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# ANNUAL REPORT 2023

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EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES,  
BUILDING FUTURES.

Ground Floor, Block B | Rosebank Office Park  
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**RHIZA**  
HOLDINGS

# **RHIZA HOLDINGS'S YEAR IN REVIEW 2023**



**RHIZA**  
INTERNATIONAL



**RHIZA BABUYILE**  
Developing lives is in our DNA



**RHIZA**  
VENTURES



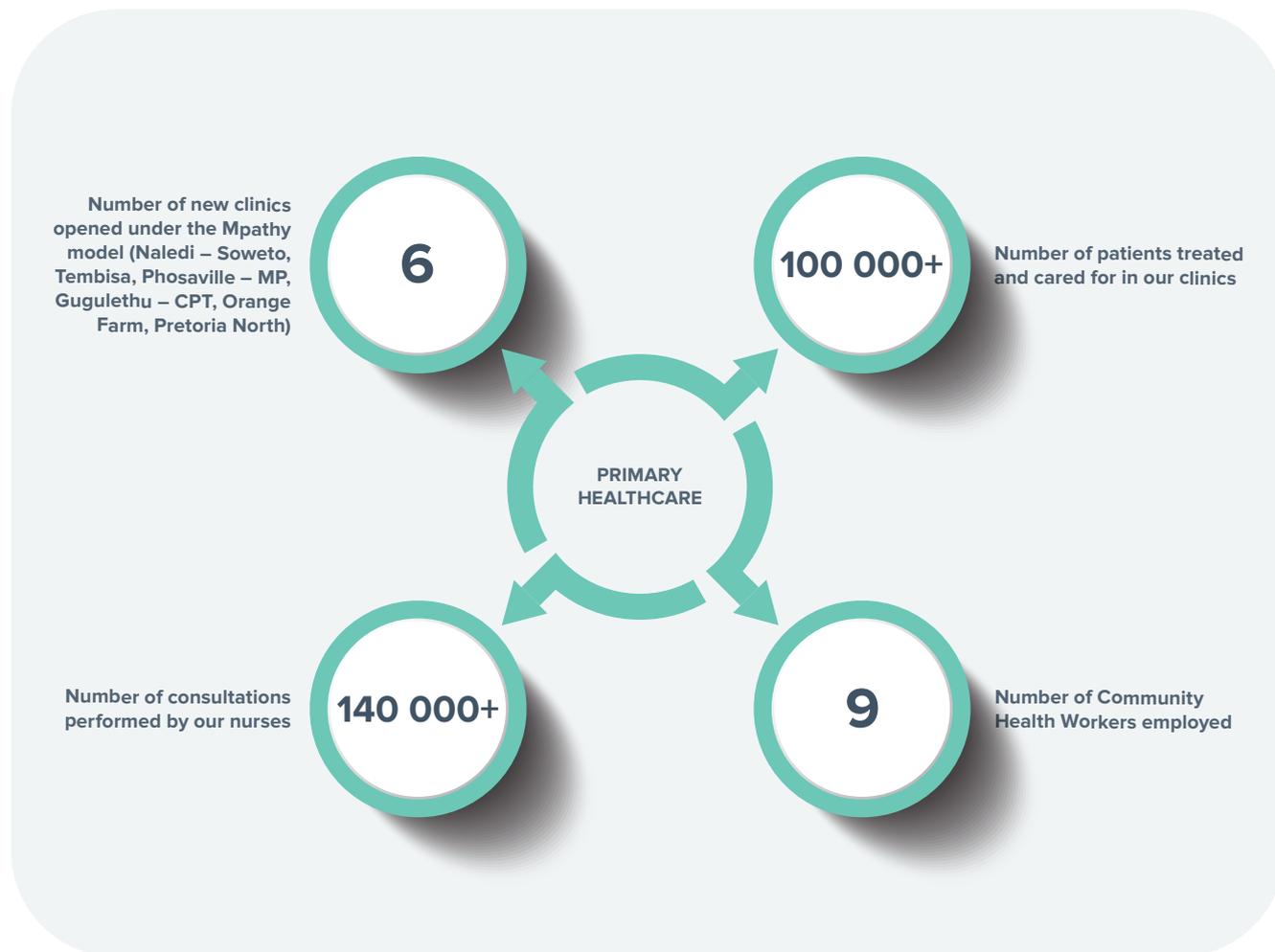
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# IMPACT STATISTICS

