Ubuntu Education Fund is dedicated to working with the people of the Eastern Cape Province to develop quality education and healthy communities in the New South Africa. We provide comprehensive HIV/AIDS services and essential educational resources for over 40,000 vulnerable children in the townships of Port Elizabeth.
Dear Friends,

As we celebrate seven years of service, Ubuntu Education Fund continues to expand and evolve, while our goal—to make the free South Africa an equitable South Africa—remains the same. We now work with over 40,000 vulnerable children and their families in the townships of Port Elizabeth.

The first group of students who learned to read in an Ubuntu library, became computer literate in one of our technology centres and attended years of in-school health education classes are themselves moving on to higher education, jobs and giving back to their communities. Children who were orphaned, vulnerable and otherwise forgotten are now healthy young adults, supporting themselves and engaging in sustainable community development.

With the advent of antiretroviral treatment at clinics in Port Elizabeth, there is a significant opportunity to reverse the trend in AIDS mortalities by assisting people to access treatment and regain their health. Our success has always been contingent on addressing the specific needs of our community and we have responded by pioneering a strategy to facilitate the roll-out of life-saving treatment in our region. We are restructuring our Mpilo-Lwazi health programme to establish a targeted proactive system to reach people living with HIV/AIDS and provide comprehensive case management services that improve both health and household stability. Today, we have the opportunity to keep parents alive and ensure our children realize their potential.

Seven years ago, anyone familiar with our struggling communities could scarce imagine a career centre placing hundreds of children on the path to higher education and employment, computer centres educating over 13,000 students, 24 school-based counselling centres, or the widening distribution of life-saving HIV treatment. Ubuntu Education Fund is part of the fabric of life in Port Elizabeth and we are seeing the tangible results of thoughtful growth. Our investment in people and best practices has produced a replicable model for grassroots sustainable development.

The African concept of ubuntu, viewing humanity as a community of equals, a worldwide network of family, is more than an idea to our organization. This philosophy is made concrete by our staff, our communities, our programmes, and our supporters. We thank you for growing along with us and spreading the spirit and reality of ubuntu.

Jacob Lief
President/Founder

Malizole Banks Gwaxula,
President/Founder

Goebani Zonke
Deputy President
The Ubuntu Model

Ubuntu Education Fund is founded on the philosophy of ubuntu, a universal bond of sharing that connects all humanity. We have used this philosophy to create the Ubuntu Model—a community-based strategy that ensures ownership and sustainability of our health and education initiatives. The Ubuntu Model depends upon the relationship between the organization and the communities it serves, calling for close collaboration with parents, teachers, students and community leaders.

We have never viewed development from an “us” and “them” perspective—the organization as the font of knowledge, resources, and skills and the beneficiaries as passive recipients only to voice needs and critique interventions. Disengaging communities from their own development and failing to acknowledge their resources produces unsustainable results.

The Ubuntu Model allows us to address social challenges with a novel and systematic approach. Ubuntu builds legitimacy by ensuring that the services and resources we provide are what is needed and wanted by the community. Our strategy is different: Ubuntu works on the simple tenet that all communities have an array of resources and capabilities and we have the responsibility to recognize and utilize these assets to their fullest. Putting people at the centre of their own development changes how each group sees itself and approaches the future.

The Ubuntu Model for Development:
1. Community Involvement
2. Accountability
3. Legitimacy
4. Evaluation
5. Organizational Learning and Growth
6. Sound Financial Management
7. Creativity
8. Long Term Planning
SUSTAINABILITY AS A CONTINUUM

Sustainable community development is a process in which financial sustainability is but one aspect. Understanding sustainability as a continuum allows us to more accurately assess our progress and focus on the logical next steps in organizational and programme development.

Communities gain a voice when social exclusion is minimized and social equity is maximized.

Communities use their voice to influence larger power structures to further their goals.

Communities become able to increase their resources and maintain a prosperous level of income.
Sivulile Computer Initiative builds state-of-the-art computer centres used by over 13,000 learners in under-resourced township schools.
In 2005 we transformed our computer initiative through a partnership with The Shuttleworth Foundation and the Eastern Cape Department of Education. The outcome of our new collaboration, Ubuntu-tuXlab, is a cost effective, easily replicable technology centre. The Ubuntu-tuXlab is an innovative project that uses an open source platform, community volunteer networks and a rigorous buy-in process to create an inexpensive, easily maintainable technology education solution.

We have learned that teacher training is as important as student education in creating sustainable technology centres. On-going instruction for educators and administrators ensures that technology is integrated into all subject areas and the day-to-day running of the school. Empowering residents to participate in South Africa’s increasingly technology driven economy and higher education system promises to transform a region haunted by poverty and unemployment.

