



**BOOST** AFRICA  
FOUNDATION

**ANNUAL REPORT 2022**





# A MESSAGE FROM BOOST AFRICA

This year marks our **15th year** of working alongside the Dunoon community as a grassroots organisation! It has been a very fruitful year with new partnerships formed and programmes initiated - it takes a village :)

Our new partnerships have enabled us to now have learning opportunities that span from pre-conception to career.

We are very proud to have extended our reach in this way but we are called more than ever to focus on the delivery of quality programmes, going deeper rather than wider. Focussing on our core values:

1. **Make learning a lifestyle**
2. **Give a hand up not a hand out**
3. **Take ownership**
4. **The best idea wins not the best person**
5. **Keep asking why**
6. **Make the circle bigger**
7. **Go further together**
8. **Keep your bucket full**
9. **Do the right thing even when no one is watching**



Providing a safe space for people in a very traumatised community to understand and practice these values takes courage and lots of heart. We have to remind ourselves daily that healing is not linear - there isn't a step by step path to take. Your healing will be ongoing throughout your whole life, as you handle and overcome new hurts and obstacles. That's why we are so excited to have programmes that can provide a safe space for learning from cradle to adulthood that will bring about healing and instil self worth and confidence that is so needed to fight the battle against poverty.

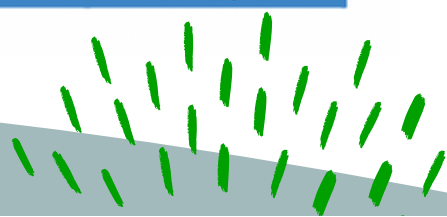
Thank you for being part of the Boost village and helping us to serve the Dunoon community and surrounds with quality programmes for the last 15 years. The challenges faced by people living in poverty are incredibly complex and we would never be able to address these complexities alone. Therefore, we try our best to build bridges and partner with other organisations, government, churches, companies and experts to bring innovative solutions that will result in sustainable impact. Please make contact with us - we need you.

To the next 15 years, from strength to strength, **ukusaka emandleni ukuya emandleni!**



# Audited Annual Financial Statements for the year ended 31 MARCH 2022

INCOME STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 30 APRIL 2022	2022	2021
<b>INCOME</b>	R1,668,561.00	R3,601,452.00
Project Grants & Donations Received	R1,569,778.00	R3,585,316.00
Other Income (Including Sales & Interest)	R98,783.00	R16,136.00
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>	R1,903,986.00	R3,165,203.00
Audit Fee & Bank charges	R15,941.00	R15,544.00
Advertising and promotions	R11,270.00	R5,924.00
Programme Resources	R172,995.00	R156,219.00
Capital Expenditure	R9,583.00	R9,583.00
Electricity and water	R55,315.00	R58,506.00
Insurance	R9,551.00	R9,899.00
Learning Centre Dunoon: Rental, Resources, Sundries, Security, Maintenance	R351,936.00	R306,911.00
Telephone and Communications	R13,928.00	R9,678.00
Motor vehicle expenses	R66,032.00	R31,038.00
Salaries, wages and stipends	R1,184,916.00	R1,052,136.00
Staff training and welfare	R12,519.00	R31,185.00
COVID 19 Response	R0.00	R1,478,580.00
<b>SURPLUS/ [DEFICIT] FOR THE YEAR</b>	-R235,425.00	R436,249.00
<b>NON CURRENT &amp; CURRENT ASSETS</b>	R934,404.00	R1,167,233.00
<b>Non Current</b>		
Fixed Assets	R7,987.00	R17,570.00
<b>Current</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	R926,417.00	R1,149,663.00
<b>EQUITY AND LIABILITIES</b>	R934,404.00	R1,167,233.00
<b>Equity</b>		
Accumulated Surplus	R902,170.00	R1,137,595.00
<b>Current Liabilities</b>		
Trade and other creditors	R32,234.00	R29,638.00



**ORGANOGRAM**

**Board Management Committee**  
Chairperson - Yashvir Maharaj, Vice Chair - Kwanele Jezile, Treasurer - Johannes Postma, Secretary - Babalwa Nyangeni, Vice Secretary - Christine Fyvie, Founder - Mary Mytting

