



2017 ANNUAL REPORT



A Spring of Hope



Dear Friends,

Thank you all for making 2017 yet another remarkable year for A Spring of Hope.

Our dedicated team has done an incredible job at expanding our reach to more schools, learners, and community members while strengthening our programs and services.

Our partnership with Rand Water Foundation continues to help us extend into communities otherwise forgotten. We helped 9 rural clinics with access to clean water. Our Enviro loo sanitation projects included 12 new schools and one community center. Thank you, Rand Water Foundation for your commitment and support.

Our newest partner, Junior Achievement South Africa, will be bringing their entrepreneurial program into 5 elementary schools through a grant from Standard Bank. We can't wait to hear updates from all the learners that participated in the program!

A Spring of Hope drilled 3 new boreholes in 2017 and brought the gift of water to hundreds of people. Our US private supporters and our friends through our partner Thulani have made these projects possible.

Our most exciting news is that we finally acquired the land for the A Spring of Hope Permaculture Community Center. Construction will begin in 2018. We are using Rammteck Earth to build, using the existing sand/soil on the property to build the walls. The Centre will

house ASoH's offices and will be used for many of our programs geared toward helping the community achieve self-sustaining lives. We will have an 18-39 Entrepreneurial Program for women in the surrounding community. These classes will also help develop small business enterprises through mini loans and mentorship from local business leaders. The seasonal permaculture classes will be held in the outdoor facility overlooking our gardens. We will also offer CSA (Community Sustainable Agriculture) membership to local lodges and restaurants. Through the CSA we will employ many community members who will benefit not only financially but through the produce we will grow. In the future, we will hold a local farmers market offering items that our students will be producing such as local jams, medicinal herbs, crafts and organic specialty vegetables. We will also offer cooking classes throughout the year to complement our growing season. We will be a true "Garden to Pot" experience!

Once again, we thank you, our supporters for your contributions!

WE ARE, BECAUSE OF YOU. UBUNTU!

Gratefully,

Joanne Young

Joanne Young
CEO, A Spring of Hope

ASOH BY THE NUMBERS



61,235 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.



42 BOREHOLES

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



21 SANITATION FACILITIES

Our sanitation facilities include Enviro Loos and Hand Washing stations, providing proper hygiene for thousands.



38 PERMACULTURE GARDENS

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



01 PERMACULTURE CENTRE

Scheduled for completion in 2019, our Permaculture Centre will offer a range of resources to aid in local economic development.



01 SANITATION SUMMIT

Our sanitation summits provide valuable information to our partner schools on hygiene and maintenance of their units.



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 intends to invest in the development of South Africa's future leadership so that they can, in turn, address pressing problems in their communities and their countries.



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.



2017 KEY INITIATIVES

PERMACULTURE

Permaculture is derived from the words “permanent” and “agriculture” and is defined as a system of perennial agriculture emphasizing the use of renewable natural resources and the enrichment of local ecosystems. It was a natural evolution of our program to add this component, as resources in the rural areas of South Africa can be scarce. We are ever mindful of how precious of a resource water is, and we felt it was important to the staff at our partner schools to maximize water usage in order to grow the most abundant gardens possible. With the funding from a Pick N Pay Ackerman Grant, A Spring of Hope has been able to provide eco tunnels to schools that lack shade for their new seedlings. The tunnels were erected at Beretta Primary School, Maranatha Creche, and Mugidi Primary School. These eco tunnels have proved very beneficial during the hot summers.

SANITATION

We have also made strong progress with our sanitation initiative by installing Enviro Loos at our partner schools and a community project. Enviro Loos are sustainable waterless toilets which breaks down waste naturally. By replacing pit toilets with Enviro Loos we look to improve attendance especially among female students. When we provide a safe and healthy environment for female students we are ensuring that all students feel important and empowered to attend school and continue their education throughout their adolescence.



OUR PROGRESS

This year A Spring of Hope also drilled at two schools and successfully found water at two sites at the Permaculture Centre. We are also happy to share that we have drilled water wells at nine rural clinics.

