



# 2018 ANNUAL REPORT





A big thank you to all of our supporters who helped us make 2018 an extremely successful year! A Spring of Hope has impacted over 70,00 lives in rural South Africa since its establishment in 2007. We are excited to update you on all of our progress.

Dear Friends,

We are so very grateful to you all for supporting A Spring of Hope in our most successful year to date!

Your generosity brought water and gardens to a school, a community garden and a health clinic garden project.

As we have grown in the region we realized the need for a central location for ASoH. This year we broke ground on the ASoH Permaculture/Community Center. The outdoor classroom was in the final stages of completion, the security cottage and the main structure was started. We are using a method called rammed earth for the building which uses the soil from the site for the walls. Rammed-earth construction reduces the ecological impacts of deforestation and the toxicity of artificial materials associated with conventional construction techniques. We are looking forward to completion in 2019.

We also acquired a new partner, Junior Achievement South Africa. They have implemented their entrepreneur classes

in five of our schools. We look forward to a long and successful partnership.

As we move into 2019, we have set our sight on new goals such as our CSA program (Community Sustainable Agriculture), which we will be offering to individuals and lodges.

Our partner Thulani Private Lodge is very busy. Chef Lisl is creating exciting dishes for our donors/guests. Kelvin, always takes everyone on an action-packed game drive! Leanette and Trygive team up to show our friends the important work of ASoH in the communities and the impact it has on so many lives.

Thank you all again for your support!

**WE ARE, BECAUSE OF YOU. UBUNTU!**

Gratefully,

Joanne Young

CEO, A Spring of Hope

# ASOH BY THE NUMBERS



OVER **70,000** NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS DIRECTLY AFFECTED BY ASOH

Over the past decade, our work in the WASH+ areas—Water, Sanitation, Hygiene + Permaculture Education—have had a positive impact on rural communities.



**49** BOREHOLES

Our partner sites—including schools, community gardens, homes, and clinics—now have a source of reliable water.



**21** SANITATION FACILITIES

Over 150 toilets have saved over 63,000,000 litres of water with our environmentally sustainable sanitation facilities.



**45** SCHOOL GARDENS

Our permaculture program helps schools provide fresh produce for meals, as well as providing them with supplemental income.



**05** COMMUNITY GARDENS

Community gardens provide villages in impoverished areas a reliable source of food and income.



**332** HOME GARDENS

Learners at our partner schools are taught about permaculture gardening techniques which can then be used at home.



**04** PERMACULTURE WORKSHOPS

Permaculture workshops educate staff at our partner schools and others in the community on sustainable gardening principles.

## WHY WE DO THIS



**83%** CHILDHOOD POVERTY RATE

Limpopo Province, where our work is concentrated, has the highest rate of childhood poverty in South Africa.



**80%** OF SCHOOLS USE PIT TOILETS

Pit toilets pose significant health and safety risks for students, negatively impacting attendance and economic development.



# OUR MISSION

A Spring of Hope is a non-governmental organization partnering with rural South African schools to bring them clean water sources, gardens, and sanitation in order to facilitate economic development opportunities.

# OUR VISION

We seek to combat severe poverty in rural South Africa. If rural schools have the appropriate resources to invest in their students, students can be better equipped for fulfilling employment and leadership in and out of the workplace. A Spring of Hope's intent is to invest in the development of South Africa's future leadership so that they can, in turn, address pressing problems in their communities.



# OUR HISTORY



In the summer 2005, mother and daughter Joanne and Brittany visited the Limpopo province of South Africa. Chance circumstances landed them at Beretta Primary School in Acornhoek, an impoverished town located in a former “Bantustan,” or apartheid-era “homeland.” Beretta had over 1,200 students and no running water, a reality most schools in rural South Africa must face.

The lack of nearby running water made life at Beretta extremely difficult. School gardens, which provided for many students their only source of fresh fruits and vegetables, grew exclusively during the rainy seasons. Volunteer mothers walked several miles to retrieve buckets of water from a government pump to prepare lunch for the children. Without operating flush toilets, students were forced to use unsanitary pits and were

not able to wash their hands to keep from spreading illnesses. Beretta, however, was not unusual. Sanitation, hygiene, and water access are some of the biggest obstacles for rural schools not only in South Africa, but across the entire continent.