**Director/CEO**  
Elbie Postma Botha

**Manager**  
Colile Vilakati  
Sewing Centre  
CDI Youth sewing interns  
Bookkeeping Assistant

**Manager**  
Thuso Malinga  
Aftacool  
Gold Youth  
Centre Management

**Case Worker**  
Malekhooa Mofoka  
All walk in cases  
Computer Training

**Facilitator**  
Sinethemba Bidla  
Swop Shop  
Shared Book Reading  
(Libromat)  
First 1000 days

**Food Garden**  
Suzanne Smit  
(Volunteer)

**Manager**  
Sinazo Sonqwaba  
Siyafunda Clubs  
Youth Launchpad

**Sewing Centre Teachers**  
Nonkonzo Ntlangane  
Mavis Qxothani

**Aftacool moms**  
Phiwe Plaatjies  
Elizabeth Arendse  
Grace Gciniwe  
Ngeniswa Ntlangane  
Sinethemba Bidla  
Noluthando Meyi  
Sinazo Sonqwaba

**Shared Book Reading  
Facilitator**  
Noluthando Meyi

**Remedial Reading  
Online Volunteers -  
Direct Axis & Woolworths**  
Ena de Villiers

**Sewing Centre Assistant**  
Nontsikelelo Mzolisa

**Youth Launchpad Intern**  
Thabo Mondreki

**CDI Youth Interns**  
Anelisa Sikundla  
Miranda Tshaya  
Nameka Sisanda  
Nomso Sitwayi  
Xwayi Nondiphe

**Gold Youth Interns**  
Mawanda Jezile  
Sihle Grei  
Asonela Magongoma

**Creative Arts**  
Phiwe Plaatjies

**Cleaner Centre**  
Bukhiwe Nocanda



# To inspire individuals and the community around them to engage in educational activities that unlock their potential.



We are deeply embedded in the local community and have incorporated years of learnings into our strategy. We could never offer perfect solutions. The path out of poverty is complex.

We strongly believe that in order to create a long-term impact that sees people reach their full potential we need to partner and not supply. This means we work alongside community members and other stakeholders and whilst we give access to resources, our initiatives are designed to encourage individuals to take control of their own lives by inspiring learning that empowers them to overcome their own personal challenges.

## Our work can be divided into three categories: Learning, Resources and Networking



### LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

We now have learning programmes that span from preconception to career. All of our learning programmes are specifically targeted to the Dunoon and surrounding communities except for Aftacool, which is a scalable programme that can be implemented all over South Africa. We have one club running successfully in Mdantsane, East London and would love to see more clubs being established in areas where there's a big need for educational resources.



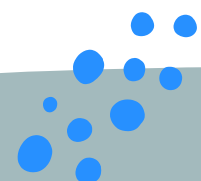
### RESOURCES

The closest government support service is situated in Milnerton and many people from Dunoon cannot afford the transport fee. The Boost support and learning centre has become a well known and accessible space for vulnerable people in need of assistance. Our walk-in centre assists people from the community with school placements, learning problems, cases of neglect and abuse etc. We try to assist where we can and refer cases to organisations in our partnering network.



### NETWORKING & PARTNERSHIPS

Relationships and connections are at the heart of unlocking potential. The challenges faced by people living in poverty are incredibly complex and we would never be able to address these complexities alone. So, we try our best to build bridges and partner with other organisations, government, churches, companies and experts to bring innovative solutions that will result in sustainable impact.



# LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

## for the little ones:

### First 1000 days

This is the period from conception until a child's 2nd birthday, which offers a unique window of opportunity to shape healthier and more prosperous futures. The first 1,000 days are a time of tremendous potential and enormous vulnerability. How well or how poorly mothers and children are nourished and cared for during this time has a profound impact on a child's ability to grow, learn and thrive.

We have partnered with **Little Lambs and the Dunoon Clinic** to develop programmes that will specifically target a mom and her baby during this time. We have identified the following focus areas: pre and post natal classes, breastfeeding support, practical sessions with mom and baby on the importance mental stimulation through play and affection. Our brains develop faster in the first 1000 days of life than at any other time in our lives. **Our message is simple** - spend every opportunity cuddling, loving, rocking, stroking and being with your baby. Respond to their crying. Cuddle them when you feed. Sing, talk and soothe them with your voice. Babies start learning to talk from the day they are born by listening to and eventually learning how to make the sounds and then understand the meanings of the words you use. Even though they can't talk back, flood your baby with your gentle voice, your words, your songs. Copy the sounds he makes back to him. Tell her what you are doing as you lift, feed, bath and change nappies. That language will become the foundation for their learning, understanding and thinking as they grow and develop. And respond to your baby's cries. Babies cannot be naughty. If they cry they need something.

### Moms & Tots shared book reading

Our facilitators have been trained by the Mikhulu Trust in **Dialogic book-sharing** and we follow their award winning curriculum using wordless picture books. 'Dialogic book-sharing' is a special kind of interaction between an adult and a young child using a wordless picture book. It is not simply 'reading' to a child who listens passively – instead, it is an **active exchange**, led by the child, and supported by an adult who is attentive to their interests and communication. This enjoyable and simple activity has been proven to improve children's language and cognitive development, and help children understand and get along with other people.