## HEALTH

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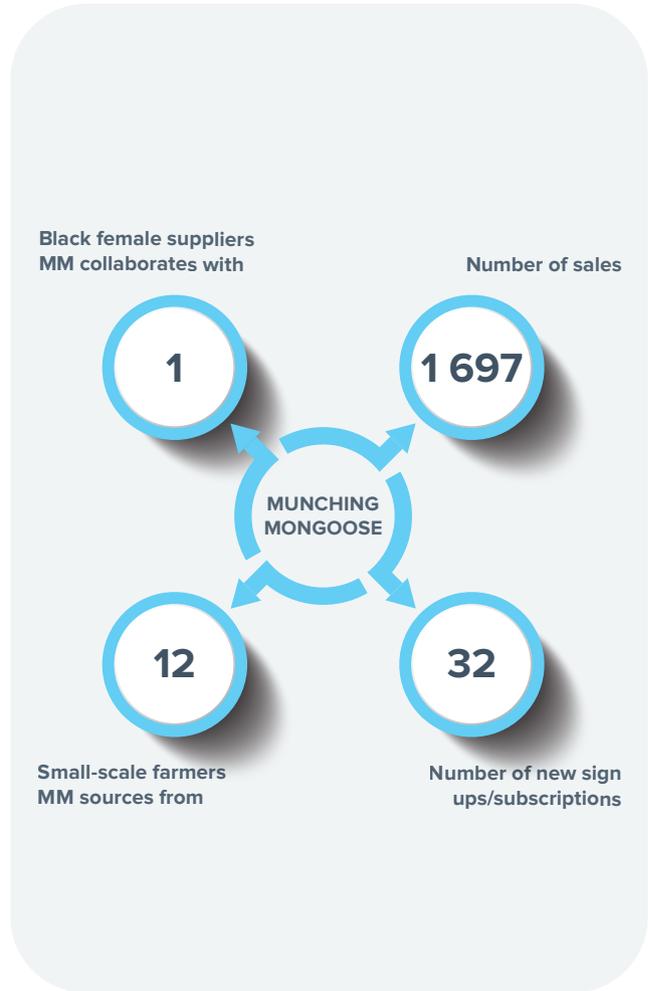
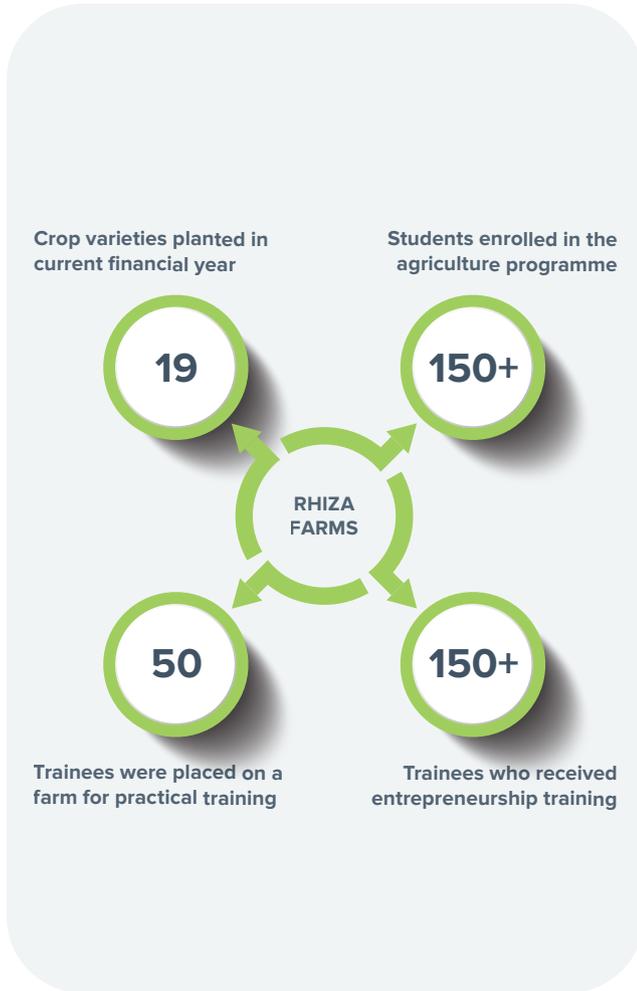
# IMPACT STATISTICS

