



The Ardú social upliftment foundation.

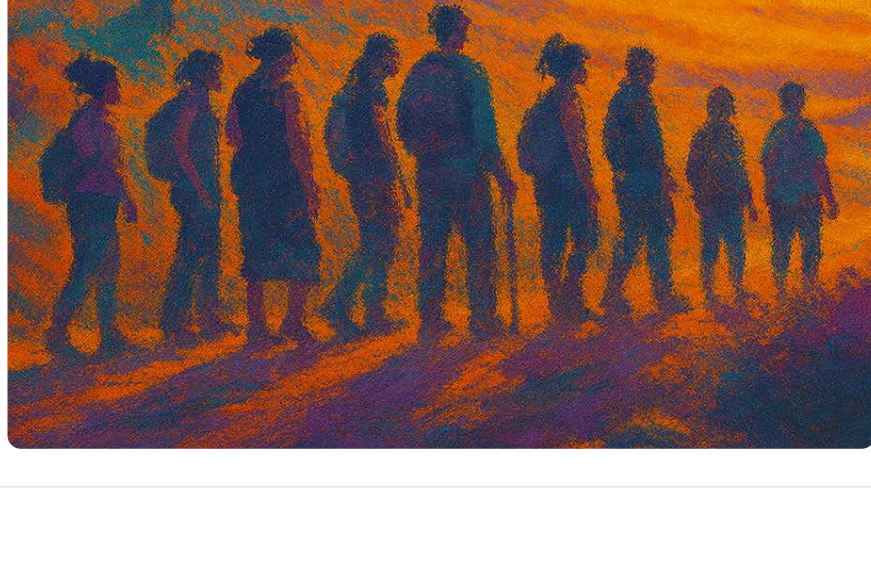
Dear Friends, Partners and Stakeholders of **The Ardú Foundation**,

I would like to give you an update on the progress of our projects.

Your investment enables us to move beyond simply identifying problems and towards creating practical, sustainable solutions that improve lives and strengthen communities.

This quarter has been one of significant progress, particularly within our iThemba Waste Picker Upliftment Programme and the development of our Chintsa Community Development Initiative.

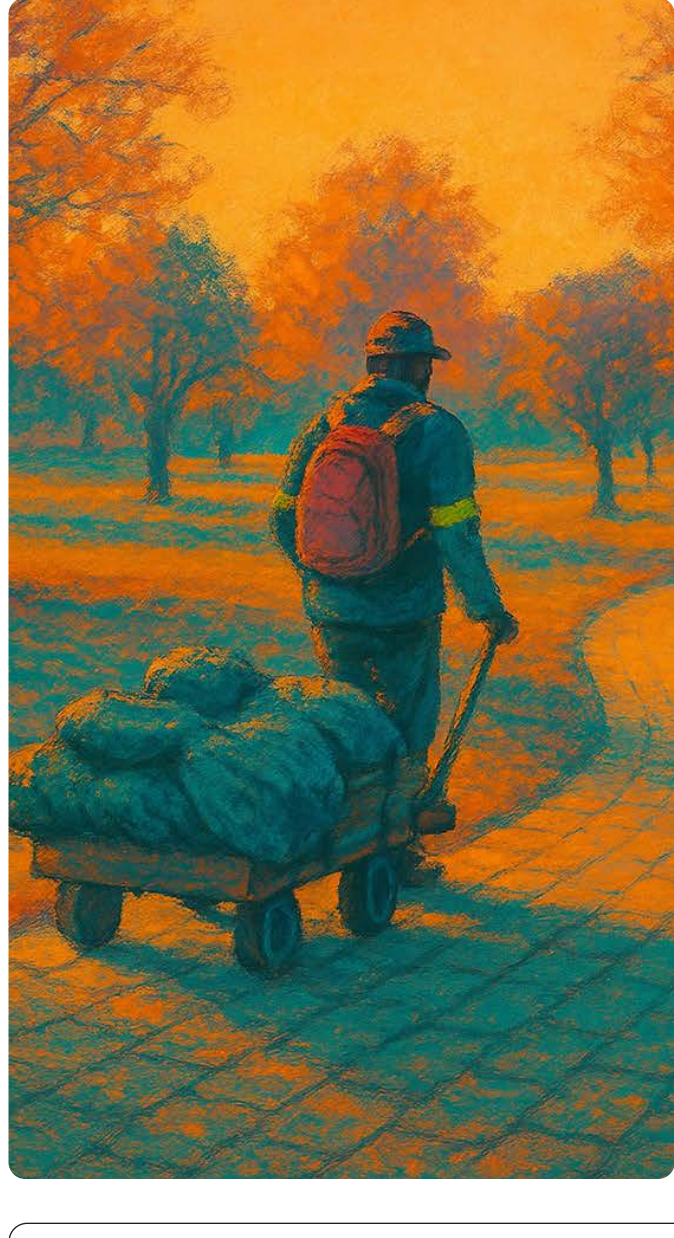
We are pleased to share the following update.



QUARTERLY DASHBOARD

iThemba **Waste Pickers Initiative**

200+ lives positively impacted	140 waste pickers equipped with trolleys	140 sets of overalls distributed	140 pairs of boots distributed	140 pairs of gloves distributed
iThemba Waste Pickers Depot fully operational		160 beneficiaries placed into permanent employment	01 beneficiary trained and employed as a welder	08 former waste pickers trained and employed at the depot



The iThemba Waste Pickers Depot, which commenced operations in February, is now fully functional.

