

## 1. Background & area of operation

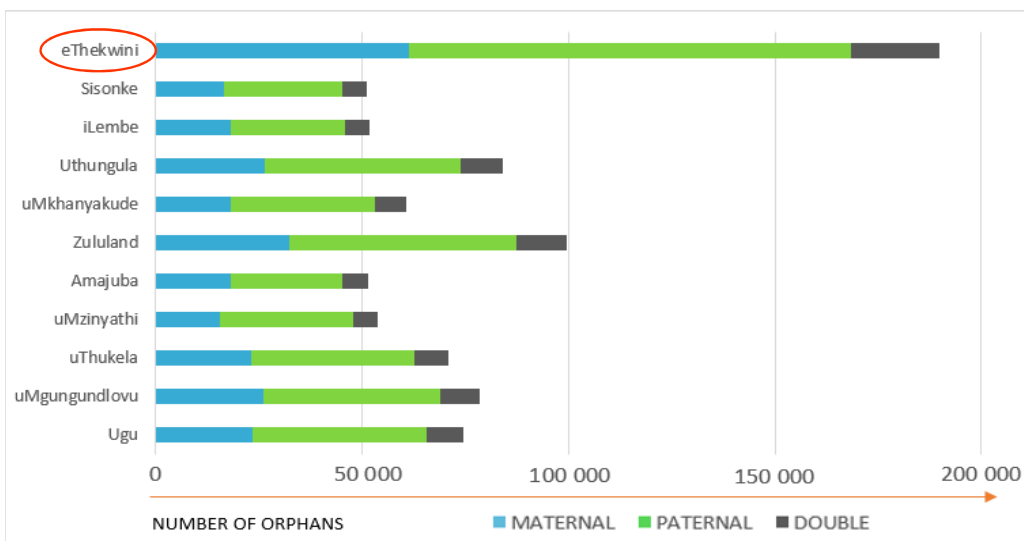
Vukukhanye was formed in 2001 in response to the threat to child and family welfare caused by the HIV and AIDS epidemic in South Africa and the reality experienced in the community of Chesterville (in the Cato Manor region of the eThekweni District in the province of KwaZulu-Natal) - broken families and an increasing number of orphans who needed care at a time when extended families were being stretched beyond their ability to cope.



The founder members of Vukukhanye have been associated with Chesterville since 1989. This history with Chesterville and the needs expressed by community leaders and health workers lead to the formation of Vukukhanye in 2001, our initial response being the establishment of a Children's Foster Home to care for orphans.

## 2. Motivation

While much progress has been made in South Africa's national response to HIV and AIDS, census results from 2001 to 2011 show a steady increase in the number of orphans in South Africa to over 3 million in 2011 (19% of children aged 0-17 years)<sup>1</sup>. Current estimates place the number of orphans in South Africa in the region of 4 million, with the numbers being particularly high in the eThekweni Municipal District of KwaZulu-Natal (KZN)...of South Africa's 9 provinces, KZN has the highest number of orphans (30% of all orphans in South Africa)<sup>2</sup>; and as can be seen in the figure below, of the 11 districts in KZN eThekweni has the most orphans (22% of the estimated 866 000 orphans in KZN)<sup>2</sup>.



ORPHANS IN KWAZULU-NATAL, BY DISTRICT

# Socio-economic demographics of Chesterville

In addition to orphaned and vulnerable children; poverty, unemployment and low levels of education are still realities in Vukukhanye's area of operation.

## ORPHANS

**16%** of children under 14 years are orphans  
(of whom 3% have no living biological parent)



## YOUTH (<18 years)

**32%** of the population

## HIGHEST LEVEL OF EDUCATION

% of population with **Grade 12** as highest education level achieved – **43%**

% of population with a **tertiary** qualification – **3%** (in eThekweni = 6.5%)



## SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

**12,2%** of children 5-17 years are **not** attending school



**Primary & Secondary Schools** - Chesterville has 3 primary schools and 2 secondary schools. School fees are R300 to R500 per year. The government feeding programme provides daily meals to children who require assistance.

**Preschools** – there are at least 12 formal crèches in Chesterville. Children attending crèches receive two meals per day. Fees are approximately R160 per month (R200+ for babies)

## INFORMAL DWELLINGS (SHACKS)

**23%** of all households are shacks (nearly 3x the rate in KZN)

**8.5%** of all households are shacks in **informal settlements**



Chesterville consists of a mix of formal RDP (government subsidised) homes and informal dwellings (shacks). Informal dwellings include backyard shacks, shacks in informal settlements and government provided temporary accommodation in transitional communities (awaiting homes).

## UNEMPLOYMENT – 25%

**25%** unemployment (this is 1.5X the rate in KZN)

An additional 5% are discouraged work-seekers.

