



Simunye Project

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Who We Are & What We Do

The Simunye Project is a volunteer run, non-profit organisation which encourages, develops and empowers Australians with the skills and attitudes to make a real difference in their global community. The Simunye Project provides assistance to disadvantaged urban and rural communities in South Africa.

Our focus is on the following key areas:

- **Education** - educational resources, further study scholarships, teacher salaries, school bags, uniforms, stationary and more.
- **Health** - Providing a nutrient-rich feeding scheme in partnership with ePap, building kitchens, vegetable gardens and boreholes.
- **Building works** - New or renovated classrooms and playgrounds.

In April 2015, Simunye is sending 56 volunteers to South Africa (over 200 have now volunteered in South Africa), who will be adopting a hands-on approach to working with Manyeleti Primary School, the Tshepang Program, New Life Day Care Centre, Educare Day Care Centre and the Princess Alice Adoption Home. The Simunye team will be undertaking various projects to assist these underprivileged communities.



Our events, fundraisers and on-the-ground projects in South Africa are coordinated and run entirely by volunteers. We began in 2006 as a group of students from Huntingtower School in Melbourne, and have since welcomed volunteers of all ages from the broader community into our team.

The word 'Simunye' is from the Zulu language meaning 'we are one'. The project aims to tap into the power of individuals and teams. The African notion of 'Ubuntu' means that we can only be brilliant when we allow others to be great. By reaching across perceived cultural barriers we are able to contribute to the lives of others. In lifting others up, we lift ourselves. In giving, we receive.

The Simunye Project awakens us to the realisation that we all have the power to be a catalyst: a dynamic force for positive change in the world.

Our vision is to improve the lives of underprivileged communities in South Africa and to connect people regardless of age, gender, culture and language.

The Simunye Communities

The Tshepang Programme for Orphaned and Vulnerable Children

Tshepang is an after-school care program located in the Princess informal shanty town settlement just outside Johannesburg. The program provides a safe haven for children after school where they are fed a nutritious meal (often their only one of the day), homework support is provided along with programs on health, careers, appreciation, child protection and youth talents. The Tshepang facilities are severely under-resourced with only communal water supply, no running water connected to homes, no electricity and no sealed roads.

Under the leadership of Susan Rammekwa, the program began supporting 12 children in 2006 and has grown to over 300 children and families in 2014!

The Simunye Project provides scholarships and bursaries for students, school uniforms, care packs, school resources, teacher salaries, a feeding scheme, renovations, and more.

Princess Alice Adoption Home

Located in Westcliff, Johannesburg, Princess Alice Adoption Home cares for 30 babies at a time who are either abandoned or awaiting adoption. The Simunye Project's main contribution is donations of both supplies and money. Each trip, Simunye volunteers spend time interacting with the children, showing them some much needed tender loving care and helping out with feeding and changing.



Princess settlement and donated food packs from the feeding scheme.

The Simunye Communities

New Life Day Care Centre

New Life, located in the Limpopo Province in a largely subsistence community, cares for about 75 small children in the daytime whilst their parent work. Silence, the lady who runs the centre, works tirelessly to provide young children two meals, health checks and early childhood development.

The Simunye Project has completely refurbished the centre, as well as providing a borehole, vegetable garden, toilet block, playground facilities, classroom supplies and equipment, scholarships for teachers, a new kitchen and a feeding scheme.

Educare Day Care Centre

Built entirely by The Simunye Project, the Educare Day Care Centre looks after over 60 young children. The Director, Gertrude, was able to secure land from the local chief. Located in Hluvukani in the Limpopo Province and near a primary and secondary school, the location is perfect as it created an 'educational hub'.

The Simunye Project has built a classroom, provided eco-toilets, shading, storage, teaching resources, clothing, a large feeding scheme, a kitchen and funds for teacher training.

Manyeleti Primary School

Manyeleti is an under-resourced school located in the rural area of Limpopo Province, where unemployment rates are over 70%. The Simunye Project provides ongoing support in facilities improvement including classroom renovations, new desks and chairs, building playground equipment and more. Simunye provides students with a three day holiday program each year and develops teaching skills.



Building and education improvement works at Manyeleti.

Our Work



Volunteers from the inaugural 2006 trip

Building a fence around the vegetable garden at New Life Day Care Centre



Repairing a destroyed playground at New Life Daycare Centre

Let's Talk

Thanks for giving us the time to tell you about our work. We'd love to have you onboard, in whatever capacity suits you. We think partnering with you is a win-win situation, and we'd love to work together to make a difference to the world. We aim big at The Simunye Project, and we get results!

Thanks for your time, and we can't wait to hear from you.

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