



OLDMUTUAL

GREEN HANDS ANNUAL REPORT

DECEMBER 2021





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A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

In the past few years we have experienced a near drought in the Western Cape and a pandemic which continues to deeply impact the most vulnerable members of our society. So, it should not have come as a surprise when the devastating UCT fires swept through Cape Town at the start of 2021, followed by the rioting and looting in certain parts of Gauteng and KZN in July. What continues to surprise and personally encourage me is the resilience of South Africans to sustain blow after blow and more so, the generosity of a nation's spirit. It is in times of need that the collective spirit of Ubuntu shines brightest.

The need this year was undoubtedly large and your response was equally large! In true Green Hands spirit, we managed to raise **R242 000.00** for those affected by the fires and looting and contributed bakkie loads of several necessities to those in need in KZN. These initiatives brought immediate relief to those in need.

Equally important is the work you do in your communities that is supported by Green Hands – that's where collectively we make a sustainable and long-lasting difference. The annual report showcases those efforts and demonstrates the impact of our combined efforts. This year we supported many worthy initiatives that are close to some of our employees' hearts. These include:

- The installation of turf at the Alta du Toit School that serves severely disabled children. The turf enabled learners in wheelchairs to use the playground.
- Sponsoring a computer lab at the Umhlatuzana Primary School in Chatsworth, KZN which serves children from the surrounding underprivileged community.
- The donation of equipment to the South African Lipizzaners for the job training programme that empowers the community with skills.

They say the best among us are those who benefit mankind. The Green Hands Team is privileged to work with so many who truly are the best among us.

Thank you! We remain in awe of your generous spirit.

Kind regards

ZULFA ABDURAHMAN

Chairperson: Green Hands Trust
Chief Risk Officer, Old Mutual Investments



An Overview

ABOUT GREEN HANDS

Established in 1998, the Old Mutual Investment Group Green Hands Trust is responsible for social development investments, donations and staff initiatives within Old Mutual Investment Group (OMIG) and Old Mutual Wealth (OMW).

As Green Hands, we strive to identify the needs in our communities and lend a hand by contributing to many different sectors, such as education, community upliftment, skills development and sport. Through Green Hands, a registered trust and public benefit organisation, staff donate both money and time to various outreach initiatives, over and above their individual contributions to the Old Mutual Foundation.

Green Hands is about more than just a hand-out and a smile. It's about staff rolling up their sleeves and working together with our communities, establishing effective partnerships, and fostering sustainability among recipients.

Our Primary Objectives

Our aim is to entrench corporate social responsibility into the organisation's culture. Being socially responsible is everyone's responsibility and we strive to promote this culture and to positively impact the many communities that are in desperate need of our helping hands.

The Selection Process

Before deciding which projects to support, Green Hands engages in a thorough evaluation process, which includes site visits (where applicable). The New Requests Committee (NRC) carefully screens all requests and evaluates them based on specific criteria such as the community they operate in, reference checks and the institution's registration details. Depending on the amount of funding required, the NRC submits large funding requests to the Green Hands Board of Trustees, who then makes the final decision. Only OMIG and OMW staff members are allowed to coordinate projects and it is essential that they take responsibility for the submission and management of these projects.

2021 GREEN HANDS CONTRIBUTIONS

At a glance



Education

R974,486



Community
Development

R433,627

EMPOWERING EQUESTRIAN TRAINING: THE SOUTH AFRICAN LIPIZZANERS

STAFF CO-ORDINATOR: Kathleen Danohar (Old Mutual Alternative Investments)

The South African Lipizzaner Centre (SAL) is a renowned equestrian non-profit organisation located in Paarl. It is dedicated to the preservation of the magnificent Lipizzaner horse in South Africa. The centre cares for 31 stallions and 43 mares, ranging in age from 4 to 30 years old. There are multiple participants involved in running the centre ranging from experienced riders, the riders in training (students), the grooms and the volunteer staff.

The organisation runs a job training program for disadvantaged students where they learn skills that enable them to be employable in the equestrian industry. The program has a 95% success rate. In addition, youth from disadvantaged communities and townships are invited to performance days to learn about animal care and learn from the students in the job learning program. There is also a focus on developing a riding team that will represent South Africa. The SA Lipizzaners are truly a beacon of the Proudly South Africa brand and a very unique national emblem sporting one of the only such racially and gender diverse riding teams in the world!



Green Hands became involved in 2021 to support the South African Lipizzaner (SAL) Youth and Community Programmes. It donated equipment to the value of **R244,916.77** which will foster a sustainable riding programme, including educational programs for riders, trainers and staff, job readiness and capacity building for youths and adults alike.