## EDUCATION



# IMPACT STATISTICS

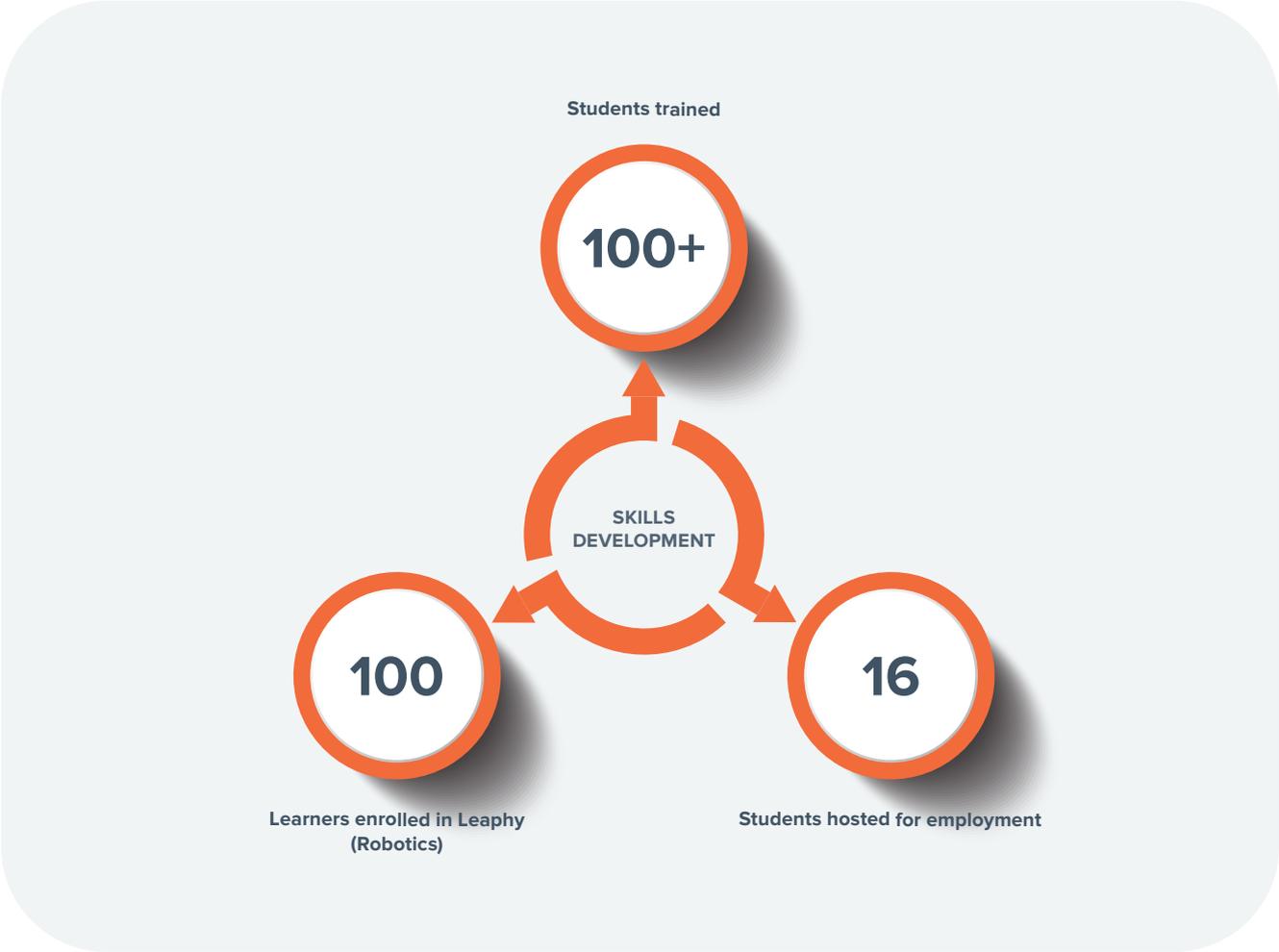
## AGRICULTURE



# IMPACT STATISTICS

## SKILLS DEVELOPMENT

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# IMPACT STATISTICS

## ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT

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# MESSAGE

## FROM THE EXECUTIVE CHAIRMAN

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**ALEF MEULENBERG**  
EXECUTIVE CHAIRMAN  
OF RHIZA HOLDINGS

### LOOKING BACK AT 2023

What a year 2023 has been for Rhiza Holdings. As I reflect on the year 2023, I keep reminding myself that as human beings, we often overestimate what we can achieve in a short period of time, let's say a week and underestimate what can be achieved in a relatively longer period, let's say a year. This is the case also when it comes to the year we have had in 2023. A lot has been achieved across the board, of which I will present some highlights below.

### EXPANSION TO EAST AFRICA AND THE USA

An important element for us has been the expansion of our programs, as part of the Rhiza Cycle, to other geographies, outside of South Africa. We have achieved this by starting our projects in Rwanda and Kenya for full implementation in 2024. This means that we are starting with clinics and entrepreneurial programs in East Africa, to later expand to include all elements of the Rhiza Cycle, contextualised to the relevant local contexts. We are also expanding our International offices. We already had offices in the Netherlands and the United Kingdom, and we started to expand in 2023 to open an office in the US.

### RHIZA BABUYILE

RB expanded its programs to new provinces, focusing heavily on providing community members with access to quality education, healthcare, and a sustainable income through employment or entrepreneurship. This means that our impact has surpassed 100,000 people in 2023, something we are proud of as an organisation. We also purchased our second piece of land, this time in Orange Farm, to set up our second small-scale farm, similar to our Diepsloot farm.

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## RHIZA VENTURES

Within Rhiza Ventures I am most proud of the launch of our first four Mpathy clinics, as a nursepreneur model, making access to quality primary healthcare more equitable. Equally I am excited that we have started providing loans to Early Childhood Development centres, which makes them and their principals more financially included. Rhiza Ventures also has shown to be profitable as a business, providing Rhiza Babuyile with another sustainable income stream.

## 2024 AND BEYOND

In 2024, we are excited to operate our first projects in East Africa, significantly increase our footprint in South Africa, and increase our impact to at least 150,000 people. I am personally excited to see our Mpathy clinics scale to over ten clinics and to launch our first sports facilities in Orange Farm and the Western Cape.