We run morning sessions at our Learning Centre twice a week. We have also partnered with the **Breteau Foundation** who provides tablets with educational software for toddler to take home for 6-12 months.



**for primary school learners:**

## Aftacool

The Aftacool curriculum is designed specifically for primary school children in townships where they have had limited involvement with books and educational activities – the material is simplified so that it can be presented by mothers with limited or no formal training. We make use of interesting picture books – to make the reading engagement more fun and less intimidating. Each box is themed around a picture book. Each term, books are selected that fits into one of four categories:

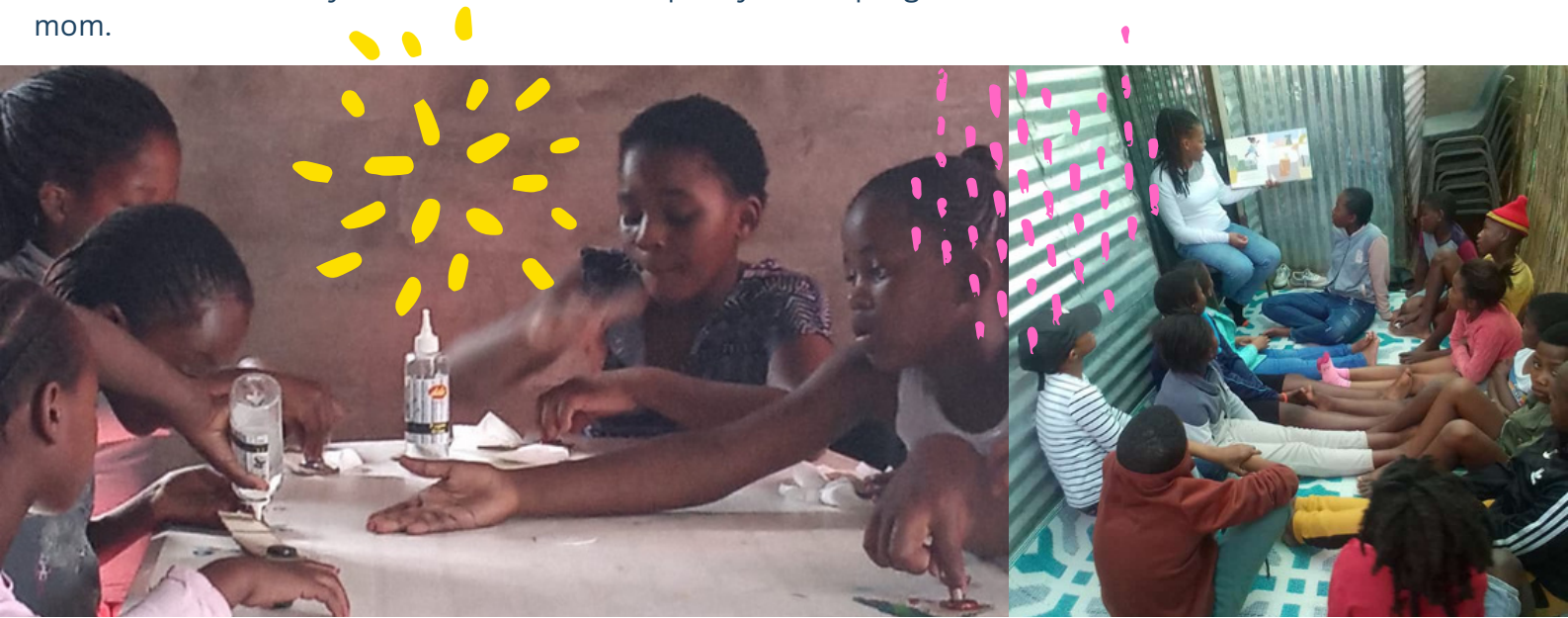
- Emotional Intelligence skills
- Aesop's fables
- What the world has to offer
- Creative thinking

Each term, one of the books introduce an element of emotional intelligence, according to the EQ.i 2.0-model. The Aftacool mothers are encouraged to focus on this skill throughout the term. Books that show 'what the world has to offer' are chosen to inspire the children to see beyond their community, fostering a love for nature, exposing them new opportunities and introducing past heroes who have dared to embrace this. Math games from OLICO Maths Foundation is also part of the curriculum to help build strong number-sense skills and a love for mathematics and every opportunity is taken to incorporate the learnings from the Butterfly Art Project, turning art activities into opportunities for healing and creativity.