It's been a dream come true for SAL to share knowledge and experience to individuals who have the passion and dreams in the equestrian field, but not the means to follow it. The SAL Youth and Community programmes are a hallmark of what can be achieved with the right heart and conviction to support our communities, youth development and animal stewardship. We draw inspiration from the continued efforts the centre spearheads to ensure the survival of the Lipizzaner breed, while cherishing the long journey and circumstances that brought them to our South African shores. Green Hands has proudly helped this organisation make positive strides in ensuring that they have the right equipment to ride confidently into the future.

HELPING ALL LEARNERS PLAY: ALTA DU TOIT SCHOOL

STAFF CO-ORDINATOR: Pamela Chiang (Old Mutual Investment Group)



Alta du Toit School offers specialized, professional education to learners with intellectual disabilities from different cultural backgrounds. These learners are unable to sufficiently benefit from mainstream education. Every child at Alta du Toit is provided with the best possible opportunity to progress according to their ability and at their own pace. As far as possible learners are enabled to become self-supporting adults, who readily engage in the community they belong and feel at home in.

The school serves learners with disabilities such as Down Syndrome, Cerebral Palsy, Severe Intellectual Disabilities, Williams Syndrome, Angelman Syndrome, Prader-Willi Syndrome, as well as hearing- and visual disabilities. The school aims to teach all learners a range of skills, including but not limited to: self-reliance, life skills, numeracy, literacy, vocational skills and the importance of recreation and relaxation.

To enable all learners, especially those in wheelchairs, to access the playground, the Atla du Toit School requested funding to install artificial grass on their outside play area. The ability for all learners to play was something that Green Hands definitely wanted to support, and consequently an amount of **R199,580.00** was donated to cover the cost of the turf as well as the installation.

SUPPORTING THE CREATION OF SAFE LEARNING SPACES WITH OUTLIERS

STAFF CO-ORDINATOR: Stephan De Kock (Old Mutual Wealth)

The founders of Outliers have been working in the after-school programs industry since 2010, and in 2014 they started the formation of a network of after-school programs in Cape Town. By mobilising this network, Outliers aims to build capacity in after-school programs through training and resourcing, thereby enabling more learners to access academic support.



Outliers has grown from operating 1 after-school program to supporting a network of more than 200 safe learning spaces and positively impacting the lives of 20 000 students. In 2020, amidst the Covid-19 pandemic, the organisation supported community programs by sourcing PPE, mobilising food vouchers and edupacks. It also developed a 2021 Curriculum Recovery Plan, to assist learners in underprivileged communities to overcome some of the challenges it faced as a result of school closures in 2020.

“Outliers is really a wow factor in my life, and that of the organisation.” - Wendy Abrahams, Advance Edukos, Strandfontein.

Green Hands donated **R50,000.00** to Outliers, which was used to fund stationery and food vouchers.

Top Projects

UMHLATUZANA PRIMARY SCHOOL

STAFF CO-ORDINATOR: Carmen Govender (Old Mutual Specialised Finance)



Founded in 1958, Umhlatuzana Primary School is committed to providing a sound educational foundation for all their learners. Their vision is to become a pioneering centre of excellence serving both the educational and socioeconomic needs of a diverse society with quality and world class education.

Presently the school serves disadvantaged learners from the Burlington Settlement and Sea-view informal settlement in KwaZulu-Natal. Over 80% of the learners are unable to afford the schools fees of R1 000 per an annum. Green Hands funded **R129 203.00** towards a mobile computer lab that introduced computer learning to the students and has enhanced teaching and learning throughout the school.

RALLY TO READ

STAFF CO-ORDINATORS: Christine Ferreira and Neil Whitaker (Old Mutual Investment Group)

Rally to Read is an initiative that Green Hands has supported for the past 22 years. Along with a financial contribution, Green Hands usually shows its support to this campaign by sending staff members who have volunteered their time, to spend the weekend with Rally to Read and visit different schools in rural areas where education budgets almost never reach. However, due to the Covid-19 pandemic, staff were unable to do the usual visit to the schools for the past two years.



A primary role of the initiative is to train, coach and support the teachers in the schools through structured, in-service teacher training and dedicated support in the classroom. This is supplemented by the provision of quality resources to improve the literacy, language and comprehension skills of primary school learners in the schools.



Through the Green Hands' funding of **R144 000.00**, the organisation will facilitate the delivery of classroom resources that include books, teaching aids, science kits, sports equipment, educational toys and teacher training to these rural schools.