Brittany and Joanne teamed up to fundraise for a borehole (deep water well) at Beretta Primary. In 2006, a well was completed the help of South African friends Brendon and Sheri Schmickl. Water at Beretta Primary significantly improved student health and nutrition through a thriving garden. In 2007, a documentary was produced on A Spring of Hope and the changes at Beretta Primary since the addition of the well. The documentary was updated in 2010 and serves to educate people on the topic of the world water crisis and A Spring of Hope’s work.

Beretta continues to serve as the primary model of success for A Spring of Hope, which was later founded in 2007 and has grown into a professional NGO with an ambitious and unique mission to combine clean water access with economic and social development programs. Beretta Primary has capitalized on their water investment by expanding their tremendous garden and by selling their surplus fruits and vegetables to the community. The school won a 10,000 ZAR (\$1,000 USD) prize for their garden in 2010 and continues to exhibit incredible entrepreneurship and drive to improve the quality of life and education of its students. Today, ASOH has over 40 partner schools in the Limpopo and Mpumalanga provinces of South Africa. ASOH has become a team of highly motivated young activists, engineers, and thinkers.

# PERMACULTURE CENTRE

We are excited to announce that we broke ground at A Spring of Hope's Permaculture Centre! Our Centre will provide us with a continuous physical presence in Acornhoek.

Architect's rendering of the ASoH Permaculture Centre





The site will include two classrooms, a resource center, a kitchen, offices, caretaker's cottage, a large community vegetable garden, and several orchards. The classrooms will provide us with a space to host workshops, business classes, and student organizations.

## 2018 PROGRESS

By the end of 2018 the centre's sanitation buildings were completed and Enviro Loo toilets and hand washing basins were installed.

Rammteck also began construction on the outdoor classrooms which will be a new home for our permaculture workshops held seasonally.

Our Permaculture team was also hard at work at the centre preparing our new community garden and starting our community sustainable agriculture (CSA) program. A Spring of Hope utilizes nets to provide shading and help us to conserve water during the dry, hot summers.



# ACTION PLAN FOR ASOH PERMACULTURE CENTRE

2017

We have obtained a 99-year land lease of 3 hectares of land in Acornhoek, Mpumalanga. We reviewed building plans and discussed construction with Rammteck. We published our Permaculture Centre Proposal and began a campaign for fundraising.



SUMMER 2018



WINTER 2018



SUMMER 2019



WINTER 2019



SUMMER 2020

By November we hope to secure the necessary funding for the centre. The sanitation facilities will be built and enviro loos will be installed. Enviro Loos are waterless toilets and are important for our centre to continue conserving water while providing bathroom facilities for our team and guests. We are excited to start our community garden and by 2018 we will have started using permaculture techniques to set up the garden. Part our permaculture plan will be to have our team use netting to protect young seedlings from the scorching sun during the summer months.

In the winter of 2018, A Spring of Hope is looking to begin engaging the community in the garden. The staff will be actively involved in the care for the garden and all further development of the centre. We will be hosting our first permaculture workshop, encouraging community members to utilize permaculture and water conservation techniques at their own homes.

By 2019, A Spring of Hope's Permaculture Centre will begin its Community Sustainable Agriculture (CSA) program. Our CSA program will provide fresh vegetables to our partner, Thulani Private Villa along with other local lodges. This will provide the centre with funds to improve their gardens, host workshops, and provide resources to community members in need. Our workshops will expand to include permaculture, sanitation, and water conservation.

The end of 2019 will bring about great developments at our centre! Our team will begin working with volunteers to expand our outreach to the community and further our permaculture education program. We will be inviting various groups into our demonstration garden to learn first hand about easy steps families can take to start growing their own fruits and vegetables. Our centre will host the first classes with Junior Achievement. The 18 -39 year old Entrepreneurial classes with focus on women in the community.

By 2020, our facility will be a fully functioning community and educational centre. We will have begun selling vegetables to local lodges through our CSA program. We will also work to support local business owners and provide resources and materials to people who are looking to start their own businesses. Our home gardens outreach program will be nearing 1000 locations. Schools and local community gardens can apply for boreholes through ASoH. We will work closely with the Dept of Education for advice and information of local schools in need of assistance. Thulani Private Villa's guests will also be welcomed to the centre to meet A Spring of Hope's team and learn about all of our organization's progress.

# OUR NEW WATER PROJECTS

## PARTNER SCHOOL HIGHLIGHT

### Ntsoelemolodi Primary School

In 2018, we successfully drilled and installed a water pump at Ntsoelemolodi Primary School located in Bushbuckridge, South Africa. The school currently has 204 learners enrolled. Many students enrolled are orphans, vulnerable children, and are the head of their households responsible for caring for their siblings.

