

### **History of HOPE 1999 to 2001**

#### **HOPE Cape Town starts the initiative to help HIV-infected children, planning and establishment of the project in Cape Town occurs**

- Fr. Stefan Hippler, is approached by doctors of the Tygerberg Academic Health Complex to investigate a supportive solution for the care and treatment of HIV positive children in 1999. Extensive consultation together with Dr. Monika Esser led to the establishment of the first dedicated ward for the care of HIV positive children, the Ithemba, infectious diseases ward (G7).
- The project was a joint effort between the German speaking Catholic Community, Rotary Club of Signal Hill, University of Stellenbosch (Faculty of Health Sciences) and the Tygerberg Academic Health Complex. The 29<sup>th</sup> October 2001, saw the official opening of the Ithemba ward and the launch of HOPE Cape Town (HIV Outreach Programme and Education).
- HOPE started by offering training programmes on prevention, peer counselling, treatment and stigma to businesses, NGOs and medical staff.