



January 2021



Welcome to our first newsletter of the new year. For us, the month of January is a time to reflect on the past year and engage in some crystal ball gazing into what the year ahead may hold for our organisation and programme participants. Certainly, the past year was unexpectedly challenging due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

This year, more than ever, we will continue to extend our reach into the many communities in need in a way that builds their resilience. I am sincerely thankful for the efforts and commitment of our fellow team members, who went above and beyond the call of duty to ensure that our work on the ground was never compromised, even in the midst of lockdown.

Special thanks to the Mondelēz International South Africa CSR teams, which donated 700 Christmas food hampers for our Health in Action team to distribute to schools, churches and community centres in Orange Farm, Diepsloot and Soweto. Click on the video below for a closer look.



One of the key lessons from the COVID-19 pandemic is how it has exposed the fragility of many families who depend on daily odd jobs and/or social grants for income. In the education

sector, social inequalities were starkly evident, as many children had no means to access virtual education lessons. This year, our programmes will strive to bridge this gap in the communities we serve. We also are excited to launch a new programme that will address the interrelated issues of food insecurity, unemployment, poverty and climate-change adaptation. Stay tuned for more information coming soon.

We are greatly encouraged by the success of our Seeds for Life campaign, which has touched the lives of so many vulnerable families in low-resource communities. With the support of existing and new partners, we plan to expand our reach and ensure improved access to fresh food and the opportunity for families in need to generate income.

Lastly, as the second wave of COVID-19 is upon us, we urge everyone to vigilantly and responsibly adhere to all hygiene protocols and be cautious at all times to minimise the risk of infection. Here's to a better 2021, as we roll-up our sleeves to make a meaningful difference in the lives of the people we serve.

Unathi Sihlahla
Director of Programmes, INMED South Africa

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