2005 Impact:
- 3 new computer labs opened, introducing 2,600 primary students to technology education.
- 10 existing Ubuntu labs converted to a thin-client set-up linked to a powerful server as part of Ubuntu-tuXlab model.
- 7,600 primary school students learned basic computer hardware usage, typing skills, basic word processing.
- 5,700 high school students advanced their computer knowledge in word processing, spreadsheets, visual presentations, and publications including graphic design.
- 300 teachers completed our 12-week course in basic computer skills/applications achieving 100% pass rate on Dept. of Education Computer Instructor Assessment.
- 5 workstations and 1 server added to 6 existing primary school centres.
- 4 high school centres upgraded to Ubuntu-tuXlabs with addition of powerful new servers.

“My fears of computers are gone. I have never touched a computer before and here I am actually helping to set up the lab!”
—Nomsa Xego, Grandparent, BJ Mnyanda Primary School
Ubuntu’s partnership with The Shuttleworth Foundation allows us to increase our capacity through use of open source educational programmes. People who have never touched a computer before are beginning to understand the boundless opportunities of being computer literate.

—Jana Zindell, Director, Sivulile Computer Initiative

Vincent Mnyameni, Sivulile Technology Educator
Several years ago Vincent Mnyameni touched a computer for the first time in a Ubuntu computer centre at KwaZakhele High School. He is now a part-time technology educator for Ubuntu while pursuing a university degree in Computer Science. Vincent takes pride in returning to his old school to give computer training to the same teachers who mentored him only a few years ago.

“Ubuntu to me means commitment. As a student I would see the Ubuntu team in my school every day working non-stop to make sure my education improved. I now have a responsibility to do the same for other children in my community.”

INNOVATION: Ubuntu-tuXlab Model
The Ubuntu-tuXlab Model uses existing or refurbished computers, stripped of their hard drives (“thin clients”), networked to a powerful new server. Benefits of the thin-client set-up include central management software installation, easy replacement of broken hardware, and lowered total cost of ownership. The cost of creating an Ubuntu-tuXlab is 76% lower than a standard computer centre. The Ubuntu-tuXlab demonstrates the viability of open source software in providing schools with a cost effective and efficient IT solution.
Siyafunda Library Initiative creates libraries and career guidance centres used by over 8,000 children and young adults in the township schools of Port Elizabeth, South Africa.
The Ubuntu Model stresses the importance of developing management capacity in community institutions and empowering all stakeholders—parents, learners, community members—to actively participate. We could build a library or develop a community garden in a short time, but instead we take 12 months. In this period of working with the community we set milestones to measure commitment for each phase of the process, use incentives to encourage enthusiastic buy-in, and provide intensive programme management training. Our ownership strategy ensures long-term sustainability of programmes.

Stocked with culturally appropriate books in a variety of South African languages, Ubuntu’s libraries provide children with the material resources and guidance to cultivate reading, writing, and other essential skills. Schools use the libraries to teach classes that develop research techniques and encourage literacy. Ubuntu libraries are also the quiet, safe, child-friendly learning environments sorely lacking in the lives of township children.

**2005 Impact:**

- One new library was established and teachers were trained in library management and utilization at JK Zondi Primary School, providing literary resources to 1,000 children.
- 7,300 children aged 5-12 attended bi-weekly literacy sessions in one of 7 Ubuntu libraries stocked with high-quality reading and reference material.
- 120 teachers completed in-depth training in library management and usage.
- 1,300 high school students utilized the Ubuntu Career Guidance Centre, receiving counselling and information on job training, higher education admissions, and scholarship opportunities.

**BEST PRACTICE: “The Community Buy-in”**

The Ubuntu Model stresses the importance of developing management capacity in community institutions and empowering all stakeholders—parents, learners, community members—to actively participate. We could build a library or develop a community garden in a short time, but instead we take 12 months. In this period of working with the community we set milestones to measure commitment for each phase of the process, use incentives to encourage enthusiastic buy-in, and provide intensive programme management training. Our ownership strategy ensures long-term sustainability of programmes.
• 4,200 high school students participated in Career Week—a five day conference comprised of workshops, panel discussions, and lectures by township-born professionals and academic institutions, focusing on information about career and higher education options, and counselling in study skills and test taking techniques.

• 64 vulnerable primary school children participated in a three week Ubuntu Library Camp to promote communication, self-expression, and self-esteem, while also challenging social stigmas.

• 4,000 primary school children participated in three community-wide literacy events: Reading week, Poetry Day, and Drama Day.

