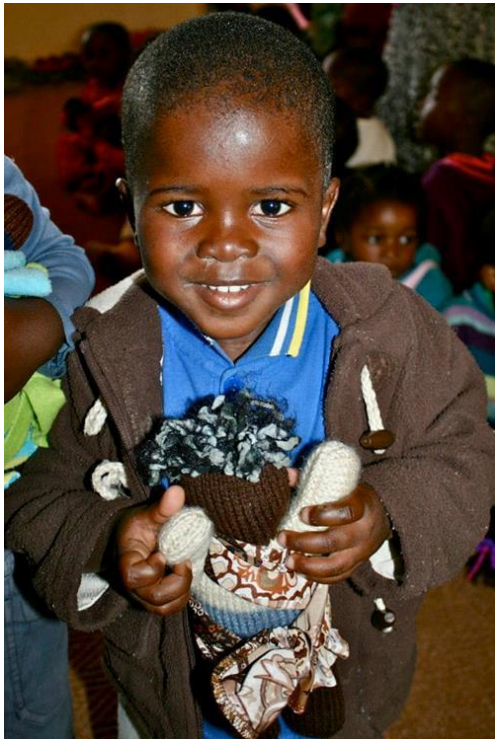


## What are the statistics?

In the part of KZN where our work began, where the AIDS pandemic is most severe, one in five children grieves the loss of one or both parents and up to 60% of young women may be HIV+.

**Across South Africa**, 14.8% of young women and 4.5% of young men aged 15-24 are living with HIV/AIDS. Over 1000 people die each day from HIV/AIDS in South Africa and 1.4 million children have lost one or both parents.



## For more information, patterns or mailing list registration:

Website : [www.uthandoproject.org](http://www.uthandoproject.org)

Coordinator: Georgia Efford  
08 9293 2363  
[info@uthandoproject.org](mailto:info@uthandoproject.org)



[facebook.com/Uthandoprojectinc](https://facebook.com/Uthandoprojectinc)

## School Projects

Lynne Tognolini 08 9293 3876  
[schools@uthandoproject.org](mailto:schools@uthandoproject.org)

## Donations

All our doll kits depend upon donations of fabric and other haberdashery.

Bright cottons, patterned stretch fabrics, sequined and other brilliant materials are ideal for the dolls. We can use all types of wool/yarns for hair, and endless amounts of buttons, beads with large holes, braid, ribbons, elastic and lace. Faux fur and animal print adds an African feel.

Donations to assist with the shipping costs to South Africa are greatly appreciated.

Please email [fundraising@uthandoproject.org](mailto:fundraising@uthandoproject.org)

## Post or Delivery of Dolls\*

Georgia Efford Calico and Ivy  
2 Healey Place or 10 Glyde Street  
Gooseberry Hill Mosman Park  
WA 6076 WA 6012

*\*Hand deliveries on Fridays preferred*



*“Touching hearts and bringing play to life”*

**Could YOU make a doll for a child who has never had one?**

**If you can sew, knit, or crochet ... we have the patterns. You can be as creative as you like - all we ask is that your doll be sturdy, cuddly and colourful, with brown skin, no glue and easily dressed clothes**

## Where are the dolls going?

To children living in KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa, where two thirds of children live in poverty, and all have been affected by the HIV/AIDS pandemic.

Dolls are distributed mainly through the agency TREE (Training Resources in Early Education): [www.tree-ecd.co.za](http://www.tree-ecd.co.za) Our training partner is **dlalanathi** (<http://dlalanathi.org.za>) who work with many communities and their relationships with children at risk through "Play 4 Communication".

Dlalanathi is an isiZulu word meaning "play with us", which expresses how play is used to strengthen mental health in children.

Our fundraising is given to **dlalanathi** for professional Zulu staff psychologists and administration. Dolls are also selected for 4 other organisations and have been given to the Amagugu project of The Africa Centre, which empowers HIV+ mothers to disclose their HIV status to their children...a vital need where AIDS carries such a stigma.

## How are the dolls used?

The dolls will bring delight to the children and their carers, as an invitation to play. Play can facilitate difficult conversations and help the child with grief and loss. To own and play with a doll encourages a child's development in all spheres: physical, intellectual, emotional, social and spiritual.

## Who makes the dolls?

Anyone! This is a grassroots project. Craft groups, individuals, school children, seniors, church groups ... all want to send something made with their own hands, to show children and families living midst the pandemic that they are not forgotten by the rest of the world.



## How did the project begin?

In 2004, Dr Julie Stone, an Australian infant, child & family psychiatrist, visited South Africa. She witnessed the stark situation and invited people to respond by making dolls. Since then, many have.

*Uthando means 'love' in the Zulu language*

## How many dolls have been sent?

Dolls have arrived in KwaZulu-Natal from all over the world. Over 35,000 dolls have been sent from Australia in over 9 years, through our Perth address.

KZN (population 10 million) has 1.5 million children under the age of 6, and each one would love a doll of their own.

## What else is happening in KZN?

Hundreds of programs work with children and families, at an individual, community and state level. Much of the community work is tackled bravely by volunteers who daily face daunting emotional and logistical problems.

Our aim is to support the work on the ground through our partner NGOs. We provide dolls which suit their specific needs. We encourage individual and community training which will give children a stronger childhood in the face of difficulties.

