



Raphael News 2018 - 4

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Ikhala Trust awarded us with the Stanley Elliott Memorial Award as the Best Grantee of 2018 and the Naude and Tina Boshoff Annual Award to support connectivity. We feel very honoured and proud of this outstanding acknowledgement!



Funding: During this last term of 2018, we received funds of over R 76,248.50. The Ikhala Trust had transferred the first tranche for us to use for the Siya Sonke project, the Emthonjeni Trust generously gifted us and we received further personal donations through individuals whereby most of them have supported us by regular monthly donations (stop orders). We appreciate your support and wish to deeply thank you for this!

Strategy and Leadership: In October, the Grocott's Mail invited us to be part of the speakers at their '#TheDebate2019' – series. These are collectively hosted debates in our sub-district Makana to educate and prepare resident voters for the 2019 National elections. They are organised by Grocott's Mail, Rhodes Music Radio (RMR), Rhodes School of Journalism and Media Studies and the Rhodes Department of Politics and International Studies. The Public Debate happened at Zolani Hall in Grahamstown. At the panel were Dr M Thobile Mbengashe (National Department of Health – Eastern Cape Province), Nikelwa Kanise (Makana Sub-district Manager) and Anne Loeffler (Raphael Centre).



Media and Branding: We were presented in two articles in our local newspaper called the Grocott's Mail this last term of 2018. One piece featured Leonie Yendall's epic cycling trip from the Northern Cape to Grahamstown of nearly 1400 km. Leonie made her journey a fundraiser for the Raphael Centre: <https://www.grocotts.co.za/2018/10/19/long-ride-for-a-reason/> (12th October 2018). Another shared the news about the Public Debate "Youth Wellness" which happened at Zolani Hall in October. As mentioned earlier, the Raphael Centre was one of the three panellists at this event: <https://www.pressreader.com/south-africa/grocotts-mail/20181026/281530817011375> (26th October 2018).

"Your stories matter"

The entire Raphael Centre team was sponsored by Ikhala Trust to attend their annual ABCD Festival and therefore could gain invaluable knowledge about story writing and digital storytelling. Like last year, the Ikhala Trust had invited a guest-trainer who facilitated a two and half day long workshop in relevant fields. This year this was about narrative and digital storytelling for NGOs which is a skill essentially needed for public relations in our working field. Another very impressive gain from the workshop was to learn using 'Kinemaster'. It is a phone application to produce and edit own short movies. We will use this particular skill for creating a Raphael Centre short-movie for our 20th anniversary next year.





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Health Testing Services (HTS):

HIV, TB & STIs and basic eye-care: Between 15th of January until 14th December our team tested for HIV and screened for TB as well as STIs 1843 people, among them were 924 youth. 57% of adult people seeking HCT were men. Nineteen of the positive tested people entered our Follow-up counsellings which primarily serve to hear how newly diagnosed are feeling, coping with treatment and how disclosure to their close social environment went. Besides, the fast-tracking of newly diagnosed, which involves a phone call to make a clinic appointment to arrange fast-lining for the client at the clinic went very well during the fourth term: our team managed to link all newly diagnosed individuals within the same day. In all cases, the patient received ARVs on the same day. Besides, within the last three months, our team facilitated eye-screening and retina scanning with 32 people and referred 13 of them for further investigation to St. Johns Ambulance.

Khanya:

We have finished working on upgrading our HIV-counselling and HIV-positive follow-up guidelines for teenagers and youth. We started the testing outreach at N. Nyaluza and Mary Waters High schools in November but soon realised that the 4th school term is not a good time for this because of the availability of the learners who write their exams. Therefore, we rescheduled the HIV testing and counselling to happen in the last week of January and the first week of February 2019 as a 'back to school'- outreach. The actual ABCD training of Khanya youth is planned for the end of March because we wish to involve youth who tested HIV-positive especially.

Siya Sonke Asset-based Community-driven (ABCD) Festival for World

Noluthando Hall/ Joza: It was attended by adults and youth who take part in our project called 'Siya Sonke'. The day brought individual stories of success and well-being; skills sharing, and presentations of home-made products by women entrepreneurs. At this point, others had the opportunity to register with them for learning a new skill. The day further unfolded an inspirational atmosphere when people split into working groups to share experiences relating to questions, such as: Healthy living with HIV: 'Do you know someone with HIV who lives a healthy life? How did she or he succeed?' The Siya Sonke youth group was asked 1) Where do you want to see your community in five years? They depicted their ideas at visioning boards which were presented at the end of the day. The guest-speaker, Bernie Dolley from Ikhala Trust addressed the small crowd with very profound questions: "What is your purpose in life? What is your motivation? Where do you want to be one day?" The day had emphasised how much factors required for community development are just the same as for community health and HIV-prevention. HIV-prevention is more than counselling, testing and HIV education – it is a matter of mental, physical and social well-being.



Siya Sonke Children and Youth: The children and youth celebrated the year's achievements at our annual Christmas Party which was held at the outdoor facilities of Stone Crescent Hotel. They enjoyed a day of fun games, swimming in the pool and received adorable Christmas presents which were donated by individuals from Grahamstown. We wish to thank Nikki Kohly from Rhodes University, Susanne Powers (GPN) and all kind souls who contribute with their gifts to a joyful Christmas event for children and youth from the Raphael Centre!

We wish you and your loved ones a wonderful Christmas time and health, happiness and prosperity in 2019! We will open again on the 14th of January. Your Raphael Centre team