Aftacool moms are trained each term on our key objectives and the curriculum for the term and we partner with other organisations to provide quality training to the Aftacool mom i.e Identifying and Dealing with Trauma, Resilience and Counselling and Art. We feel in order for the AfterCool Moms to be able to emotionally support the children in their group they sometimes need specialised support themselves.

We have strong monitoring and evaluation in place:

- \*Aftacool mothers are asked to provide a report on the **emotional skills** the children display each term to show each child's emotional awareness progress over a period of a year;
- \*We do a **literacy assessment** with every child and embark on a journey to improve their reading so that each child reads and understands at least 10 or more books over a period of a year;
- \*We track the **attendance** of each child with an app called Teampact. We want the child to attend more than 75% of the Aftacool club activities and follow up when a child is not attending;
- \*The **parents** whatsapp group and informal parent meetings to involve the family unit;
- \*Unannounced termly visits to evaluate the quality of the programme and facilitation skills of the Aftacool mom.



# Siyafunda After School CLUBS

We run after school clubs at our learning centre in Dunoon every afternoon for primary school learners from Gr.4-Gr.7. We have a Remedial Reading Club, Math Club, Creative Club, Coding Club and Dunoon Explorers Club.

## Remedial Reading

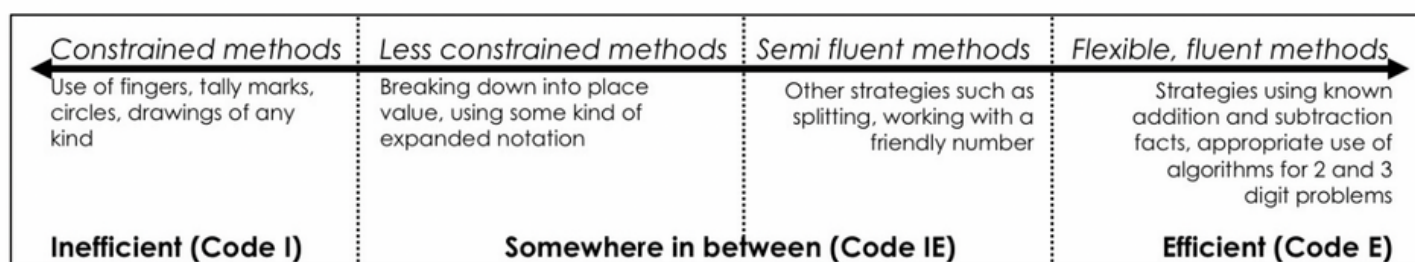
At the beginning of every year we do a literacy assessment with the learners who attend our Aftacool programme and our Siyafunda After School Clubs. Learners who are identified as struggling readers are invited to join our remedial reading clubs. Every learner has different learning needs and it's important to identify that at first. If a learner is at sound level we go back to teaching phonics and if a learner is struggling to read words we explore blending. Some learners can read but they cannot read for meaning. We then encourage reading at home and read through books with them so that they can increase their vocabulary and understanding. Some of our struggling readers get an educational tablet provided by the Breteau Foundation with literacy games and many stories to read to use at home for 6-12 months..

All of our struggling readers have shown improvement on this journey from struggling reader to reading for enjoyment!

## Maths Club

Maths Clubs provide fun, exciting and engaging maths activities for learners in Grades 1-6. The lesson plans and activities are designed to build strong number-sense skills and a love for mathematics.

South Africa currently sits with a crisis in primary education where learners are still bound by using concrete strategies to solve problems. Many learners are 'trapped' in using concrete one-to-one counting methods or dependence on algorithms without understanding. The result is an absence of flexibility and fluency with both numbers and operations. Progressing learners from inefficient, constrained methods of working to more fluent and flexible methods is an important aspect of this programme. See table below:



**Figure 2: Addition and subtraction progression spectrum**

A number sense approach can be useful to think about the relationship between the two strands. A child with number sense has the ability to work flexibly with numbers, observe patterns and relationships and make connections to what they already know, to make generalisations about patterns and processes.

Short games, particularly those played with cards and dice, are very accessible to learners and can aid in the development of core number skills, mental agility and fluency in number.

Benefits to learning through games include motivation, developing positive attitudes towards maths and allowing children to operate at different levels of thinking as well as providing opportunities to learn from each other.

Games taught and used in the clubs can potentially also be played at home and shared with family members, thereby allowing learners to spend more time on maths, to consolidate skills and practice what they have learnt in class, to teach other people the rules and to get other people involved in mathematics.



## Creative Club

Art is a medium that enables healing and promotes creative skills that can be utilised life long. This is important in a country where trauma exists especially in under resourced communities. South African schools are in a state of multi-level crisis, exacerbated by the diminished budgets for arts in primary schools, resulting in most not having art in their curriculums. Creative development is an essential part of child development.

