



# AMATHUBA

• YOUTH TRUST •

UPLIFT. IGNITE. RISE



# ONE MAN

ONE MATCH

Before Amathuba had a name, **it had a heartbeat** — one man quietly lighting the way.

**Nigel Bands**, Founder and Director of Southsure Brokers, began this journey long before it became a trust. In his personal capacity, he opened doors for young people who had none — placing them in schools, mentoring them, welcoming them into his own family. Rugby was often the spark, but what he offered went far beyond the field: belonging, belief and the chance to rise. Long before formal programmes or public recognition, Nigel had already helped many young people change the trajectory of their lives. His actions lit the first match — and that single flame would grow into something far bigger than he ever imagined.





# A NEW FLAME

FOR A NEW GENERATION



**Amathuba means opportunity** — and that's exactly what we bring: the chance to grow, to rise and to rewrite the future. For young people who've been overlooked or underserved, we create real pathways to possibility.



Born from a legacy of nurturing sports talent, the Amathuba Youth Trust has evolved from an NPO that supports disadvantaged young people with a talent for rugby into a broader youth development organisation — igniting opportunity, restoring dignity and fuelling hope for the next generation.

Registered as a non-profit and public benefit organisation, we are committed to transforming the lives of young people in South Africa's most under-resourced communities.



# THE FIRE

THAT DRIVES US

We design and deliver targeted interventions that promote equal opportunity and gender equity for underprivileged youth in South Africa, helping them access the support and resources they need to rise.

This isn't about handouts — it's about creating **sustainable, long-term solutions**. We equip young people with the tools, skills and networks to take control of their futures, not rely on others for them. By investing in education, mentorship and economic empowerment, we lay the groundwork for lasting change — for individuals, families and the communities around them.



We exist to **unlock the potential of young South Africans**, empowering them to become active participants in their lives and contributors to a country they can believe in. This is our mission.



## RESPECT

We treat every young person, partner and community with dignity. We believe that **respect is the foundation of trust and growth** — and that every voice deserves to be heard.

## INTEGRITY

We are **transparent, honest and principled** in everything we do. Integrity is our compass — it keeps our vision clear and our actions aligned with our purpose.

## ACCOUNTABILITY

We take ownership of our impact. **We do what we say we'll do, measure what matters and take responsibility** — not just for outcomes, but for the lives we touch.

## HUMILITY

We approach every challenge and relationship with **a spirit of learning**. We don't have all the answers — and we honour the communities we serve by listening before we act.

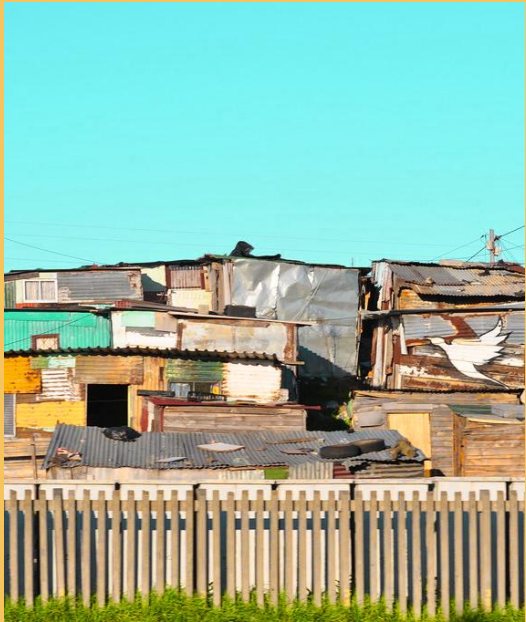
## TRUST

Trust is earned — and we build it through **consistency, credibility and care**. It is the thread that holds together our partnerships, our work, and the futures we help shape.



# DAWN

## WITHOUT SUNRISE



Too many boys and girls in our cities, small towns, townships and rural areas grow up in a world without direction, without safety and without hope. Trapped by poverty and invisible to the systems meant to protect them, they are left to survive — not thrive.

When potential is left unsupported, it doesn't disappear — it gets redirected. Often into destructive and anti-social patterns, risky choices or dead-end paths, that not only derail lives, but ripple out and destabilise already vulnerable communities.

**In South Africa, we do not have a talent problem; we have an opportunity problem.** Amathuba is here to help change the storyline.



# BURN BRIGHTLY

NOT OUT

Charity will fuel today.  
**Empowerment will fuel a lifetime.**

Amathuba goes beyond relief work to equip youth and their families with tools for economic self-sufficiency. Through **skills training, education, employment support and mentorship**, we build futures — not dependencies.

