

## **Description of Ministry**

In 2008, Dan & Rachel Smither founded Key of Hope at the epicenter of the global AIDS epidemic - Durban, South Africa. Crippling poverty and some of the highest crime rates anywhere on the planet, along with the worst education system in the world, have combined with AIDS to create a deadly backdrop for the collapse of an entire generation.

Our mission is to reach children affected by poverty and AIDS with the hope found in Jesus Christ through long-term mentoring relationships. We achieve this through a variety of weekly programs, including: preschools, Saturday Kidz Klub, choir, school fees assistance, feeding programs, after school tutoring, job skill training, and leadership development, among others. In addition, each child is visited at their home every week by one of our caring staff, forging solid, healthy relationships that create the backbone of their social, physical, academic, and spiritual growth.

Today, children rescued through these programs have traveled overseas on concert tours, served in internships with other ministries in the United States, and attended university on scholarships through Key of Hope. Others have joined our staff, answering the call to reach other children suffering through similar circumstances. We visit over 2,500 children in their homes and our weekly children's programs host approximately 2000 children weekly. Our story is just beginning, and we're so grateful you're a part of it!

## **Short Term/Specific Prayer Requests**

- Building on our recently purchased property
- Open doors for our 2022 choir tour
- An additional van to transport children to our many programs
- Provision to hire additional staff to handle the ever increasing numbers of children

## **Longer Term/General Prayer Requests**

- Health, healing, and strength for our children who are HIV+
- Safety for our staff, who work in extremely dangerous areas.
- Favor within the communities and local government
- Provision to carry out the work of the ministry