Our Creative Arts facilitators are trained by the **Butterfly Art Project** to provide psycho-social support through art therapeutic classes. The therapeutic art classes help children to stabilise through developing healthy coping mechanisms for processing stress and healing from trauma. Facilitators are trained in four artistic mediums: clay, watercolour paint, free drawing and mixed media which equips them to develop lessons to grow resilience, concentration, social skills, interest in learning, confidence and fine motor skills with the beneficiaries.

## Coding Club

Coding is a valuable skill that can help learners develop problem-solving, critical thinking, and computational thinking abilities. In disadvantaged schools in South Africa, where access to resources and opportunities may be limited, coding can provide an avenue for learners to develop the skills they need to succeed in a technology-driven world.

Our Coding Club has two streams. The first stream is a weekly computational thinking programme targeting grade 4-7 learners. Using resources and curriculum designed by Computer Science for All in SF, this programme familiarises children with cognitive skills used in computer science as well as with the basic concepts of coding and programming.

Our second stream is also a weekly club for learners who have shown an interest and commitment after attending the beginners programme. This is a smaller group of learners and we make use of the Tanks gaming app and code.org. We are in the process of finalising the curriculum and have also introduced robotics as a fun activity. Overall, a coding programme for primary school learners in disadvantaged schools in South Africa should be designed to be accessible, hands-on, and collaborative. By providing learners with the skills they need to succeed in a technology-driven world, such a programme can help level the playing field and provide opportunities for learners to thrive.

The schools in Dunoon and Joe Slovo does not provide any coding subjects for learners and it is our goal to introduce this subject in all 6 schools we work with.



**for high school learners:**

## Gr8 Club

We started a weekly Grade 8 club at our centre in 2020 to continue supporting our Aftacool learners in High School. In 2021 we also started a Grade 9 club and in 2022 we formed a partnership with Gold Youth that supports learners from Grade 9-12. Our Gr 8 club therefore serves as a bridge between Aftacool and the Gold Youth leadership programme. This means that a learner can enter the Aftacool programme in primary school and continue until grade 12 or even after that by joining our Youth Development Internships. This creates a pathway for learners to unlocking their potential and finding meaningful opportunities after successfully completing Grade 12.

Grade 8 is a difficult year for learners. They feel very vulnerable and unsure in their new environment. We want to support them and make sure that they continue to learn and thrive. Our after-school psychosocial support program for grade 8 learners is designed to provide a safe and supportive environment where learners can develop the skills and resources they need to succeed. By offering a range of activities and resources, the Gr.8 Club help learners build resilience, manage stress, and develop positive relationships with their peers and caregivers.

The Grade 8 club curriculum makes use of the Smart girl and boy curriculum and Career Launch provided by Boy and Girls Club SA and we also incorporate computer skills.

## Gold Youth Leadership

Gold Youth has an audacious goal - to develop 10 million young African leaders with character and integrity to mobilise their generation with the knowledge, tools and support to reach their full potential, with concrete results in social behaviour change, education and job creation.

We are excited to join them in this goal as an implementation partner. Through the gold Peer Education Model, we are embedding peer leaders and their mentors into schools and communities, developing young people from being passive recipients of negative norms to proactive agents of positive change, who are empowering themselves and their peers to become the ethical and economically independent leaders of tomorrow.



## How it works:

The programme provides a **job creation opportunity as a Facilitator Intern for out-of-school youth**. They are trained to train and mentor teenage leaders called Peer Educators. Facilitator Interns start as a Junior and move through 4 years of their internship until they are a Lead Facilitator Intern.

**School-going youth begin the programme as Juniors** (age 13-14), and move through 4 years until they graduate as Lead Peer Educators. Through the four-year relationships with Facilitator Interns, Peer Educators are taught to model positive decision making and educate their peers and younger children to make positive choices, strengthen their schoolwork and maximize their impact on their communities.

Programme participants receive resources containing all they need to engage successfully in the programme. Topics that are covered in the gold Curriculum fall into 6 modules of content:

- Leadership (including Work Readiness)
- Self-development
- Gender, Relationships and Rights
- Sexual and Reproductive Health
- Communication Skills
- Community Action

Friends and younger children positively impacted by the Peer Educators through role-modelling, Peer Educator-to-Peer education lessons and talk groups, advocacy messaging and community outreach projects.

The gold Youth alumni become part of the gold Grads community for life and are connected to various opportunities in:

- further education,
- workplace internships,
- entry-level jobs and
- entrepreneurship ventures.