“Cultivating a Culture of Reading”
Qondakele Sompondo, Director, Siyafunda Library Initiative

Qondakele’s personality and passion for learning moved Siyafunda beyond school libraries. A degree in Library and Information Studies sharpened his focus on developing a culture of reading to empower young people. He refined Ubuntu’s programme into a practical, cost-effective model for integrating libraries into the poorest schools, helping transform how our region views literacy.

Growing up without books, Qondakele relished his grandfather’s stories in the evenings. His love of reading grew as he read those same tales in school. With a shortage of written material, though, recitation took precedence. This deficit, even today, fuels his concern for school libraries. Qondakele emphasizes, “Libraries should contain lots of fiction and story books which inspire interest in reading.”

Qondakele’s excitement about education is infectious. A recognized educational leader, he recently represented South Africa at an international library conference in Norway. Whether reciting poetry at a school program, guiding teachers to use libraries, or negotiating an expansion of career centres, Qondakele Sompondo is an educator who believes his job “is truly about changing lives.”
Our comprehensive community health programme empowers children, youth and adults to confront HIV/AIDS proactively and obtain the knowledge, skills and resources to secure healthy lives.

Mpilo-Lwazi Health Initiative
The Challenge:

6.3 million South Africans living with HIV/AIDS
32% HIV prevalence in our communities
90% of South Africans do not know their HIV status
60% of new HIV infections are in youth between the ages of 13 and 25
85% of South Africans in need of ARV (antiretroviral) treatment for HIV/AIDS are not on treatment
Ubuntu’s Response: A Network of Interventions

Education and Outreach

Promoting Positive Attitudes... building knowledge and skills

- Weekly lifeskills health education for 24,000 students in township schools
- HIV/STI prevention and care outreach to 20,000 out-of-school youth and adults
- Capacity-building workshops for 24 HIV/AIDS community groups
- Distribution of 1.2 million condoms per year
- Awareness events to promote safe sex and reduce stigma attended by 2,000 people

Treatment Access

Increasing Access to Lifesaving Therapy... building public clinic capacity

- Escort and advocacy for Ubuntu clients in need of counselling and testing and antiretroviral therapy
- Pre and post-test HIV counselling services at local clinics
- Training of clinical staff in advanced HIV counselling
- Treatment readiness support for patients eligible for ARV therapy
- Group sessions on treatment literacy, risk and stigma reduction
- Enrollment of clients in Ubuntu case management services

BEST PRACTICE: Accessing Hard to Reach Communities Through Informal Leaders

Our outreach team developed community mapping and networking techniques that build relationships with key residents of informal settlements and enable access to the most vulnerable, under-served communities. Health workers identify informal leaders of an area by establishing dialogue with a variety of residents. Once we distinguish people whose opinion is valued by other residents, we involve those individuals in planning workshops of interest to the community; these leaders are invaluable in finding venues, logistics, and gathering community participants.
Care and Support
Providing Critical Support Services to Families… improving household stability

- Counsellors in 24 schools provide on-site counselling and referral to case management
- Case management services for 500 families coping with HIV/AIDS, rape and abuse
- Psychosocial support and counselling
- Risk reduction support to prevent onward transmission from mother to child and between partners.
- Referral and escort to organisations who specialize in substance abuse, family and marital problems, and skills training
- Advocacy for survivors of sexual abuse and rape with police, courts and health providers to apprehend and prosecute perpetrators, and access psychiatric and medical care
- Support groups for children living with HIV and for child survivors of sexual abuse

Nutrition and Income
Reversing Poverty…increasing household resources

- Assistance with obtaining income grants for families caring for AIDS orphans or living with AIDS
- Nutritional supplements—fresh produce from Ubuntu garden and fortified maize meal for vulnerable families
- Organic garden development at three primary schools and one HIV clinic
- School lunch programme serving nutritious vegetable stew daily to over 900 children

Fezeka Mzalazala, Ubuntu Case Manager
Fezeka Mzalazala knew her work was having an impact when neighbours began asking for advice. “Community members saw me as a model for their children, inviting me to talk to them. Teenagers and children come with problems—a child embarrassed at not having a school uniform, a teen needing to talk about sex and HIV.”

As an Ubuntu Case Manager, Fezeka deals with issues ranging from HIV/AIDS to coping with loss of a relative, from recovery after violent sexual assault to rebuilding shattered self-esteem. Our highly trained health team works out of 25 Ubuntu centres assisting vulnerable children with the first psychosocial counselling available in the townships. Ubuntu’s case managers also assist children in navigating the legal, health, and law enforcement systems, to prosecute rape and child abuse perpetrators, access ARV therapy, and ensure a safe environment for children and women.

