

Kilimanjaro heroes are back

Cannedy Netshtungulu
fmrporter1@ctp.co.za

THEY are selfless, fearless and brave. They defied the odds for a good cause. Their positive attitudes carried them through their 5 days and nights of conquering Kilimanjaro. They did all that to raise funds which will be used to change someone's life for the better. Naresh Kuvjee, Hemisha Makan, Payal Desai and Rohit Desai from the Southern Suburbs Hindu Cultural Society, accompanied by Dr Arno Strydom, achieved their ultimate goal of summiting Kilimanjaro for a worthy cause.

They left South Africa on September 20 on board the sponsored Rwanda Airlines. These brave human beings embarked on this adventure without knowing what the mountain had in store for them. With proper training they knew that victory was certain. A few hours before they started climbing, the reality sunk in: 'We are on Mount Kilimanjaro and there is no turning back'.

Guided by the experienced tour guides, the team navigated the mountain, resting in different camps which included Shira, Baranko (Lava Tower), Karanga and Barafu Camp. They used the Machame route, which is also known as the 'Whiskey Route'. Naresh Kuvjee said that the experience could not be traded for anything and they will forever treasure every moment. He said that their chieft guard, Baraka of Kilimanjaro Nature Tour, was always there to rejuvenate them and to remind them of the reason they had undertaken the



trip to the 5 895 metre high mountain. Without the luxury of beds and other basic items, the team kept on moving until they summited on day 5. The main aim of their journey was to raise much-needed funds to assist children suffering from cleft palates, burn wounds and other facial deformations. The Southern Suburbs Hindu Cultural Society has teamed up with the Smile Foundation and

with Vision 20/20, in asking the community to contribute towards this worthy cause. Donations can be paid directly into the SSHC bank account: FNB The Glen, Account name: Southern Suburbs Hindu Cultural Society, Account type: Business Money Market, Branch code : 259 605, Account number 6244 105 2248, Reference KILL.