## AVERAGE HOUSEHOLD INCOME

**R14,600** per year (R1200 per month)

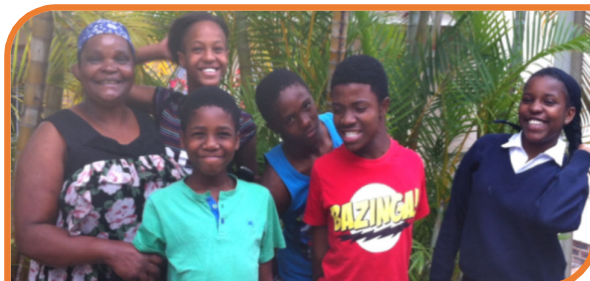


### References:

Stats SA (2011) - using Ward 29 statistics as this ward is most representative of the area of operation of Vukukhanye.  
<https://wazimap.co.za/profiles/ward-59500029-ethekweni-ward-29-59500029/>

### 3. Mission

Vukukhanye's Mission is the protection, support and development of orphans and vulnerable children, youth and families; to help them reach their potential.



#### Children's Foster Home (est. 2001)

Up to six children are cared for on a short or long-term basis, until reunification with family, foster care or adoption is achieved or until the children have been supported to the point of being independent adults.

Seventy-seven children have been cared for to date.



#### Bursary Programme (est. 2008)

Long-term school and tertiary bursaries are provided to children and youth, with the aim of helping them achieve tertiary qualifications.

There are 13 bursars at the moment; 5 at school & 8 at tertiary institutions. Nine bursars have graduated.



#### Early Childhood Development

'The Vukukhanye Educare Centre' was established in Chesterville in 2012. This educare centre provides quality preschool education and care to 45 children aged 2 to 5 years.

The children also receive two meals daily. Staff training is a priority and is ongoing (NQF Levels 4 & 5).



#### Orphans & Vulnerable Children, Chesterville

Five care-workers identify vulnerable children and families. Support is provided through home-visits, counselling, referrals and assistance with school needs, infant formula, food and household consumables.

Vukukhanye also works with corporate partners, NGOs and the community, to support local preschools, schools and community-based organisations (for example with school needs for children or resources for the schools and organisations).



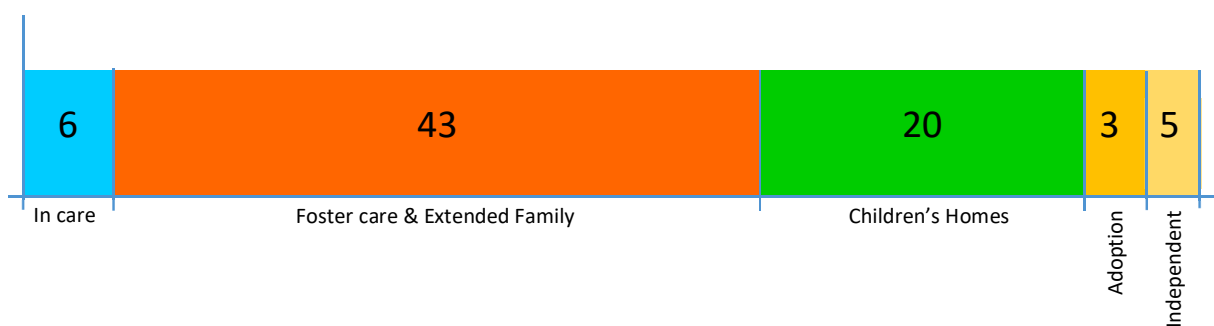
## 4. Projects

### 4.1 Children's Foster Home

This Home in Berea West, Westville, was established in 2001 to provide a source of short or long-term care for orphans and vulnerable children. Our aim is to provide the children with a loving, stable home environment, guide their educational progress and provide psychosocial and other support (e.g. counselling and extra-lessons) as needed. Contact with extended family is supported when appropriate and wherever possible children are reintegrated with their family or placed with adoptive or foster parents; but in some cases long-term placement of children at the Home occurs. The children are cared for by a Foster-mother, Tryphina, who receives assistance with domestic work and respite care from Maureen.

Seventy-seven (77) children have been cared for since 2001, with six children aged 12-18 living at the Home at the moment. Children placed in care have included sibling groups who have no living mother or father, abandoned, neglected or abused children, as well as refugees. In a number of instances social workers have placed children in short-term crisis care, such as when home circumstances become dangerous or a single-parent is sick and there is no extended family to provide care.

