



## Chairman's Report – 2015

We have had another year with several things to be very thankful for.

1. Our financial situation, though not ideal, is very sound.
  - a. All initiatives are self sufficient due to generous donations from various places/ people.
  - b. Joshua House secured a very handsome donation from Investec, that has helped them to focus on the task at hand rather than funds.
  - c. Joshua House had several individuals and companies make donations towards the revamp of the house.
2. We implemented a “Jockey” system to try and support the different initiatives from the management team. This is not working as well as we wish, but there has been progress.
3. Joshua House has successfully paired their first children with adoption families.
4. Hope Centre has seen an incredible increase in both activity as well as success. The inclusion of Geraldine Tee onto staff has brought about a focus that has been quite tangible.
5. The increase in the success at Klopper Park School due to both the Link Reading Program as well as the interaction with the kids has been quite phenomenal. Thanks largely to the increase in volunteerism of the people involved.
6. hArt Day Centre in conjunction with Gabriel Praise Centre have opened the Day Centre for children of parents without an income from the Makausi Squatter Camp.
7. We have welcomed Castles in Clouds into the Ukwakha Isizwe family, with the them performing at several venues where this kind of performance excellence would never be common.
8. Farming God's way has seen Alan and Claire move to Tanzania on a semi-permanent basis. They are having a wonderful impact in the region, but this does not come without a cost. Keep them in mind as they find their feet in a whole new world with accommodation problems and transport problems, to name just two.
9. We had a day in which each of the initiatives had the opportunity to show what they are doing to the rest of us. Those who attended the day were all pleasantly surprised at what is actually taking place at each of the venues/initiatives.

Zelda has resigned as secretary of UIF. I am sure everyone will join me in thanking her for the work she has done over the last five years. As you may know, Zelda was the actual founder of the original charity called hArt Day Centre, which later became Ukwakha Isizwe Foundation. We now look forward to the new season with a brand new secretary. The reality is that we stand on each other's shoulders so that we can see further than the previous person. No doubt the new secretary will be able to see further as a result of the platform that was laid before.

We continue to cherish the relationship that we have with the elders of Cornerstone Church. Though this is a separate entity to the church, there is very little doubt in anyone's mind as to the value we receive from these men and women (Cornerstone Elders). In return we

endeavour to obtain funding outside of the friendships that we have within the church. It is up to each one of us, the members of UIF, to jealously guard against the abuse that could so easily come against the very people that support us the most. We have to work hard to create income streams that do not have their origin from within Cornerstone Church.

I would also like to urge every member to try and increase our number by being an ambassador for us and recruiting like-minded people who have a desire to see the upliftment of those who do not have the same privilege as ourselves. We are often asked what value we as members bring to the UIF table. Unless one is involved on a very regular basis, then you could be forgiven if you thought you add no value. I want to encourage us differently:

- We need eyes, ears and a voice for Ukwakha Isizwe in the church context and at all the sites and meetings. We will not always hear ideas, plans or suggestions and we thus need people out there with Ukwakha Isizwe on their heart.
- If members do hear, or see, areas where UIF can add benefit or receive benefit then it can be referred to the management board.
- For example Phil Quinn who saw the need for trolleys for the garbage collectors, this could have been a project of Ukwakha Isizwe if we had put it out to the members and asked if anyone would have liked to lead this project.
- The more we are, the more encouragement there is for those who are working as hard as they do. You only need to send an sms or an email and that will “carry” a bunch of people for a few weeks.
- Another example is Monica Ribeiro who had a birthday party for her little boy and decided that all the leftover snacks was going to be used to bless the kids at hArt Day Centre. It took nothing but a little bit of effort to bring a massive smile on the faces of these little guys.

We do not have huge successes, but be encouraged that every little person that we work with is better off than they were before we got involved. That’s how we build this nation, one person at a time.