## CONCLUDING

All we have achieved in 2023 did not come without its challenges, I have to complement our strong and resilient team, as they do not shy away from tackling challenges head-on. I equally have to thank our partners, funders and those who simply provide words of encouragement daily, for us to make the type of impact we envisage to make in the world.

Rhiza is in a good position to grow from the solid foundation that have been laid in the first thirteen years of existence, in order to significantly scale our operations in the years to come.

Sincerely,

**Alef Meulenberg**

*Executive Chairman,  
Rhiza Holdings*

# MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

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**GODFREY KATSADE**  
CEO OF RHIZA BABUYILE

## DEAR STAKEHOLDERS,

Reflecting on the past year fills me with immense pride and gratitude for the progress and accomplishments of Rhiza Holdings. We have reached significant milestones, made strategic advancements, and remained dedicated to our vision of fostering sustainable growth and creating enduring value for our stakeholders.

## STRATEGIC ACHIEVEMENTS AND GROWTH

Our diversified portfolio has continued to demonstrate resilience and adaptability in an ever-changing economic landscape. We have successfully expanded our operations, entered new markets, and strengthened our existing market positions. Our strategic initiatives have not only enhanced our competitive edge but also positioned us for sustainable growth in the years to come.

## INNOVATION AND SUSTAINABILITY

Innovation remains at the core of our operations. We have invested substantially in research and development, focusing on creating cutting-edge solutions that address the evolving needs of our customers and stakeholders. Our commitment to sustainability is unwavering, as we continue to implement eco-friendly practices and promote responsible business operations across all our subsidiaries.

## EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES

At Rhiza Holdings, we believe in the power of community. Our corporate social responsibility initiatives have made a significant impact in the regions we operate. From educational programs to health initiatives, we are dedicated to empowering communities and

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fostering a positive social change. We are particularly proud of our efforts to support women and youth, aligning with our goal of promoting inclusive growth and development.

### FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

Despite the global economic challenges, Rhiza Holdings has demonstrated robust financial performance. Our strategic cost management, coupled with prudent financial planning, has resulted in solid revenue growth and profitability. We are dedicated to providing value to our shareholders by following sound financial practices and maintaining sustainable business operations.

### LOOKING AHEAD

As we move forward, we are excited about the opportunities that lie ahead. Our strategic priorities remain clear: to drive innovation, enhance operational efficiency, and create sustainable value for our stakeholders. We will continue to build on our strong

foundation, leveraging our strengths and seizing opportunities to achieve our long-term goals.

### GRATITUDE AND APPRECIATION

I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to our employees, partners, and stakeholders for their unwavering support and dedication. Your commitment and hard work have been instrumental in our success. Together, we will continue to drive Rhiza Holdings towards greater heights.

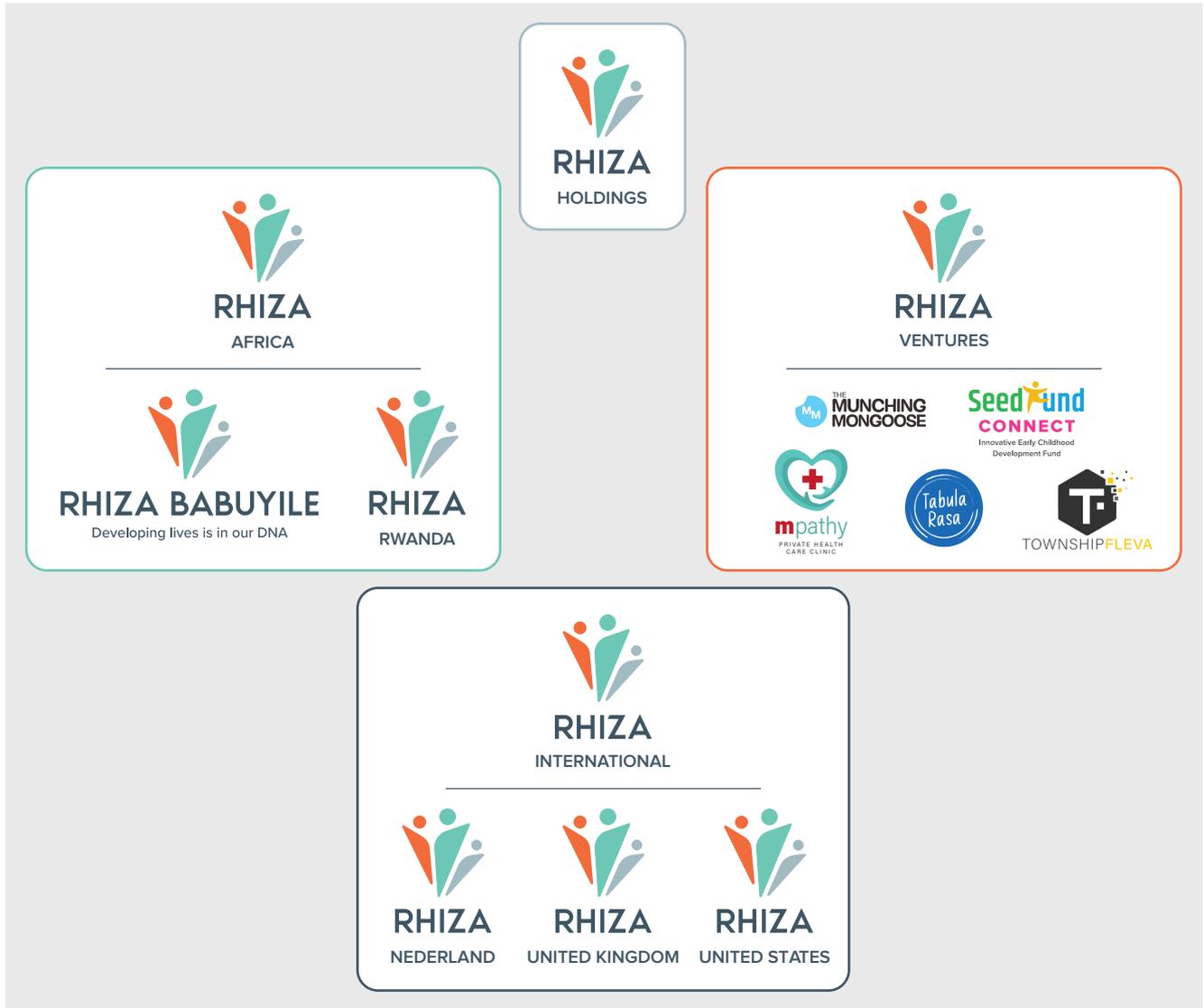
In conclusion, I am confident that Rhiza Holdings is well-positioned for a future of sustained growth and success. Our dedication to our vision, commitment to our mission, and adherence to our values drive us forward. Thank you for your continued trust and support.