In addition to the donation made by Green Hands, a call was put out to staff members to donate towards much needed stationary for underprivileged learners that attend the schools supported by Rally to Read. Together with Green Hands, **R24 341.00** was raised towards this project.

FEEDBACK FROM RALLY TO READ FROM THE 2020 RALLY



As everything else in our lives, Rally to READ was severely affected by the Covid-19 pandemic. Although we were hoping that we would be able to have a 'normal' Rally weekend towards the end of 2020, it simply was not possible. So finally, on 10 February 2021, the sponsored resources were delivered to the various schools in the Cape Winelands District (Villiersdorp to Tulbagh). This delivery concluded a 3-year cycle to this area.

Neil and Christine volunteered to help deliver the sponsored goods to the schools with their own vehicles. This

way we could still visit the schools that Green Hands sponsored, although we missed having our colleagues with us. After an early start to pack the goods into the vehicles we left Parow around 08:00. We delivered goods to Overhex, Brandwacht and Petra Gedenk.

Sadly, there were no learners at the schools at the time and we really missed the excitement and hype that is so much part of the day. The appreciation of the teachers made up for the lack of learner participation on the day. Schools were all overjoyed and appreciative of their incredible

gifts! A few tears were shed, and a number of principals and teachers were astounded that despite Covid they were still being supported in such a generous and caring way.

Effective teaching is taking place at all schools and learners still only attend schools on alternate days. Covid protocols and systems are in place at all schools and in general learners are following rules, despite the incredible heat. We are starting at a new cluster of schools in the Overberg District for the 2022 -2024 Rally Cycle.

A sincere and heartfelt **THANK YOU** once again to Green Hands for supporting this project for the last 22 years.

ADVANCING EDUCATION: GRACE 2 LEARN

STAFF CO-ORDINATOR: Megan Davids (Old Mutual Alternative Investments)

Grace 2 Learn started in 2017 as an after-school tutoring programme applying 21st century learning methods. It evolved in 2018 to a full-time education centre offering Matric equivalent certification pathways and skills development programmes. Some highlights for Gace 2 Learn include sending students to the USA on sports coaching trips; and to Kenya for training facilitation services and running an IT tech circle for girls.

The purpose of the project is to provide youth and adults in the community access to important learning

materials at zero cost in terms of data costs and key educational content. "Key content" being educational content from grades 1 to 12, mainly focused on Maths, Science, English and coding but including many other subjects. From the comfort of their home, community members can access this content. Their aim will also be to host a video conference server at Grace Café where community members can do video calls with each other and the world for free.

Green Hands funded **R113,000.00** towards digital equipment for the growing number of learners, RAM modules, power supply units, motherboards and the installation of infrastructure for a community wifi network that will allow youth in the community access to bandwidth and data.

INHLAKANIPHO EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT TRUST: (IEDT)

The vision of Inhlakanipho Education and Development Trust (IEDT) is to see a new generation of South African leaders rise up to lead the country into its glorious full potential. Together with IEDT, Green Hands selects the most promising learners with high leadership potential and provides funding for high-quality schooling, primarily at the secondary level, together with a mentorship programme and leadership development camps.

The IEDT partnership with Old Mutual started in 2006. Since inception the IEDT and Old Mutual partnership has funded and supported 67 learners through high school. Of these learners, 65 obtained a Matric Exemption and have gone on to study at universities around South Africa or abroad. In 2021, Green Hands funded the education of seven disadvantaged learners. A total of **R587 130.00** was spent on school fees, uniforms, mentorship and other associated costs for these learners.

Learner specific feedback:

CAITLIN LYONS- MCGRADDIE

(Grade 11 learner at Rustenburg Girls High School)



Caitlin is one of the seven learners funded by Green Hands. Her mother is a single parent who lost her job as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic. Consequently, they had to move in with Caitlin's grandmother in Retreat.

The funding and support provided by Green Hands and IEDT have enabled Caitlin to continue with her schooling and all the other activities she is involved in. One of those activities is music and she performs in school concerts; Caitlin has also chosen German as an elective.

She has been performing exceptionally well academically and achieved an average of 88% across all subjects and 85% in Mathematics in Term 3 of 2021.

CAPE FIRES | Disaster Relief



Cape Town experienced a wildfire earlier this year that caused tremendous damage through the city. As the fires raged, everyone felt helpless to do anything to assist the heroic firefighters. Fueled by the need to do something to help, we asked staff to dig deep to raise funds in support of the fire relief efforts. Together with Green Hands, an amount of **R242 000.00** was raised!