Destination of children 2001-2019 (77)



## 4.2 The Vukukhanye Educare Centre

The Vukukhanye Educare Centre was established in Chesterville in March 2012 and we are very pleased with the consistent quality of care and education which has been provided by the dedicated staff for the last six years. Approximately 45 children attend daily, cared for by 3 teachers, 1 teacher's assistant and 1 cook/cleaner. The hours of operation are 7:30am to 3:00pm daily, with the formal programme between 8:00am and 1:00pm.



The children live in the neighbouring community of Chesterville and are largely from poor families, cared for by single parents, extended family or other caregiver. The poverty of caregivers places the children at risk of not receiving sufficient early childhood stimulation and inadequate nutrition. The services offered by the Vukukhanye Educare Centre seeks to meet these vital developmental needs.

In addition to the early childhood development services provided; the children are fed breakfast, lunch and a morning snack daily. Partnership with the local Department of Health ensures that standard immunizations are done on-site during visits from clinic staff. Ongoing training of the staff is a priority, and all staff have received child-care training through Phakamisa, and accredited (NQF Levels 4-5) early childhood development training through NELRU and Caversham. One of the teachers recently achieved her Level 5 qualification. The educare centre also benefits from participating in the Cato Manor Preschool Forum, which provides training and support a central resource centre at Inkanyezi Crèche.

*Recent research confirms that the first five years of a child's life are particularly important for the development of the child's brain, and the first three years are the most critical in shaping brain architecture. Early experiences provide the base for the brain's organizational development and functioning throughout life, directly impacting the development of learning skills, social and emotional abilities.*

(Child Development and Early Learning, [www.factsforlifeglobal.org](http://www.factsforlifeglobal.org))





## 4.3 Bursary Programme

### Quote...

*"Without substantial numbers of university-trained professionals a country cannot advance. No educational factor correlates as strongly with gross national income as does university enrolment" (Mayer, 2007).*

Building on our relationship with Chesterville Secondary School, Vukukhanye launched a Bursary Programme at this school in August 2008 - all Grade 12 learners were invited to apply, two candidates were selected and their tertiary studies sponsored from 2009. Vukukhanye has to date helped eight bursars achieve tertiary qualifications - in the fields of economics, accounting, civil engineering, marketing, nursing, as well as welding & fabrication. Each bursar has a unique story and we have included some of Silindile's journey below.

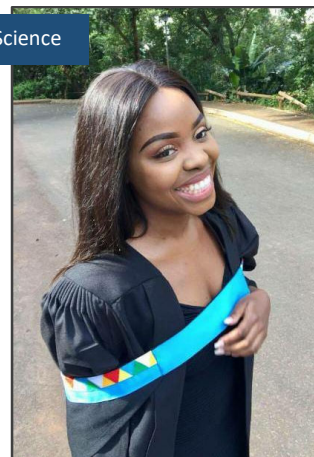
Vukukhanye is currently supporting 15 bursars, 6 of whom are at school and 9 at tertiary institutions. Bursaries include fees, text books, stationery and uniforms and our goal is work with the bursar and their family until they achieve a tertiary qualification. Guidance, mentorship and support is provided to help make wise choices and support the bursar through challenges along the way.



### Silindile's Journey

Graduation 2018 – Bachelor of Social Science

Sli was raised by her grandmother, who sadly passed away when Sli was in grade 10; after which Sli continued living with her grandfather and uncles in very poor conditions in a small home in Chesterville. Sli performed well at school and was selected from the Grade 8 class of Chesterville Secondary School in 2009 as a beneficiary of Vukukhanye's Bursary Programme. Sli has been supported in her educational journey for the nine years since; including with tuition fees, text books and stationery; as well as assistance with food and transport costs to travel to and from university. Silindile passed all her school grades and went on to be accepted to study a Bachelor of Social Science Degree at the University of KwaZulu-Natal.



Sli specialised in Geography and Environmental Management and in 2017 achieved her Bachelor's Degree. Sli developed a passion for teaching and in 2018 started her Post Graduate Certificate in Education (PGCE) at the University of KwaZulu-Natal Edgewood Campus, conducted her practical teacher training at Chesterville Secondary School and is now qualified to teach in a secondary school. We are very proud of Sli's achievement!



2009 (Grade 8) - Sli on the day she was awarded a bursary, with 3 other recipients

*"In 2009 I was diagnosed with pneumonia and tuberculosis, however my illness did not hinder my way to success because I had Vukukhanye as my support system and I already knew from a very young age that I wanted to succeed in life and the only thing that would help me is education" (Silindile).*

