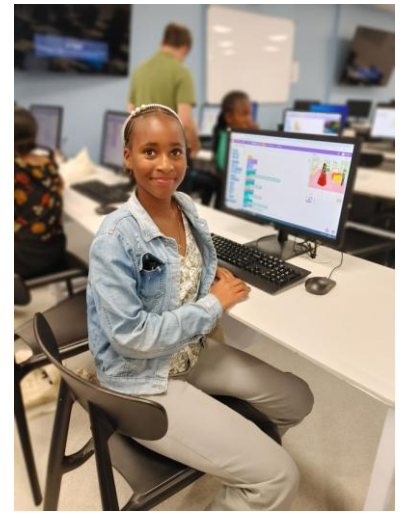
The project now boasts 18 nearly completed greenhouses, a shaded net house for a community garden, training center, storage facilities, irrigation system and security infrastructure.

In partnership with Fresh Life Produce and the Department of Economy, Agriculture and Tourism Western Cape, the vertical hydroponics gardens and greenhouses will be operated and managed by postgraduate agricultural students on a two-year rotation basis as part of their training curriculum. Through peer-based training and mentorship this initiative aims to empower the students and community through education and hands-on training in sustainable agriculture, food security, and nutrition.

The vertical gardening system will be both space-efficient and resource-conscious and provide for innovative solutions for urban and small-scale farming while four water tanks and two boreholes will ensure reliable access to water for all operations on the plot.

Forty allotments in the Shade Net House have been allocated to families and community groups who will also soon receive essential fruit and vegetable gardening training to foster food security.

SUCCESS OF ROBOTICS AND CODING CLUBS AT THE NEX



Following an interactive session with our Coder Dojo teams at The Nex, Team TechSpan – the current world champions of FIRST Tech Challenge (FTC -robotics tournaments) were so impressed with the level of enthusiasm, potential and interest shown, that they invited us to put together our own FTC team.

In partnership with IGNITE, a local NPO promoting coding and robotics among high school learners, our Robotics team NexGen was established.

Meeting twice weekly, NexGen achieved a milestone by participating in the Coolest Project South Africa, a national showcase for coding and robotics. There, the team collaborated with Team TechSpan, to work on building their robot, while Coder Dojo members also shone in a coding showcase.

Remarkably, just four months after beginning their coding journey at The Nex, two young participants earned special recognition for their projects in the Visual Coding and Gaming category, showcasing the rapid growth and talent nurtured in this program.

SUPPORT FOR NEURODEVELOPMENTAL CLINIC TEAM AT TYGERBERG HOSPITAL

Within the scope of our MOU with the Western Cape Department of Health, HOPE Cape Town’s Occupational Therapist Robyn Meissner and Clinical Practitioner Dr Ana Houston continue to support the Neurodevelopmental Clinic team at Tygerberg Hospital by providing a Griffiths Scales of Child Development (3rd edition) assessment service.

This assessment forms part of the diagnosis and monitoring process at the neurodevelopmental clinic, for children displaying developmental delays, speech apraxia, ADHD and other varying diagnoses.



DIALOGUE CREATES SAFE SPACES FOR YOUTH TO ENGAGE WITH POLICY-MAKERS



Although it is early days for South Africa’s Government of National Unity, the new parliamentarians must remember that they are ultimately accountable to ordinary citizens. But ordinary citizens must also find ways to collectively put pressure and demand good governance and accountability.

Despite many political parties’ attempts to mobilize citizens to register to vote, there is an apathy amongst the young people who are disillusioned with the current political landscape.

To this end, HOPE Cape Town with the assistance of the Bavarian Parliament, developed a capacity building training programme for youth participation in political processes, advocacy and active citizenship.

The project aimed to enable them to grow into well-informed and empowered citizens, and grow the voting culture to make South Africa a country that is purposeful.

It was about empowering the young citizens of Delft with the knowledge, skills and attitudes for active citizenship which is critical for our maturing democracy.

Modules focused on :

- Providing them with the proper tools to enhance the youth’s knowledge of different tools for accessing relevant spaces and platforms for political and electoral participation.
- Capacity development for the youth to map out and understand barriers to their participation as public representatives and as voters, and create alternatives to participate.
- Understanding the electoral cycle and legislative framework for elections
- Understanding leadership and styles
- Advocacy and lobbying

Highlights for the participants in the programme included visits to the local municipal offices and attending a Parliamentary session about the NHI Bill (Health Provider Bill), where they were recognised and welcomed in the national assembly and invited to return the following day for the second part of the discussion.

CAMPUS NEWS

HOPE CAPE TOWN WELCOMES VISITORS FROM GERMANY



A delegation of the Parliament of „Sachsen-Anhalt“ in Germany as well as representatives of the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung visited the campus in Delft. CEO Dr Izane Reyneke and Program manager Marlene Whitehead introduced the work and holistic approach of HOPE Cape Town. Understanding in depth the situation of the visited country is essential for politicians facing a globally connected but also divided world.

We also welcomed a delegation of Members of the Bavarian Parliament from the CSU party and the Hanns-Seidel-Foundation for a visit to The Nex Campus.

The delegation engaged with HOPE Cape Town CEO Dr Izane Reyneke and Programme Manager Marlene Whitehead for an update on our projects and programmes in the framework of the partnership between the Free State of Bavaria and the Province of the Western Cape.



Topics discussed included Vocational training and the concept of the Bavarian House as a hub of education in partnership with the Hope Cape Town Trust as well as the impact of the Bayern Garden Centre for Early Childhood Development as a foundation/starting point for a productive and successful life for children with delays.



BOOK LAUNCH AT THE NEX



Globally recognized expert in inclusive education, Professor Sigamoney Naicker hosted the launch of his latest book "Education and the Working Class: Is There Hope for an Inclusive System?" at The Nex.

Instrumental in the development and implementation of South Africa's first white paper on inclusive education and appointed as a commissioner by President Nelson Mandela on the National Commission for Special Education Needs, Sigamoney has played a pivotal role in shaping inclusive education policy both in South Africa and internationally.

His presentations are known for being thought-provoking and solutions-oriented, leaving audiences with actionable strategies for creating more inclusive, equitable educational environments.

CHRISTMAS BOXES OF HOPE



It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas as the hundreds of Christmas gift boxes collected by pupils from the German International School are being sorted and distributed to children who attend and participate in HOPE Cape Town's various projects.

These include vulnerable children in the Blikkiesdorp community, children attending our chronic illness clinics, our playgroups and children attending our afterschool programmes.

BE INVOLVED

HOPE Cape Town Trust is a registered
Non-profit Organisation (SA) # 053-417NPO
and Public Benefit Organisation (SA) # 93/00/24/843



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