Before A Spring of Hope drilled a borehole here, the school was relying on a nearby stream for cooking, hand-washing, and drinking. The learners used wheelbarrows to help bring water to school and the school's principal is responsible for fetching water daily.

Now with a reliable source of clean drinking water, Ntsoelemolodi's students are thriving. Faculty can spend more time planning lessons and working with their students. As students no longer have to worry about fetching water during the school day, they are able to focus on their studies and spend more time interacting with their teachers and peers.

We have encouraged Ntsoelemolodi to work on expanding their school garden and we are happy to see them attending our





## RURAL CLINICS

### Hlokomela Clinic's Herb Garden

Hlokomela is a HIV and AIDS educational and treatment center. Hlokomela serves seasonal workers who migrate from areas of South Africa, Mozambique, and Zimbabwe to work at the farms in the Mopani district as pickers during their harvests. Hlokomela provides service to workers and their families on 71 sub project sites in the Hoedspruit community as well as a large number of employees on private nature reserves adjacent to the Kruger National Park.

The clinic started an herb garden which helps to provide alternative revenue for the clinic along with a source of fresh, organic, and nutritious herbs at a low cost for the community. A Spring of Hope was excited to partner with them and help their garden expand by drilling a borehole at their new site.

## COMMUNITY PROJECT

### Leanne's Community Garden

Leanne has been with A Spring of Hope from the very beginning! In 2005, Joanne Young and Brittany Young met Leanne when she was the principal of the school they were visiting during their first stay in South Africa.

After learning the school was suffering from a lack of access to clean drinking water, Joanne and Brittany decided to help by raising funds for a borehole to be drilled at the school. A water team came out to assess where would be best to drill and learned that the school had very poor ground water.

Leanne, living across from the school asked to have her house assessed for ground water. Leanne's house had a stronger water supply and A Spring of Hope decided to drill there and bring a pipe across to the school. Leanne refused to have a tap at her house and continued to buy water for her own use as to not take water away from the primary school. Until 2018, Leanne did not have a reliable source of water at her house or garden.

Leanne works hard to serve her community and her garden is a great example of this! We are excited to see her community garden thrive in the upcoming years.



# 2018 FINANCIAL SUMMARY

## Income

### Top Company & Public Donations of 2018

Thomas Family Foundation	\$ 25,000.00
YMCA of South Florida	14,000.00
Friendship Botanical Gardens	22,500.00
Pressel Foundation	14,000.00

**2018 Income** \$ 645,108.00

**2018 Expenses** \$ 698,549.00

**Public Support Percentage** 77.67%

## Expenses

Service Programs in South Africa	\$ 654,942.00
Operational Expenses	43,607.00

**Total Expense** \$ 698,549.00

# 2018 PARTNERS & SPONSORS



**1.4 MILLION SOUTH AFRICAN CHILDREN LIVE IN HOMES THAT HAVE NO SAFE WATER SUPPLY**  
UNICEF SOUTH AFRICA Universal Periodic Review

**2,402 SCHOOLS IN SOUTH AFRICA HAVE NO WATER SUPPLY**  
equaleducation.org.za

**2,611 SCHOOLS IN SOUTH AFRICA HAVE UNRELIABLE WATER SUPPLY**  
equaleducation.org.za

**11,450 SCHOOLS IN SOUTH AFRICA ARE STILL USING PIT LATRINE TOILETS**  
equaleducation.org.za

**913 SCHOOLS IN SOUTH AFRICA HAVE NO SANITATION FACILITIES**  
equaleducation.org.za

**WOMEN AND GIRLS REPRESENT UP TO 90% OF WATER COLLECTORS**  
UN Commission on the Status of Women

**LIMPOPO PROVINCE, AT 83.3%, HAS THE HIGHEST RATE OF CHILDHOOD POVERTY.**  
UNICEF.org, Children's Institute, University of Cape Town

**1 IN 3 CHILDREN IN SOUTH AFRICA EXPERIENCE HUNGER OR ARE AT RISK OF HUNGER**  
Statistics South Africa (2010). General Household Survey 2009

A photograph of a man and a woman embracing. The man, on the right, is smiling broadly and has his arms around the woman. The woman, on the left, has her back to the camera. The background is a warm, textured wall.

# OUR PHILOSOPHY

Ubuntu is the principle of caring for each other's well being through mutual support.

Ubuntu means that people are people through other people.



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**A Spring of Hope**

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*A Spring of Hope is a 501(c)(3) registered charity*