Fezeka remains passionate about improving conditions for fragile children and families in spite of the difficulty of her work. It is her grandmother, she says, who has always inspired her to study, to dream and to have respect for herself and what she can accomplish.

INNOVATION: Case Management Services for People on ARV Treatment

Access to counselling, testing, and ARV treatment is fundamental for effective HIV/AIDS intervention, but support services for families coping with HIV/AIDS are often insufficient. Ubuntu understands that the entire family situation must be taken into account to ensure treatment is maintained. Our Case Managers provide ongoing psychosocial support, risk reduction and nutritional counselling, assistance with receiving income grants, and help to access services for substance abuse, family problems, income generation and skills training. We prepare counsellors at public clinics to conduct home assessments and develop a supportive environment for a patient to disclose their status to a family member, a crucial step in treatment adherence.
## Ubuntu Education Fund

### Consolidated Statements of Activities

WISS & COMPANY, LLP  Livingston, New Jersey

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year Ended June 30,</th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>2004</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>Unrestricted</td>
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<tr>
<td>REVENUES AND OTHER SUPPORT:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contributions</td>
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<td>Grants</td>
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<td>Special benefits income</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>1,080,883</td>
<td>693,634</td>
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Net assets released from restrictions due to satisfaction of restrictions
- 198,501 (198,501)

**Total Revenues**
1,080,883 1,185,084 (104,201) 817,985

**EXPENSES:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>2005</th>
<th>2004</th>
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<td>Program operations</td>
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<td>Administrative*</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Expenses</strong></td>
<td>1,050,133</td>
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</table>

**CHANGE IN NET ASSETS**
30,750 134,951 (104,201) 94,959

Net Assets, beginning of year
281,863 177,662 104,201 186,904

Net Assets, end of year
$312,613 $312,613 $ - $281,863

Foreign Currency Translation Adjustment
$ (10,660) $ (10,660) $ - $29,408

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Merafe Moloto
Board Member, Ubuntu Education Fund

Merafe represents the generation of young South Africans at the forefront of the nation’s transformation. Born and raised in South Africa and currently a Harvard MBA student with years of Wall Street experience, she is committed to closing the economic gap in South Africa while ensuring a vibrant civil society. She explains that, “along with social and political progress, the expansion of a functional and thriving civil society is an integral element in South Africa’s economic development.”

Merafe believes Ubuntu’s unique approach to community development is the “critical piece” for achieving effective and enduring change. “Ubuntu has extended well beyond being an NGO to an authentic and enduring part of the community. This is the type of impact that all NGOs seek, but Ubuntu has achieved it with the authenticity most NGOs dream of. By staying true to our mission of employing people who reflect and represent our community and keeping ourselves grounded in the fiber of our community, I believe we have achieved the dream—a seamless trace between the communities we work in and the work that we do.”
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Workplace Wellness Programme

As an NGO responding to the HIV/AIDS epidemic, Ubuntu is committed to keeping our employees and their families healthy. Our Workplace Wellness Programme promotes a supportive environment at work, ensures access to treatment for those living with HIV/AIDS, and encourages all staff to know their HIV status.

Ubuntu’s Workplace Wellness Program includes:

- A progressive workplace HIV/AIDS policy of zero tolerance for stigma and support for employees living with HIV/AIDS
- Comprehensive medical aid for all employees, their spouses and dependents, including access to voluntary counselling and testing and provision of antiretroviral therapy
- Ongoing communication and training activities
- Access to health resources including free condoms, a health library, information on area services, posters, and pamphlets
- Human Resources Director and staff trained in addressing employee concerns
- Gender balanced steering committee composed of staff at every level and including those living with HIV
- Yoga, meditation, self defence classes, choir and running clubs
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Adelle Legere
Patricia Allison Lehr
Judith Lemman
David Levenberg
Levin Club
Eric Levine
Joel and Ivy Levine
Leonard and Cheryl Levine
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Courtney McCunningham
Yanai Watson McGoughy
Catherine Mokena
Michael McKinnon
Tanya McKinnon and
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Jim Meacham
Edith Mekiel
Theo and Lisa Melas-Kyriazi
Kate Melcher
Megan Melcher
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Jack and Erica Merrill
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Jeanette Meyers
David Michelle
Jeffrey and Karla Minneta
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Mptoa
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Joel Pyle
Tom Quinby
Deena, Robert and Wendy Radish
Susan and Karri Rae
Pamela Randell
Shang Rosas
Amanda Ravenhill
Ubuntu means if your brother or sister is down, pick them up. If they are hungry, feed them. If they are strangers, accommodate them. Ubuntu is humanity; think of others before you think of yourself.

—Sipho Gumede