Micro 'business-in-a-box' opportunities for gold Grads provide solutions and products to grassroots communities through enterprise development and youth job creation. The detail of these businesses, from distribution of solar powered products to mobile money and hydroponic food hubs, is available on request.

We at Boost are committed to the goal and dream of gold youth - to help build a generation that will choose to be the solution, to think differently; who will lead in every sector of society, counting the cost of true leadership.

**gold**  
gold-youth



**Personal change leads to  
Group change, which leads  
to Community change**



**for adults:**

## **Sewing Skills Training**

Our sewing centre provides a safe and supportive learning environment where individuals can build confidence and develop new skills.

Participants start off with a 2 week starter course which exposes them to basic sewing skills by making a pin cushion and a patchwork scatter cushion. The starter course also makes it clear whether participants show an interest and passion for sewing and are able to progress to the next course.

During the next 8 weeks the participants learn to make a shoe bag, an apron, a tracksuit, and a skirt. Our teachers are trained to encourage neat and quality work. We all know that sewing requires hand eye co-ordination and this help to keep our brains as nimble as our fingers! The sewing course challenges participants to strive for professionalism and many times they have to remove stitches that are skew or too tight. This can bring up emotions of frustration and anger and our teachers are trained to gently work with the learners through these challenges.

Once graduated - the graduates are welcomed to make use of the sewing centre facilities to start their own project and gain experience. The act of sewing helps to build self confidence. The simple fact that you can create something from nothing is incredibly empowering. Sewing is a creative skill that benefits individuals in making their own clothes, repairing clothes or starting a small business to earn an income.

Our sewing teachers provide mentorship and support to participants and graduates by brainstorming ideas, providing patterns and information on where materials and fabrics can be purchased at a good price. Participants and graduates also have access to peer support as weekly life coaching sessions creates an environment of trust and connection.

This year we hosted 6 youth internships through the Craft Design Institute Youth accelerator 12 month programme. The interns attended sewing training at the Boland College and gained practical experience at our sewing centre by making products. They made nurse bags, children's aprons, shopping bags, toiletry bags and garments for a Fashion show!

Teaching someone to sew is like giving them a key to a world of infinite possibilities. It's not just about creating beautiful garments, but it's about empowering individuals to express their creativity, build their confidence and potentially even start their own business. Sewing skills can be a powerful tool for disadvantaged communities, providing a means of self-sufficiency and a pathway to a better future.



# Computer Literacy

Our computer literacy programme provide valuable skills development opportunities and access to technology that can help individuals improve their education, employment opportunities, and overall quality of life. Combined with a transformative work Readiness training this programme empowers people who are unemployed or under-employed with the confidence, skills and resources they need to find meaningful work.

We currently run a two-week basic computer skills training programme that offer basic skills such as keyboarding, mouse operation, file management, and internet browsing. Participants learn how to use common software applications such as word processing, spreadsheets, and presentation software. The programme also provides training on using the internet and social media platforms for communication, research, and networking.

It also touches on online employment skills, such as creating a CV and applying for jobs online.

Graduates are encouraged to make use of our computer lab to access to computer equipment and internet connectivity for personal use i.e job searching, applying to university, creating business plans etc.

# Work Readiness

Learners who graduated from our computer literacy training are encouraged to join the 4 week Work Readiness training in partnership with The Zanokhanyo Network. The Work Readiness course prepare participants for the job market by providing practical training in a supportive environment that encourages social and spiritual development.

The course takes the participants on a journey of self-discovery where they will work through the following topics over the course of 16 days:

Week 1: Who am I? Identity, Identifying my skills, My personal statement

Week 2: How Did I Get Here? Emotional healing, Stumbling blocks, Character matters, Taking responsibility

Week 3: Where Am I Going? Planning your future, Searching for work, My CV, Cover letter and Interview skills

Week 4: How Will I Get There? Making an impression, The workplace, Opportunities, Self-management

## Upon completing the course, participants will have:

- A renewed sense of confidence and belief in themselves
- A professional looking CV and cover letter
- A clear sense of their next steps to finding employment
- A Graduate Support team dedicated to supporting them after they graduate and as they search for work
- A community of friends and graduates who are in the same boat, cheering each other on.



# RESOURCES

## Walk in Centre

We have a support centre in the township of Dunoon, Cape Town where we assist the vulnerable in addressing challenges that affect their education and wellbeing. Dunoon could be classified as a severely impoverished community with very little income coming into homes. Recently we collected data using the 'poverty spotlight tool' which revealed key issues community members face. It was very apparent from the data that Dunoon is a very unsafe community. Feeling secure is a basic need for humans and living in an environment where your security is constantly threatened has severe consequences in terms of psychological health and your ability to self actualise. There is evidence of a large amount of trauma present in the community which translates into apathy and hopelessness. People are in survival mode and struggle to confront the reality of the circumstances they live in may have on their psyche.

