October Newsletter



More impact, more often.

An update from

our COO

As we head into the final stretch of the year, we wanted to share what the Ardú Foundation has been up to over the past few months. Since narrowing our focus and defining exactly how we'll fulfil our purpose, our projects have really begun to take shape.

I'll soon be reaching out to all the underwriting management agencies in our group to introduce the Ardú Community Hub model. This model will make it easier for everyone to support the causes that resonate most deeply with them — whether through time, resources, or expertise. Each hub will offer a combination of vital community services, a business centre, an entrepreneur support office,

hand-in-hand with local leaders to ensure each hub reflects the needs of its community. Keep an eye out for my email — I'd love to set up time to talk through your ideas. I'm also thrilled to share that our new website will

and spaces for small start-ups. We'll be working

go live in November! It'll be a dynamic, interactive platform where people can learn more about us, apply for funding, and contribute time or money to any of our initiatives.



Sandra Mcllwrath

iThemba Triumph **Trolleys**

The iThemba Waste Collectors Project continues to gain incredible traction. Supported by SAPS, the team is awaiting final licensing for their recycling depot the last step before becoming fully self-sustaining.

Three of our former trolley pushers have already moved into permanent jobs, a milestone that fills us with pride. As project director Danie Marx beautifully put it:

"What we're doing isn't just work – it's a calling. Four years ago, we started this journey, and by the grace of God, it's grown into something awe-inspiring. When we first met Allen and Sandra, we began reaching out to men and women who had nothing but broken trolleys and no hope. Today, 73 newly designed trolleys and bright orange uniforms later, they walk with dignity - visible, recognised, and proud.

have left the streets for permanent jobs. Each success story reminds us that serving others is a blessing in itself. To serve people is the only thing that gives me true joy."

In just the past three weeks, three of our members

A huge thank you to Danie and his team for living that message every day.



And don't forget to join us for the Big Clean-Up with iThemba Trolleys and the Moot Project on Saturday, 25 October from 8:00 to 11:00.

Email to sign up and remember, the team with the most participants wins a special prize!

sandra@re-public.co.za

Our Internship

Programme

Our interns, Hope and Christian, have been rotating through different departments at Strategic Insurance Systems, gaining firsthand experience of how the industry works. Both have impressed everyone they've worked with, and they'll soon be assessed or full-time placements in 2026.

We're also beginning the search for our next two interns, who will start in January. But before that, we asked Hope and Christian to reflect on their time with us so far:





From day one, I felt truly welcomed

guide me patiently, answering every question even when I had a lot! The learning curve was steep, but it taught me how to think critically and adapt quickly. This experience has strengthened my problem-solving, communication, and confidence lessons I'll carry with me well beyond this internship.



grow in ways I never expected. I've discovered strengths, faced weaknesses I used to ignore,

This internship has pushed me to

and gained confidence in my abilities. My mentors' feedback and trust helped me learn what it means to be a reliable colleague and an active contributor. I'm leaving this experience deeply humbled and grateful for the people who supported my growth, both personally and professionally.

progress, and the positivity they bring to the office each day.

We're so proud of both Hope and Christian for their attitude,

The Chintsa **Community Hub** We're heading to Chintsa on 20 October to finalise plans

for the next Ardú Community Hub. On our last visit, local leaders shared a clear need for a satellite police station, a social worker's office, and a clinic extension. We've since decided to renovate a former cultural centre to house these essential services — alongside a small business and entrepreneurship hub. The Chintsa project will be completely community-driven, designed and run by the people it serves. During our first visit, we met Themi, the inspiring

woman behind the Onwaba Drop-In Centre, where

she feeds up to 150 children two meals a day from her garden. Her stove was barely functioning, but thanks to your support, Ardú has been able to provide her with a new industrial gas stove and oven – a gift that will help her continue her incredible work with dignity and ease.



can feed big dreams," Themi shared as she lit the new stove for the first time.

me that even small kindnesses

As we reflect on these stories, we're reminded of why the

Looking Ahead

Ardú Foundation exists to create connections that empower, uplift, and build real change through community partnership.

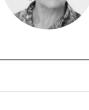
You can always reach me directly at: sandra@re-public.co.za

If you'd like to get more involved, whether by volunteering, mentoring, or simply sharing

your ideas, we'd love to hear from you.

Thank you for walking this journey with us. Together, we're proving that small acts of service can create extraordinary waves of hope.

Warm regards, Sandra Mcllwrath



The Ardú Foundation

Founder & CEO – re.public | Chair – The Ardú Foundation When we began re.public, we weren't simply building an

A Message from

Allen McDonogh

the place where our values could step out of boardrooms and into the world. Over the past few months, I've seen those values come alive, not in strategy documents or financial statements,

insurer. We were designing an ecosystem. A way for

good people to do good work and do it well. Ardú was

always meant to be the beating heart of that ecosystem;

but in people.

In the quiet determination of a waste collector finding dignity through enterprise. In two young interns discovering that insurance is not about risk; it's about

people. And in every UMA that continues to choose purpose as deliberately as they choose profit. Ardú exists to remind us that the past need not devour the future. It's where re.public's promise: to be

pro-human, fair, and locally rooted becomes visible in

action. Each community hub we build, each initiative

we support, is a reflection of that design: a bridge between the work we do every day and the lives we

To the UMAs that make up our re.public family, your

hope to change by doing it differently.

that insurance, when done with intention, can uplift. It's how we give meaning to the word "mutual" again. In Ardú', you'll find the truest expression of what re.public was always meant to be, an ecosystem that turns shared values into shared outcomes.

participation in these projects matters. It is how we show

Thank you for standing with us as we continue to prove that we can do well and do good at the same time.

Allen

With respect and gratitude,



McDonogh Founder & CEO – re.public Ins. Co. Chair - The Ardú Foundation

Thank you and take care.

ardúfoundation