Sincerely,

**Godfrey Katsande**

*Group CEO, Rhiza Holdings*

# ORGANISATION OVERVIEW



# DEVELOPING LIVES IS IN OUR DNA

**Rhiza Babuyile understands the interconnected dependency of the individual and community. We know that each strand of society has an impact on another. This is why we're built on a ready-to-serve principle. Ultimately we envision this principle builds skilled and sustainable communities through individuals. Inspiring the spirit of generosity, self-efficacy and attainable future opportunities for all South African youth.**

We have been in operation since 2005 and in this time have grown to develop life-giving opportunities across

an impact map of programmes: Agriculture, Education, Healthcare, Skills Development and Enterprise Development. Our initiatives champion career-specific infiltration, entrepreneurial spirit, mentorship, funding and flagship community impact.

We strategise to fulfil the aim of uplifting unemployed youth. We provide the most effective skills, tools and instruments of systemic and industry-specific standard to nurture and stimulate their deserving and developing future in South Africa.



# RHIZA CYCLE

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*Our organisation's values rest in the cyclical nature of community development. Community results are planted back into the community for everyone's benefit.*

We are a self-sustaining organisation.  
We teach what we practice.



# OUR PROGRAMMES

## EDUCATION

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### EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT

**Rhiza Babuyile's response to the challenge of quality early childhood education is with valuable training of practitioners and the upgrading of township-based schools.**

Rhiza Babuyile is committed to our communities. We are devoted to empowering and enabling the people and communities of South Africa. The rejuvenated and excelling individual life is catapulted by key factors: education and emotional skills. We provide these nurturing components with our training facilities and early childhood development centres.

With a lack of ECD training providers for principals and teachers in Early Childhood Development, children are not properly educated during their important development years within informal settlement areas. Our educational programmes adopt township-based preschools to ensure school staff are adequately trained and equipped to teach the future leaders of our country.

Our programmes look at the five domains of developmental achievement. Quality early childhood education provides persistent, life-long benefits to the child and society long after they have left pre-school.

These domains ensure the foundational milestones for school-going age are met:

1. Gross Motor Development
2. Fine Motor Coordination
3. Visual Motor Integration
4. Early Numeracy and Mathematics
5. Emergent Literacy Language, Cognition and Executive Function

Our programmes in the ECD Levels 4 and 5 further these milestones.

#### 1. ECD Level 4

This is a 12 month full qualification accredited ETDP SETA, and is equivalent to matric certification. It has 6 modules that are divided by 22 unit standards.

#### 2. ECD Level 5

This is a full higher qualification accredited by SETA.

We nurture a programme tailored to the ages of birth to five. The benefits we see in the children are endless and have lasting effects on IQ and improvements in academic and economic achievement. The programme also helps prevent the probability of chronic disease and obesity in adulthood.

## SEED FUND CONNECT - FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR ECD OWNERS

Seed Fund Connect is tailored to address the specific needs of community based ECD centres. With over 10 years of experience supporting ECD initiatives, we understand the daily financial challenges these centres face. To provide them with access to secure and risk-free financial capital, empowering their ECD centres to flourish into high-quality learning hubs within their communities.