As with any new venture, there were a few operational challenges and systems that required refinement during the start-up phase. We are pleased to report that most of these challenges have now been resolved, and the depot is operating effectively.

The depot has become the foundation from which we are able to support waste pickers, improve recycling outcomes, and create pathways towards employment, dignity, and stability.

EMPLOYMENT CREATION

One of our primary objectives has always been to help people transition from informal survival activities into structured employment opportunities.

We are proud to report that:

Eight former waste pickers have now been trained and employed at the depot.

This means eight individuals have moved from street-based waste picking into formal employment, providing greater security, dignity, and opportunity for themselves and their families.

This achievement demonstrates the long-term potential of the model we are building.

Looking **Ahead**

- Full implementation of the Social Upliftment Programme
- Launch of the Beneficiary Reward & Development Programme
- Expansion of feeding and healthcare services
- Growth of recycling partnerships
- Increased employment pathways
- Skills development opportunities

Social Upliftment Programme

LAUNCHED ON 1 JULY 2026

The next phase of the iThemba initiative focuses on addressing the practical challenges that many waste pickers face daily.

- 01. Hospitality Support**
All depot users will have access to tea, coffee and soup. This creates a welcoming environment where people can engage with support services and feel valued as members of the programme.
- 02. Daily Feeding Programme**
Every registered waste picker participating in the programme will receive: **One nutritious meal per day**. This initiative aims to improve health, wellbeing, and programme participation while addressing food insecurity among vulnerable individuals.
- 03. Hygiene & Dignity Facilities**
Participants will have access to shower facilities and improved ablution facilities. These services are an important part of restoring dignity and improving overall wellbeing.
- 04. Counselling & Personal Support**
Counselling sessions will be available every Monday. The objective is to provide: emotional support, guidance, encouragement and personal development opportunities. We recognise that many waste pickers face significant personal challenges and that long-term change requires support for both practical and personal wellbeing.
- 05. Access to Healthcare**
Participants will have access to medical support when necessary through our developing healthcare network. This support aims to address medical concerns early, improve quality of life, reduce preventable health complications and support participants as they work towards greater stability.

Beneficiary **Reward & Development** Programme

A major new component of the social upliftment programme is the introduction of our Beneficiary Reward & Development Programme. **The programme is designed to encourage positive participation, personal responsibility, and long-term development.**

★ Earning Points Participants will earn points through activities such as: • Regular use of the iThemba Depot • Participation in programme activities • Attendance at counselling and support sessions • Positive behaviour and community engagement • Commitment to personal development • Participation in future skills development opportunities	☆ Redeeming Points Points earned can be exchanged for practical items including: • Groceries • Toiletries • Clothing • Personal care items • Essential household goods
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Participants will also have the option of accumulating points towards future:

Skills development programmes | Training opportunities | Career development initiatives

The objective is to create a culture of accountability, participation, and personal growth while rewarding positive engagement.

QUARTERLY DASHBOARD

Chintsa Community **Development Initiative**

✓ Community Centre planning progressing	✓ Architectural plans underway	✓ Bakery feasibility study in progress	✓ Youth development programme planning underway	✓ Community engagement and surveys continuing
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Progress continues on the Chintsa Community Development Initiative.

Key activities this quarter include:

- Community engagement and consultation
- Architectural planning for the Community Centre
- Feasibility studies for the Bakery Project
- Planning for the Homework & Education Centre
- Development of youth engagement programmes
- Identification of local opportunities for skills development and entrepreneurship
- Exploration of an Early Childhood Development training centre, in partnership with the Pen Foundation

The Community Centre remains the cornerstone project and will serve as the platform from which future programmes and services will operate.

Looking Ahead	• Finalisation of Community Centre planning • Completion of project feasibility studies • Community participation programmes • Youth development initiatives
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Growing Champs Support Programme

This initiative, in partnership with the Growing Champs Foundation, aims to mentor and guide the career paths of seven young men on the verge of stepping out into the world – young leaders who have had the opportunity to escape unfortunate circumstances, flourish, and fulfil their chosen purpose.

The Insurance Internship Programme

We are so proud of both Hope and Molenge, who have done exceptionally well with their projects for the insurance qualifications they are studying towards.

We wish them both well for their exams in July.

A Message from **Sandra Mc Ilwrath**

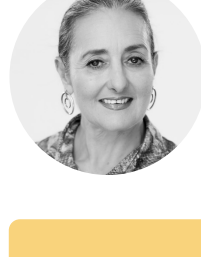
Chief Operating Officer | Ardú Social Upliftment Foundation

I would like to remind you that any contribution you feel you can make towards our projects will be highly appreciated.

We are endeavouring to build sustainable systems that create dignity, opportunity, and hope for vulnerable individuals and communities. Donations of clothing, toiletries, and groceries would be invaluable in support of these projects. And if you have time or a skill you would like to share, we are starting a register of available volunteers for our programmes – you are welcome to contact me to be added to it.

We remain committed to careful stewardship of resources and to creating measurable, long-term impact.

Thank you for walking this journey with us.



Sandra
Mc Ilwrath
Chief Operating Officer
Ardú Social Upliftment Foundation

“BUILDING OPPORTUNITY. RESTORING DIGNITY. STRENGTHENING COMMUNITIES.”

Thank you and **take care.**