Our centre is a safe spaces for individuals to start processing these feelings, a place where people can process their trauma and find real motivation. This lines up with our core strategy - to offer a safe place for individuals to process and find ways to unlock their own potential. To do this effectively we have a case manager and a referral pathway in place for counselling and our staff have been trained to identify trauma in participants.

The closest government support service is situated in Milnerton and many people from Dunoon cannot afford the transport fee. The Boost support and learning centre has become a well known and accessible space for vulnerable people in need of assistance. Our walk-in centre assists people from the community with school placements, learning problems, cases of neglect and abuse etc. We try to assist where we can and refer cases to organisations in our partnering network. We assist with an average of 150-200 cases a year. We also provide travel allowances to enable people to visit the different organisations that can assist them. Our facilities are open to organisations and social workers from the Department of Social Development to meet with their clients as Dunoon is not very accessible and safe.

## Computer Lab

Digital inequality in South Africa is a significant issue, as there is a large gap between those who have access to digital technologies and those who do not. One of the primary factors contributing to digital inequality in South Africa is the high cost of internet access. This cost can be prohibitive for many South Africans, particularly those living in poverty. Another factor contributing to digital inequality in South Africa is the lack of digital skills and education. Many South Africans, particularly those living in disadvantaged communities, lack the skills necessary to effectively use digital technologies.

Our computer lab addresses digital inequality in South Africa by providing digital skills training and education, and increasing access to digital devices. We support learning by giving access to computers, internet and printing. The computer lab is utilised by adult students, job seekers and school learners. Our lab is visited by an average of 1000 individuals per year.

We have also joined the DG Murray trust and 200 other Public Benefit Organisations by signing the survey petitioning ICASA to create a mechanism for the zero-rating of PBOs and .gov digital content as a matter of urgency. The call is on mobile network operators to zero-rate the services of all public benefit organisations (PBOs) that provide digital content for early learning and education.

Zero-rating – which makes all digital content free to the user and paid for by the network operator – has been a condition of licence for all network operators who bid successfully for additional radio spectrum in April 2022. The successful bidders included MTN, Vodacom, Cell C and Telkom. However, ICASA has failed to put in place a system to ensure the network operators comply.



# A major bridge was built across the digital divide: but a year later, the tollgates are still there.

## The cell phone is an amazing thing.

It could give everyone the power of information. Parents could read stories to their children. Teachers and health workers could be able to connect to keep learning. Young people could find new work opportunities. It could help bridge the digital divide. The possibilities are endless.

## Except that mobile data is still too expensive.

The COVID-19 lockdown made everyone realise how important digital communication is to all of us. Government declared that health and educational websites should be free to users to share information about the pandemic and to keep children and students learning. Many of these zero-rated websites saw substantial increases in usage.

## Then a major breakthrough!

In April 2022, ICASA made zero-rating of the digital content of **government and public benefit organisations (PBOs)** a condition of licence for the cellphone network operators that had bid successfully for more radio spectrum. This meant that users of these websites should have had access to this digital content for FREE.

**A year later, ICASA has not enforced zero-rating of PBO and .gov sites. Some PBOs have stayed zero-rated; others have been removed by the cellphone network operators. PBOs from other sectors e.g. those providing support for better nutrition and job seeking have been unable to register.**

There is much wrong in South Africa, but there is a lot we can do right now like putting in place a simple system to zero-rate the digital content of PBOs. The condition of licence is there, in regulation, yet the poorest communities still don't benefit from it. We, as non-profit public benefit organisations ask ICASA to make this a priority and make it happen now. The DG Murray Trust (DGMT) has offered to set up a simple registry for PBOs and pay for it, supporting ICASA to make it happen fast.

**If you are reading this and agree with our approach, you can do your part by sending an email to ICASA at [ceo@icasa.org.za](mailto:ceo@icasa.org.za) and request that a mechanism for zero-rating of PBOs be made a priority.**

