



# XENOPHOBIA THREATENS THE “RAINBOW” DREAM

Nelson Mandela’s dream of South Africa becoming a “Rainbow Nation” has been dealt a body blow by an explosion of violence directed at migrants in townships around Durban and Johannesburg.



The much-publicised surge in xenophobia was sparked by comments by Zulu King, Goodwill Zwelithini who declared that

“foreigners should pack their bags and leave” because they steal the jobs of South Africans.

Around four percent of the population of South Africa are immigrants but in Munsieville, home of The Thoughtful Path, there are an estimated 20 percent, with many residents

from Mozambique, Zimbabwe and other African countries.

This presents many challenges to our team as they seek to promote reconciliation and the benefits to all of diversity. The Project HOPE UK team itself includes members from Malawi and DRC, who are passionate about their work in improving the health of local children.

Munsieville has seen its share of intolerance towards foreigners, but children and young people from the township have consistently demonstrated their rejection of discrimination and prejudice. In recent weeks they have added their voice to the groundswell in support for campaigns that recognise the huge contribution made by foreigners to the struggle for freedom from apartheid.



In 2010, Project HOPE UK made a decision to tackle its biggest ever challenge - to establish a world-class “model of excellence” in sustainable, community-led care for orphans and seriously vulnerable children, that would reverse poor life-long health and low life expectancy. The location for this experimental project: Munsieville, South Africa. The project name: The Thoughtful Path Munsieville.

The charity Trustees estimated that it would take 10 years to complete the project and, in February 2015, members visited the township to assess progress and committed their support for the second, five-year phase of the project.

Much has been achieved in the first five years, with thousands of lives touched and a real sense of momentum towards the goals set at the outset. But there is much yet to be done to fan the flame of change in Munsieville and pass on the benefits to many still beyond the reach of the project.

Over the coming months, we will reveal more details of an ambitious campaign to expand the impact of this important project. The “IGNITE campaign” will offer opportunities for thousands of people to make The Thoughtful Path their own charity project.



Project HOPE UK, Building 10, 1-3 Ironbridge Road,  
Stockley Park West, Uxbridge, UB11 1BT, United Kingdom  
T: (+44) 208 990 4052  
E: [info@projecthopeuk.org](mailto:info@projecthopeuk.org)  
W: [www.projecthopeuk.org](http://www.projecthopeuk.org)

Pioneers of **The Thoughtful Path: Munsieville**  
*Redefining the care of vulnerable children in South Africa*  
Registered charity number 1039457



## ANNUAL “MUNZIE KIDS HOLIDAY CLUB”

The Thoughtful Path team in South Africa turned the informal settlement of Munsieville into THE PLACE TO BE! The “Munzie Kids Holiday Club”, now in its 5th year, provided health activities, role plays about child abuse and home safety, self defence courses and outdoor games – 3 days of fun and learning for the



marginalised and most vulnerable children. More than 300 children joined the holiday club this year. It was the second major event that took place on the premises of the new After School Care Centre in Munsieville.



**ONLY 2 RUNNING VESTS LEFT!**

Our team for the **British 10k London Run** is almost complete, but if you are really quick, you can secure one of our two remaining places for the 12 July event. And don't worry, we mean quick with your keyboard, not your running speed!

**Email Ellie now at [ehiggins@projecthopeuk.org](mailto:ehiggins@projecthopeuk.org)**

## Pathway to Health - prevention, treatment and common myths

The first guidelines and take-home factsheets of the “Pathway to Health” community health curriculum are now ready for use by community health volunteers. Information on HIV/AIDs, tuberculosis and malaria has been prepared for caregivers of vulnerable children and members of The Thoughtful Path hubs, highlighting preventative action and timely care-seeking. Additional topics to be covered include common childhood illnesses, mental illness, nutrition and hygiene.



In Munsieville, Dr Eric Mukanzila (a local GP) and Elliot Nesta (Thoughtful Path Project) made sure that everyone attending the Pathway to Health workshops has a thorough understanding of the common illnesses that are relevant to the Munsieville community. Tuberculosis, HIV/AIDS, malaria, meningitis; we have all heard these words before and we know all about them..... but do we really? From now on, the health volunteers will take their knowledge into the families living in Munsieville to raise awareness and eradicate dangerous myths about diseases that exist in the community.



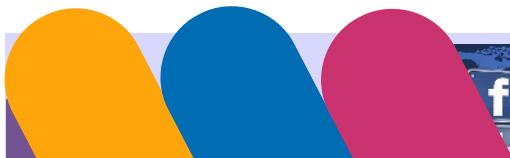
## YOU GROW: THEY GROW

Finding sustainable solutions to malnutrition

**FACT: 15% of South African infants are born with low birth weight, 27% of children under the age of five are stunted and 12% are underweight. 55% of those aged 15 and above are overweight or obese, whilst being malnourished. (The World Bank, Nutrition at a Glance)**

Soup kitchens and feeding programmes provide a temporary solution but are unsustainable, so we are committed to supporting caregivers to grow their own fresh vegetables to support the healthy development of their children. We have now launched a new initiative, "YOU GROW, THEY GROW", to raise funds to help destitute shack-dwellers to create micro-gardens to give year-round food to their families.

The project was unveiled last month at the offices of GlaxoSmithKline plc with a sale of plants grown by volunteers and sold to the company's staff. Email Anette on [avonblock@projecthopeuk.org](mailto:avonblock@projecthopeuk.org) to discuss a YOU GROW: THEY GROW event at a school, church or company near you.



**LIKE US ON FACEBOOK**  
[facebook.com/thethoughtfulpath](https://facebook.com/thethoughtfulpath)  
 Don't wait for the next edition of HOPE in ACTION.  
 Get the news as it happens