Our impact is measured not in abstract stats — but in real lives, real stories and generational change. And as those lives are transformed, many of our beneficiaries return to uplift others — paying it forward and sparking change that outlives any single intervention.

# A ROADMAP

## CATCHING FIRE, ONE SPARK AT A TIME

We believe opportunity is not a moment — it's a journey. Our development pathway supports young people from early schooling through to career placement or professional sport.

The Amathuba **journey** starts by identifying young people with potential who face difficult personal or socio-economic circumstances. At this point, we offer more than just access — we offer hope. By providing stability, care, and opportunity, we begin the process of restoring self-belief and unlocking each beneficiary's future potential.

We ensure that every beneficiary is placed in a quality educational environment. This includes covering key needs such as **school** fees, uniforms, transport, and meals where necessary. Where required, boarding school placements are arranged to provide a more structured and secure environment. Our aim is to give learners the stability and support they need to thrive academically and personally.



THE JOURNEY BEGINS



SCHOOLING



**Mentoring** is a critical pillar of the Amathuba journey. Initially, mentorship is jointly managed by the beneficiary's school and the Head of the Trust to ensure consistent guidance and oversight. As the Trust grows — with increased donor support and a broader beneficiary base — each young person will be individually matched with a dedicated mentor. These mentors offer personalised, ongoing support focused on emotional well-being, academic motivation, character development and life skills.

As beneficiaries enter the senior phase of school, structured **career guidance** is introduced and jointly managed by the relevant school and the Trust. This phase includes aptitude assessments, industry exposure, career-focused workshops, and one-on-one coaching — all designed to help each young person explore their strengths and make informed decisions about their future. The goal is to align their ambitions with real opportunities, setting them on a clear path toward a meaningful career or field of study.

We support access to **further education** — whether through university, technical college, or vocational training — depending on each beneficiary's aspirations and strengths. Our support includes application assistance, scholarship or bursary guidance, and continued mentorship to help them succeed in their studies and navigate life beyond school.

In the final phase, we help beneficiaries transition into the **world of work** or professional sport. This includes job readiness training, CV and interview preparation, access to internship or apprenticeship opportunities, and introductions to trusted employer networks. Our goal is not just placement, but purpose — ensuring each young person steps into a future that is both sustainable and fulfilling.



## MENTORING



## CAREER PLANNING



## TERTIARY EDUCATION



## CAREER PLACEMENT

# BENEFICIARIES

## OUR BRIGHTEST STARS

The two rugby giants who were once kids of the Amathumba Youth Trust. Stories like these aren't rare — they're waiting to be written. One opportunity can unlock a whole future.



**ZUKISANI TOM**

*"We come from humble families, old houses, small towns with sad stories. We are not hustling to impress or to be in competition with anyone. We just want to change the storyline and fight battles our parents never won."*



**JUNIOR POKOMELA**

*"My only goal when I was a young boy was to be one of the few in my family to get through school and university and make a success of myself so that I could provide for those close to me. My life was forever changed by the incredibly generous support given to me by Nigel Bands, one of Amathube's trustees. I was given the opportunity of becoming successful beyond my humble expectations. The continued support offered to me has greatly impacted upon my life and I look forward to watching the countless others that will have the same opportunities as I have had through the work of Amathuba."*



## LATHI NQEBE

*"Before I came to Grey High I couldn't speak English. I wasn't at a great school at all and I almost was confined into that small world. I didn't think you could dream so big or experience so many opportunities as I did at Grey."*



## KAMVA YAKWE

*"Nigel Bands would often invite me out just to get to know me better — and from there, it grew into something more. He invested in me, gave me his time, and most importantly, mentored me. He didn't just support me — he became a friend. It all started with the simple act of sitting together on a Saturday, watching rugby. That's when he began to see potential in me and gave me this incredible opportunity."*



## MANY MORE



# PARTNER WITH US



## FUEL THE RISE

Hope is not enough. **Structure, mentorship and sustained opportunity are what drive change.**

By partnering with schools, municipalities, industry leaders and social investors, Amathuba surrounds youth with the tools, networks and belief needed to create long-term transformation.

Our approach is personalised, scalable and built for lasting impact. Every step in the Amathuba journey equips beneficiaries to become agents of their own future.

### When you support Amathuba, you:

- Fund real, trackable change in South African communities
- Align your brand with equity, empowerment and transformation
- Help create pathways for children the world often overlooks

### Ways to Partner:

- Direct financial sponsorship
- In-kind contributions (uniforms, devices, transport etc.)
- Skills-based mentorship or training
- Employment or internship pathways

We believe there's untapped brilliance in every young South African.  
Amathuba exists to ignite it.



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Fuelled by  
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BROKERS

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