## BURSARS 2008-2019 (22)

	NAME	Year selected/ Grade	SCHOOL / INSTITUTION	GRADE / LEVEL (2019)
School Bursars (5)				
1	Spesihle	2013/1	Christopher Nxumalo	Grade 7
2	Mbali	2012/1	Chesterville Secondary	Grade 8
3	Nobuhle	2011/1	Umkhumbane Secondary	Grade 9
4	Asanda	2010/1	Umkhumbane Secondary	Grade 9
5	Bhekisiza	2013/5	Umkhumbane Secondary	Grade 10
Tertiary Bursars (8)				
6	Sofia	2011/5	To be decided June 2019	1st year
7	Neliswa	2013/8	Berea Technical College	1 <sup>st</sup> year - N4 Travel & Tourism
8	Nontsikelelo	2010/5	Central Technical College	2 <sup>nd</sup> year - Nat. Diploma Chem. Eng
9	Nothando	2012/8	Regent Business College	3 <sup>rd</sup> year - Business Man.
10	Siphiwo	2009/5	Springfield College (FET)	In-service - Human Resources Man (N6)
11	Nolwazi	2011/8	Berea Technical College	2 <sup>nd</sup> year - Public Management (N5)
12	Thabiso	2009/8	Boston College	3 <sup>rd</sup> year - Nat. Diploma Fin. Accounting
13	Siyanda	2013/12	UKZN	3 <sup>rd</sup> year - B.Com Accounting
Graduates (9)				
1	Thembinkosi	2009/5	2018 (KZN School of Welding)	Eng., Fabrication & Boiler-making
2	Slindile	2009/8	2018 (UKZN, Edgewood)	B.Soc.Sci & Post-Graduate Cert. Education
3	Ntobeko	2012/12	2017 Honours (UKZN)	B.Com Economics, Honours
4	Z'busiso	2011/12	2016 (PC Training College)	B. Com.
5	Sbonelo	2011/12	2014 / DUT	Civil Engineering
6	Thobeka	2010/12	2013 (Netcare)	Nursing
7	Tsepo	2009/12	2014 / DUT	Diploma in Marketing Management
8	Thabile	2009/12	2015 (Nurs & Prim. H-Care)	Nursing
9	Philile	2013/12	2015 (UKZN)	BSC. Biological Sciences (Honours)

#### 4.4 Welfare Support (Vulnerable children and families, Chesterville)

The aim of the Welfare Support Project is to contribute to social welfare service delivery in the greater Chesterville area of Cato Manor, by identifying and supporting vulnerable children and families. Five care-workers conduct home visits and follow up on needs referred by community members. Support provided includes home-visits, counselling, emergency or monthly assistance with food, infant formula, toiletries (including sanitary pads) & household consumables, follow-up on cases of abuse and poverty, TB screening (via a questionnaire), accessing official documentation and grants, as well as referral to other organisations. Two of Vukukhanye's community workers have been trained in assisting children's adherence to ARV therapy.

A common scenario is that of an aunt or grandmother who takes responsibility for the care of children following the death of the children's mother. This can be overwhelming when the new caregiver is unemployed (or employed only part-time) or is a pensioner already with dependants and now has to shoulder the burden of providing for and raising their sister or daughter's children.

Approximately 180 children are assisted on a monthly basis and on an annual basis we assist children with school needs such as uniforms, stationery and fees. Vukukhanye also seeks to partner with companies and other donors to direct resources to local preschools, schools and community based organisations (such as those caring for the elderly or disabled).





## 6. Registration and B-BBEE Status

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Vukukhanye is a Non-Profit Organisation (017-325 NPO) registered with the Department of Social Development and a Public Benefit Organisation (130002073) registered with SARS in terms of Section 18A of the Income Tax Act. Vukukhanye is an 'Exempt Micro Enterprise' as defined the Broad-Based BEE Act (Affidavit number: VUK01942SOU01.1, which can be downloaded from <https://vukukhanye.org/site/eme>).

All donations to Vukukhanye are subject to income tax exemption in terms of Section 18A of the Income Tax Act (RSA), and donations (up to 1% of net profit after tax) qualify as Socio-Economic Development contributions and donors are provided with Section 18A donation receipts.

## 7. How to Partner

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Vukukhanye would love to partner with more individuals and companies who identify with our mission, as we continue to protect vulnerable children in our area of influence and support them in achieving their potential. Please contact us at the details below if you would like to discuss partnership or have any questions.

Donations can be made securely via Vukukhanye's website or by direct bank transfer (details below). All donors will be provided with Section 18A donation receipts and any other documentation needed for tax, BEE or Socio-Economic Development (SED) contribution purposes. In-kind Section 18A donation receipts reflecting the value of in-kind donations made can also be provided.

### Secure online donations:

Visit [www.vukukhanye.org](http://www.vukukhanye.org) and click on the  button on the homepage to donate securely via GivenGain.

### Bank transfer (eft):

Account Name:	Vukukhanye
Account number:	25 254 884 1
Bank:	Standard Bank
Branch:	Westville
Branch code:	045426 (or universal code 051001)

## 8. Contact Details

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