### **WORKING CAPITAL LOANS**

For day-to-day operational expenses, ensuring smooth functioning and uninterrupted educational activities within your ECD

**R2 500 – R10 000**

### **EDUCATIONAL LOANS**

To support yours as well as your practitioner's professional development by providing loans for practitioner training programs up to NQF 5

**R10 000 – R30 000**

### **TOOLKIT LOANS**

Tailoring a toolkit for each age category within your ECD involves considering existing resources in your center to establish a standardized level of quality

**R10 000 – R90 000**

### **INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT LOANS**

A loan for the construction and improvement of infrastructure in your ECD center, such as classrooms, playgrounds, and facilities to enhance and ensure a safe learning environment

**R10 000 – R150 000**

### **HEALTH & SAFETY LOANS**

Funding for your ECD center to improve health and safety standards, including the installation of safety equipment, health screenings, and sanitation facilities

**R10 000 – R50 000**

### **EMERGENCY RELIEF LOANS**

A fund established to provide quick financial assistance to ECD centers facing unforeseen challenges or emergencies, ensuring the continuity of educational services

**R10 000 – R100 000**

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## RHIZA ROBOTICS IN PARTNERSHIP WITH LEAPHY FOUNDATION

Rhiza Robotics is a programme that offers opportunities for learning and interaction within the field. It includes wide range of offerings such as robotic hardware (robot kits), software (Easybloqs software), maintenance and support services and training programs. Robotics offers students the opportunity to become creative with technology in a playful way.

Introducing robotics in schools offers numerous benefits. It fosters critical thinking, problem-solving, and collaboration skills among students. Additionally, it provides hands-on experience with cutting-edge technology, preparing them for future careers in STEM fields.

Moreover, robotics education encourages creativity and innovation, empowering students to tackle real-world challenges in inventive ways.

As the landscape of technology evolves, it becomes increasingly crucial for secondary school students to be equipped with skills that will prepare them for the future. Robotics offers a dynamic platform for interdisciplinary learning, integrating concepts from science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM). With this in mind, we propose the establishment of a comprehensive Robotics Training Program tailored for secondary school students.

### **SCHOOL BENEFITS:**

Introducing robotics in schools fosters engagement through hands-on activities, integrates interdisciplinary learning across STEM subjects, and enhances critical thinking and problem-solving skills.

### **LEARNER BENEFITS:**

- Students learn to analyze problems, develop solutions, and iterate through the design process.
- Promotion of coding and engagement in STEM fields.
- It encourages students to apply knowledge from different disciplines to solve real-world problems.
- Access to career opportunities upon graduation.

### **ACADEMIC BENEFITS:**

- Robotics integrates various subjects such as science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM).
- Robotics provide opportunities for creativity.
- It also captures students' interest and motivates them to learn. Hands-on activities foster engagement, particularly among students who may struggle with traditional teaching methods.
- Robotics in schools not only enhances academic learning but also equips students with essential skills and prepares them for future opportunities in a technology-driven world.



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# OUR PROGRAMMES

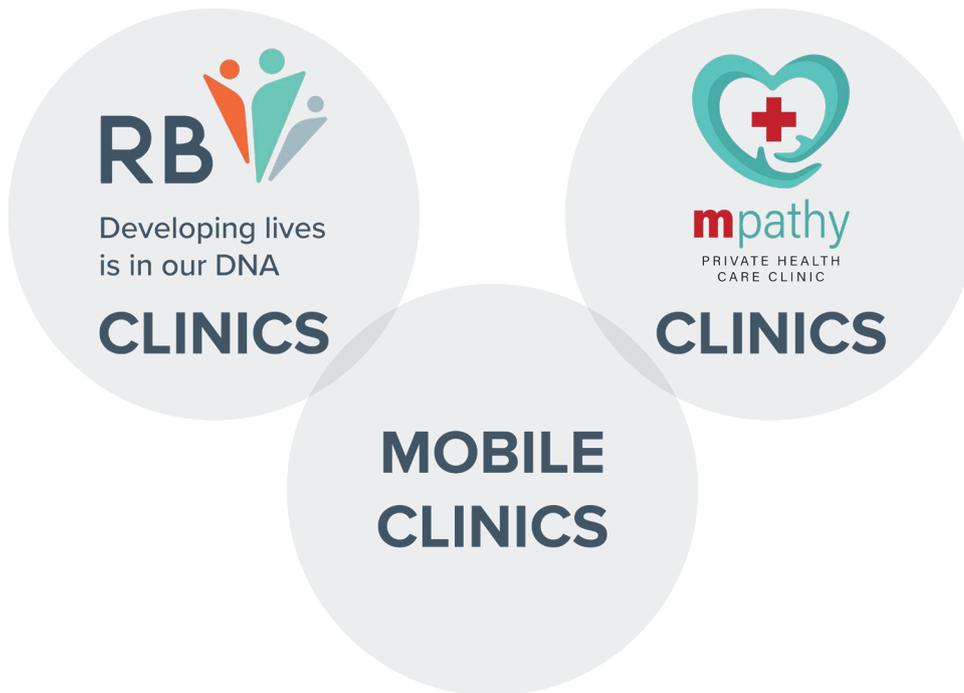
## HEALTHCARE

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Access to healthcare services is a basic human right guaranteed by the Constitution. Our clinics aim to bridge the need for our community members by providing a range of quality services to obtain high-quality care. Health is our wealth and a contributor to improved quality of life for all. Rhiza Babuyile is committed to our communities. We guide individuals to take a leading role in their health care, by providing them with support, education around wellness and accessible facilities.

