



Raphael News 2019 - 1

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Funding: During the first term, we received grants from Club Peloton, Ikhala Trust, the Round Table 11 Grahamstown, Emthonjeni Trust, the Rotary Club Cheltenham, the Scottish church St Cuthbert's, and our local GBS Bank. The funds we received were R159 690. Besides, the crowd-funding by the cyclist Leonie Yendall generated R7 914 during this term. The individual donations which we received from Mrs Clarke, Revd. Denise Herbert, James Hurt, Gavin Marshall, Ann Marshall and by two anonymous donors came to an amount of R25 722. We wish to sincerely thank each of our funders and donors for their essential contributions! Also, through our ABCD introductions for Rhodes University Community Engagement and the ABCD training for the Rural Development Programme of the Department of Ichthyology & Fisheries Science (Rhodes University), we generated an income of R13 000.

Donations in Kind: In February, the Ikhala Trust gifted us with training in Organisational Development. The organisation covered transport, accommodation, nutrition & workshop fees for us. Besides, we would like to thank our young volunteers from the Diocesan School for girls who have continued to support our child development project this year. Moreover, there are six students from Math-Society (Rhodes University) who started volunteering in our youth development programme. Thank you!

Partners and Networks: In March, our local Probus Club invited us to share information about Raphael Centre. So, heartfelt thanks must go to the senior citizens of our city for the kind interest in our work! The Community of Practice which forms a group of Asset-based Citizen-driven Development (ABCD) practitioners met for a weekend in Port Elizabeth in February. It was initiated and hosted by the Ikhala Trust who introduced their new Asset-Assessment tool to us associates. The asset-assessment forms an innovative M&E tool for our ABCD-work. Besides, we started connecting with the initiative Upstart who works with local High School youth on improving school performance. We initially met at the Roundtable Discussions on Youth Well-being in Grahamstown at the end of last year. The idea is to build relationships with youth initiatives to set in process a broader PATH* – movement for Youth Well-being in Grahamstown/ Makhanda in 2020.



Research and Programme Development: We are thrilled to share that the new ABCD- M&E tool which was developed by Ikhala Trust and Elamanzi has been already used to assess progress made among the Siya Sonke families. ABCD is a strength-based model to community engagement and based on the idea that to break the intergenerational cycle of poverty in families people need to build and grow a multitude of assets. The new M&E tool tracks this process. It records family assets by using the following categories: human, social, natural, material and economic. Also, it allows us and our Siya Sonke partners to identify and prioritise the next work foci. Nomaxabiso has seen 19 families so far (out of 35). Nomaxabiso will finalise the assessment in April. However, the interim results indicate that ABCD at the smallest unit – the family – works well and shows that change needs to start in people themselves (human assets) and that citizen-driven movements and social cohesion (social assets) are required and essential for any further asset-accumulation and progress.



*PATH stands for 'People Assessing their Health': 'Health' in this context refers to overall health (e.g. social, economic, physical). It leads to concrete interventions and forms a tool that can be used to assess and address local positive change and leads to concrete interventions. The process of creating the tool calls different role players to the table.



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“Khanya” - Driving innovative Health Prevention for Youth in Makhanda:

This project involves peer networks of our Siya Sonke youth through the High Schools they attend. It combines strength-based health promotion with health testing services for youth. In particular, we facilitate persona-doll storytelling workshops as well as introductions to strength-based thinking and asset-awareness (other than financial ones) with adolescents from the ages of 13 to 18 years. It has become common for teenagers to involve themselves intimately with older generations against money or gifts. Often, this has resulted in early pregnancy and STI as well as HIV-infection. Both are ways to handle socio-economic crisis at home and quest for love and belonging. Our experiences have shown that these underlying causes need to be addressed in ways where youth elaborates consequences, especially alternatives but also their strengths. It is already known that awareness and confidence about own strengths promote making healthy life choices. Our workshops are part of broader health-campaigning where we encourage youth for health screening and testing, especially for HIV and other STIs. During the first term, our teams prepared the health testing outreaches in the communities around Mary Waters High School and Nyaluza High School. Besides, we met with our local Department of Education to introduce Khanya.

Health Testing Services (HTS):

During the first term, our team tested for HIV and screened for TB as well as STIs 537 people. Among them, there was 238 youth. 44% of adult people seeking HCT were men. Newly diagnosed individuals were welcomed to our Follow-up counselling project which primarily serves to check-in about how they are feeling and coping with treatment. Besides, the fast-tracking of newly diagnosed, which involves an instant clinic appointment to arrange fast-lining for the client at the clinic went very well during this term: our team managed to link all HIV-positive diagnosed individuals within the same day to two days. Initiation with ARVs took the clinics not longer than two working days.

Asset-based Citizen-driven Development (ABCD):

Our team introduced fundamentals of Asset-based Citizen-driven Development to 485 student volunteers and 22 representatives from local ECD sites during the Rhodes University Community Engagement's 'Siyakhana@Makana' days. In February, Nomaxabiso and Carla Collins who is a member of the (ABCD) Community of Practice trained 20 fisherwomen and men in Vanderkloof Dam in ABCD. They have been part of the Rural Development Programme by the Rhodes University Department of Ichthyology & Fisheries Science. In March, our team facilitated the 3.5-day training course with 12 Upstart youth and their coordinator. What stood out for our young participants was the experience of group and teamwork, ways to budgeting, mapping of social assets as well as how to set the tone for pursuing a goal or a dream.



Siya Sonke Children and Youth: Both age groups (7-10 years and 11-18 years) started the year with a specific focus on school performance. Children from our younger age group were each linked to a mentor from DSG and formed the 'Buddy's Club' and started working on the module 'Reading and Spelling in English and isiXhosa'. Our adolescent group is tutored by six Math-Society members (Rhodes University) who formed the 'Study Club'. Maths was the first important module of learners and their tutors: Algebra, solve for x as well as multiple tables.



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