The money was distributed amongst three worthy organisations. A donation was made to the Cape of Good Hope SPCA, which was used towards the treatment and care of animals displaced and wounded by the fire. At the University of Cape Town (UCT), thousands of students had to be evacuated from their residences. A donation was made to UCT Student Services that provided food and other essentials for students in need.

A donation was also made to Volunteer Wildfire Services, which is an organisation that has been combating dangerous and sometimes deadly runaway wildfires since the devastating 1999/2000 fires. The donation will be used for preparing volunteers for next year's fire season which includes training and PPE.

Staff Volunteerism

COOKING FOR A CAUSE

Annual initiative run by The Green Hands Team



One in four people in South Africa – circa 14 million people – does not know where their next meal is coming from, making food security a dire problem in this country. A lot needs to be done to decrease the rate of hunger and overcome the lack of food for our citizens. This is why Green Hands undertook to address this problem by providing support to the Lotus Street Foundation's Food Relief Programme. This specific programme launched in 2020 ensures that nutritious food directly reaches the homes of those in need.

To raise funds Green Hands hosted a fun cooking class which gave staff the opportunity to enhance their kitchen skills and to enjoy an afternoon learning how to cook a classic dish from the comfort of their home, all while supporting this worthy cause. Through ticket sales and individual donations, Green Hands managed to raise **R64 752.00** These funds were channeled towards Lotus Street Foundation's planned target to assist 6 000 learners over 6 months with relief packages.



Staff Volunteerism

#67MINUTES THAT MADE A HUGE DIFFERENCE

Annual initiative run by The Green Hands Team

The temperatures in Cape Town this year were particularly chilly with snowcapped mountains which turned Cederberg, Matroosberg and Ceres into a winter wonderland. The low temperatures compounded by strong winds and heavy rain turned our thoughts to those who are dependent on shelters for accommodation and on the good deeds of others to remain warm, fed and clothed. With this in mind, the decision was made to dedicate our #67MINUTES for Mandela Day to the Elim Night Shelter.

The Elim Night Shelter caters for the homeless and destitute, and with temperatures plummeting, were in desperate need of gently worn clothing, bedding and cans of food. Elim opened its doors on the 2nd of September 1997. It started on a purely voluntary basis with a small group of committed volunteers working in the streets of Goodwood to create a viable base for homeless people. Today, Elim can cater for a capacity of 70 residents including women and children as well as significantly increase the



services offered to people walking in off the street daily. Crucially, Elim has on-site resident management which offers every resident access to a resident counselor and resettlement social worker. The ethos and culture of the organisation are influenced by a number of external factors operating at different levels within the immediate physical environment.

Green Hands put out the call to staff to serve their #67MINUTES for Mandela Day by gathering up clothes, bedding and canned goods which would be donated to The Elim Night Shelter. On Saturday, 17 July the Green Hands team gathered (at an acceptable social distance of course!) at West Campus to accept donations. Generous staff donations tallied up to nearly 100 black bags of clothes, bedding and essential food items being dropped off at The Elim Night Shelter.

GOING THE DISTANCE WITH THE 9MILES

... A year later

Last year we featured the 9Miles Project, a community-based nonprofit organisation that was founded in Cape Town in 2013. Using surfing as a drawcard, 9Miles provides safe spaces and structured afterschool programmes for impoverished and vulnerable children in marginalised coastal communities; and offers food aid, literacy and academic support, mentorship, job creation, skills development, and holistic support to at-risk youth and their communities in the areas of Cape Town, Elands Bay, and St Francis Bay in South Africa.



In 2020, Green Hands donated **R80,521.00** towards the improvement of their café initiative which serves the dual purpose as a source of funding for the organisation and in turn the feeding scheme and also creates employment within the community.

The impact of this donation has been tremendous. Despite being closed for a long period during lockdown, the café still managed to generate an income of R44 650 (this is with being closed during what would have been their busiest time - the festive season due to the beaches being closed). This is a 94% increase from the previous year! The profits generated from the café is used to fund their other initiatives which creates boundless opportunities to make a difference in the communities 9Miles serves. The impact of the Green Hands donation will be seen for many years to come.



Thank you

A big thank you to all who participated in these initiatives this year. By answering the call, you have brought light and hope to those who need it most.

Would you like to nominate your charity?

The old adage of “teaching someone to fish rather than handing them the fish” rings true to the Green Hands philosophy. We are always looking for worthy initiatives, so if you have any nominations for projects we can support, please contact us at greenhands@oldmutualinvest.com.

Green Hands is a registered public benefit organisation (PBO), which means that donors can claim tax deductions for any donations made.

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