Every time we put the health of our communities first, we give our people opportunity. Our health care programmes are developed around a holistic model to provide good quality healthcare services through our Community Life Centres and Mobile Clinics.

Our goal is to support local government clinics and the community by preventing diseases. Our priority is early detection for a favourable and hopeful outcome.



# OUR PROGRAMMES

## SKILLS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

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Rhiza's response to the unemployment crisis is simple. We view our learners and students as multi-skilled and diverse. These programmes have upskilled numerous learners in the last financial year. Our programmes offer unemployed youth aged 18 to 35 a comprehensive and grounded learning experience in various demand-driven industries: Agriculture, Fashion and Design, Entrepreneurship, Systems Management and lastly, Nursing and Teaching.

### AGRICULTURE

Our community participants train with us to self-sustain and further sell to leading supermarkets and formulate functional businesses.

### FASHION & DESIGN

Our Level 1 and Level 2 training programmes, equip our graduates with the skills necessary to embark on their entrepreneurial journeys within the realm of local fashion design enterprises. Alternatively, they may choose to join our affiliated sister brand, Township Flavour CMT, which specializes in offering textile services to renowned retail giants such as Woolworths.

### ENTREPRENEURSHIP

We've established business hubs complete with incubation programmes and open workspaces. These Incubators assist unemployed individuals from the townships grow their businesses, while providing entrepreneurs access to open workspaces. In addition to the business hubs we also aim to develop entrepreneurs who can become suppliers to our corporate partners.

### SYSTEMS MANAGEMENT

Our programmes offered unemployed youth aged 18 to 35 a comprehensive and grounded learning experience in various demand-driven industries. We are able to train students from a high school learning standard to taking on the knowledge and application of higher learning. This is the creation of skills rooted in economic imperatives as well as personal efficacy. In so doing we train, mentor and facilitate ICT Training Level 3 – 5 focusing on End-User Computing, Technical Support, IT Systems Development and IT Systems Support qualifications.

### NURSING AND TEACHING

Our clinics and healthcare workers provide patients with access to face-to face and telehealth consults, tailored to the community's requirements. We have also implemented emergency services, child health and immunisations, reproductive health, HIV Counselling and Testing, and many other integral services.



# OUR PROGRAMMES

## AGRIPRENEURSHIP

### RHIZA FARMS

**In our aim to tackle improved food security and economic participation, we develop under-resourced communities with utilising the land they live on. To us, Agri-preneurship is a series of training programmes that use active learning to engage trainees in discovering the profitability of farming.**

We train women and the youth to produce varied vegetable and crop gardens that sustain their families. Our trainees who participate in our programmes are given the skills, mentorship and placement to become suppliers to leading supermarkets. Our trainees are inducted into the development cycle of a Life Learner when becoming an agri-entrepreneur. In this programme we in-

roduce the trainees to 4 months of training of the crop planning process and turnover for sales. They then engage in entrepreneurship training for 2 months to hone their agri-business turn over sales projections. After 12 additional months in placement, trainees finish the programme with sales and business mentorship. Our farms provide plant production at NQF Level 4 and enterprise development to the beneficiaries of Tembisa, Diepsloot and Orange Farm. Our Life Learners have started planting their own land allocated by Rhiza Babuyile, and communal land negotiated with the local government in Tembisa and Diepsloot. Our aim is to continue providing a platform to spring board community sufficiency and entrepreneurial market penetration.



## THE MUNCHING MONGOOSE

**The Munching Mongoose is an open and honest celebration of REAL food, REAL life, REAL people with all its beauty, imperfections, humour, warmth, grit and joy. We believe that together, simple choices have a big impact – on our health, our planet and our lives. So, we work towards a positive and happy tomorrow, starting together, around the table, today.**

For The Munching Mongoose, health is of utmost importance. The health of individuals and their families, but equally the health of the world in which we all live. By putting small-scale sustainable farming back at the heart of our food system we are able to provide better food, for better health.

We are an ecommerce led food subscription business that offers food box subscriptions on a weekly or bi-weekly basis. Bridging the gap between local growers and families at home, our core offering is fresh and organic produce as well as other weekly staples. The Munching Mongoose builds long standing relationships and aims to leverage technology in order to connect families and individuals with the cleanest, freshest, most nutrient dense food. All the while promoting environmental stewardship through conscientious partnerships as well as reducing supply chain waste and packaging. In doing so, we support and uplift small and independent growers, producers and communities. Paying fair price and quickly.





## TOWNSHIP FLEVA

**We believe in the purpose and potential of South Africa's emerging enterprises. We believe in the power of intergenerational change by cutting the path for sustainable township business ventures. We believe when everyone has equitable opportunities to sustainable earnings, that everyone wins. Township Fleva builds township greatness into sustainable business ventures. We are the catalyst and accelerator of cross sectoral, social, township enterprises.**

Townships are brimming with entrepreneurs, from the barber, to the vendor selling fruit, to South Africa's first Mexi-Kasi township restauranter. There's nothing the township-preneur can't solve, resolve or innovate.