RURAL CLINICS

These clinics worked hard to provide the best care they possibly could for their patients without having a reliable source of clean drinking water. Now with water these clinics can feel confident in the care they provide whether they are birthing babies, providing care to trauma patients, or healing sick individuals. These clinics see over thousands of patients each month so these boreholes provide a very large impact to the area. We have also drilled at a community project in partnership with Rand Water Foundation. Not only have we drilled boreholes but we have also created and distributed a user guide for all of our partner schools to help encourage the sustainability and longevity of their wells.

With regards to sanitation, our team has installed Enviro Loo toilets at thirteen sites including twelve schools and one community project. This year our team has hosted our first ever Sanitation Summit for all sites where Enviro Loos were installed.

Our permaculture programs are thriving! We have provided ecotunnels to three schools. We also hosted four permaculture workshops throughout the year and we were happy to have forty partner schools attend.





PARTNER SCHOOLS

In 2017 our donors helped us bring water to our new partner schools, Mhlanagana Secondary School and Panyana Primary School.

Panyana Primary School is located in Buffelshoek, South Africa.

This school received a borehole December 2017 from our A Drop In The Bucket Program in the U.S. Panyana struggled with water availability for many years, and resorted to having students and faculty bring water to school along with paying for water deliveries every month. Classes were struggling with attendance, and their garden and kitchen were suffering. Now with a reliable source of clean drinking water, the faculty can focus on their classes, improving their garden, and cooking meals for their students throughout the day.

Mhlangana Secondary School is located in Islington, South Africa. A Spring of Hope has successfully drilled water at the school in 2017 thanks to the generous donations of A Spring of Hope supporters. The school has 608 learners and has great garden that uses permaculture techniques taught to them by our team. With water the school has been able to have large harvests and to implement a nutritional programme. Faculty and students are passionate about their gardens and water conservation. Mhlangana are excited to continue attending ASoH workshops in the future.

COMMUNITY PROJECTS

Brian Kajengo is a new partner of ours. Brian Kajengo is a committed community leader who has started a nursery specializing in medicinal indigenous plants. A Spring of Hope drilled a borehole at his site so he would have water to irrigate the plants and his community garden. There is no electricity at his place so we installed a solar pump and panels. When the young boys in his village started to vandalize his nursery, Brian decided to teach and employ them. Now his nursery is cared for by the young men and the vandalism has stopped. Brian also supports several women's microenterprises making soaps, paper mache animal sculptures, and jams. We look forward to supporting Brian through our purchase of vegetables and herbs for our partner lodge, Thulani.

PERMACULTURE CENTRE

In 2017 we were granted a 99-year land use title for the centre. Since then, we have erected a fence around the perimeter of land. We were also able to drill two boreholes at the centre thanks to our generous donors, Eliza Walbridge and The Walbridge Family Foundation and Rotary Club of Fort Lauderdale. We are excited to start construction in 2018.

Architect's rendering of the ASoH Permaculture Centre



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

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 of our permaculture plan will be to have our team use netting to protect young seedlings from the scorching sun during the summer months.



WINTER
2018

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.



SUMMER
2019

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.



WINTER
2019

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.



SUMMER
2020

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.

2017 FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Income

2017 Contributions

Online Donations	\$ 8,979.57
Charity Partnership Donations	329,800.00
Public Support	30,395.23
Private Donations	12,081.32

2017 Income \$ **381,256.12**

2017 Expenses \$ **197,781.48**

Net Income \$ **181,463.64**

Expenses

Program Services	\$ 149,616.00
Administrative	42,173.11
Website/Social Media	6,992.37

Total Expense \$ **197,781.48**

2017 PARTNERS & SPONSORS



WALBRIDGE FAMILY FOUNDATION



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, showing his teeth. He has dark skin and short hair. The woman, on the left, has long dark hair and is wearing a dark top. The man is wearing a light blue and white striped shirt. 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