We understand what it takes to get into business, build a business and scale a business – with the right partners, investors and leaders. We aim to harness and hone the entrepreneurial skills of the township for the greater good of the community. We fund with intention and scale with integrity, providing impact funding to township based Fleva-preneurs with the desire to accelerate their businesses. We're a partner and provider, and a catalyst for the fleva-preneur. We love what we can do to build on township business, together. Meet our Fleva-preneurs. This is a social enterprise of small, local success stories. For business, by business. There's no business too small and no dream too big for Township Fleva.



# TRANSPARENT GOVERNANCE

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**In the pursuit of our organisational goals and commitment to sustained growth and impact, we present a comprehensive overview of our financial landscape.**

As we navigate the dynamic business environment, securing adequate funding remains instrumental in fueling our initiatives and fortifying our financial foundation. With an unwavering focus on fiscal responsibility and

resource optimisation, we strive to illuminate the pathways through which funding has shaped and continues to propel our success. Transparency is part of the intricate make-up of our organisation. We believe in the entrusted task we have of managing funds and the goodwill of our donors, volunteers, and other stakeholders.

*Responsible stewardship extends into all our operations.*

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*Good governance enables Rhiza Babuyile to operate with confidence and effectively make use of investments given to us by our partners. Competency and character are the backbone of Rhiza Babuyile.*

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We have improved our governance in the following areas:

## **Quarterly board meetings:**

We take the time to look over our progress and make amendments where necessary. Part of effective procedures is the mapping out of areas for growth and further accountability. We manage this through recorded meetings and comprehensive reports.

## **Effective board committees like risk and financial committees:**

Our committees take the task of developing clear policies and procedures. These procedures assist us in the development of ways of working that address our development goals in a manner that of transparent and fair.

## **Clear organisational structure and reporting systems through OPCO, Manco and EXCO:**

Our management teams take their role seriously and lead with decisively and with clear reporting channels for effective management.

# GROUP FINANCES

DESCRIPTION	TOWNSHIP FLEVA
Revenue	27 216 687
Other Income	1 141 729
In-kind Donations	-
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>28 358 416</b>
Expenses	-22 509 368
<b>Net</b>	<b>5 849 048</b>

DESCRIPTION	BABUYILE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT NPC
Revenue	51 092 419
Other Income	218 989
In-kind Donations	7 546 909
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>58 858 317</b>
Expenses	-49 974 670
<b>Net</b>	<b>8 883 647</b>

DESCRIPTION	THE BABUYILE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT TRUST
Revenue	15 725 534
Other Income	2 050 520
In-kind Donations	-
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>17 776 054</b>
Expenses	-20 117 138
<b>Net</b>	<b>-2 341 084</b>

DESCRIPTION	MUNCHING MONGOOSE
Revenue	3 874 660
Other Income	34 541
In-kind Donations	-
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>3 909 201</b>
Expenses	-4 646 955
<b>Net</b>	<b>-737 754</b>

DESCRIPTION	TOTAL GROUP REVENUE
Revenue	97 909 300
Other Income	3 445 779
In-kind Donations	7 546 909
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>108 901 988</b>
Expenses	-97 248 131
<b>Net</b>	<b>11 653 857</b>

# THANK YOU TO OUR FUNDERS & PARTNERS

# LIVING SUCCESS STORY

## KAMHSLUSHWA MPATHY CLINIC

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**Please meet Nokwazi Promise Magagula (Promise). Promise has been managing the Mpathy clinic in Kamhslushwa since April of 2024 and she is doing an amazing job!**

This Kamhslushwa clinic is the first rural clinic in the Mpathy network and is situated in Mpumalanga. There was no need for Promise to build up the patient numbers after opening her doors, as she started consulting an average of 15 patients per day! This is not only significant but is also a testament to the need that exists for high-quality, affordable and accessible healthcare in Africa.

Promise says: "I am trained as a clinical associate and am 90% trained in a hospital setting, which helps me a lot in providing healthcare services to my local community.

In addition, I have received incredibly good marketing support, which has reached many people not only through word of mouth but also via the distribution of

flyers that advertise our services. At the same time, the government clinics here are very full. People go there in the morning and, if they are lucky, only manage to get a consultation in the afternoon. Sometimes not until the next day! Here at our Mpathy clinic, patients can just walk in and be helped right away!"

The reason why Promise signed up to run an Mpathy clinic? "I really loved the idea of bringing affordable, quality healthcare to people," Promise says. "That has been my dream all along. Mpathy helped me turn my passion into a reality. It fits into my vision about what healthcare should really be."

Her dream is that people see our South African healthcare system differently, than what they do now. Promise continues, "I want to be the one that changes people's minds about our healthcare system and have them be happy to go a clinic and get the help they need. I want to create more spaces like this!"

**Right:** *Promise Magagula*





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