## SIGNED BY REPRESENTATIVES OF OVER 200 PUBLIC BENEFIT ORGANISATIONS:

A Better Africa Foundation	Columbia Leadership	HITA/AT	LEAP Science and Maths	Ncedo Training Projects	Project Literacy	South African History	Thusang Setebane Drop In
Adopt-a-School Foundation	Common Good Foundation	Harmony Home for the Aged	Schools	Noloni Ones	Project Playground Trust	Online	Centre
Accem Education	Dotlands	Hope Africa Collective	Learn to Bam	Neema Foundation	Reading to Learn South Africa	South African Institute for Distance Education (SAIDE)	Training and Resources in Early Education
Atadin Learning Solutions	Cumulus Blue Trust	Hope Through Action Foundation SA	Lesedi Lorona Home of Trust	Nel Butcher & Associates	RED INK	Southern African Catholic Bishops Conference Justice and Peace Commission	Tshehlag Development and Training
APISA	Development Action Group	ITEC	Lesedi Service Centre	Net vù Pret	Rise Africa Care Foundation	Southern Africa Food Lab	USiSO
AspireYouth	Dialanathi	IDEA Digital Education	Life Choices	New World Foundation	Rural Development Support Program	Southern Cape Educational Trust	Ubuntu Pathways
ASSITEC South	Douglas Murray Home for the Aged	Ikamva Labantu Charitable Trust	Life Choices	Ngangezwe Foundation	SA Mobility for the Blind Trust	Sparrows Child and Youth Care Centre	Ukhambo Foundation
Atlantic Hope Place of Safety	Dr CL Smith Foundation	Impact Trust SA	Lisika Unite Foundation	Natabase Lovelid	savekct	Sunshine Centre Association	Ukhanyo Foundation
Autism South Africa	Early Learning Resource Unit	Inclusive Education South Africa	Living Hope	Natalise Trust	SAYes Mentoring	TLC Ministries	Umgoshongo The Fountain
Awareness for Child Trafficking Africa (ACT Africa)	eKasi Entrepreneurs	Indela Mental Health	Maake HIV AIDS and Youth Guide	Nkokozweni Village for the Vulnerable	School of Hard Knocks	TSIBA Education	VUSA Rugby and Learning Academy
Autism Education	Elizabeth Foundation	Innovation Edge	Malamulele Onward	Nyera Youth Development	SchoolNet SA	Tape Aids for the Blind	VyVB
Banang Day Care Centre	Engage Empowerment Partnership	I Protect Me	Hasburnani Development Organisation	Observatory Civic Association	Scouts South Africa	Thanda	Vuyeni Safe Haven
Bertha Centre for Social Innovation and Entrepreneurship	Engel Entrepreneurial Foundation	iThemba Lethu	MasFunde Learner Development	Obani Yutim ELC	Senecio Support for People with Disabilities	The Breede Centre Trust	WAAI
Biblonet SA	enka: Make Your Mark	iThembalethu Outreach Project	Masimanyane Women's Rights International	OLICO Maths Education	Seven Passes Initiative	The Dewardré Fritz Foundation	Well Being Africa
Bioregional South Africa	Environment & Language	JET Education Services	Midlands Community College	OneVoice South Africa	Shine Literacy	The EARTH Centre	We Will Speak Out South Africa
Bongani Community Development Centre	FASTIMHANG DAY CARE CENTRE	JOE Funding Trust	Mkhulu Child Development Trust	Organising for Work	Sign Language Education and Development (SLED)	The Eyes2Eyes Foundation	Wordworks
Boost Africa	Five Trails Africa	Just Grace	Miqat	ORT SA	Siphile Sonke Outreach Programme	The GAP College	Western Cape Foundation for Community Work
Bridges for Music	Fisientekani Centre For Development	Just Like Heaven	Miselonvale Care Centre	Outliers	Siyafunda Community Technology Centre	The Movement in Africa	Wombs to Tombs Development Centre
Broadway Legacy Foundation	For the Voiceless	Keep The Dream796	Motlano Institute for Language and Literacies	PACSEN	Siyashushu Leadership Incubator	The Reach Trust	YOUTH@WORK
Cancer Association of South Africa (CANSAA)	Foundation for Community Development (FCD)	Kwena Community Centre	mothers2mothers	Passion to Serve	Siyazana YDF	The Social Makeover	Zero Waste Association of South Africa (ZWASA)
CAP	Funda Wande	Khula Education	Nakhosi Community Forum	Pennsach	Small Projects Foundation	The Teddy Bear Foundation for Abused Children	Ziphakamise
Cape Mental Health	Gold Youth Development Agency	Khululeka Community Education Development Centre	NASCEE	Perinatal Mental Health Project	SmartStart	Thembalethu Care	Zoliswa
ChloKa Trust	Growing Birds ECD	Kin Culture	NPO in a Box	Phiani Maternal, Child Health and Nutrition Trust	Social Change Assistance Trust	Thusanhing Trust	DD Murray Trust (DGMT) including: Grow Great, Embrace, Bundo WAGWISO, Power Power, Teachers CAN, Zero Dropout, Youth Capital and JobStarter
Chrysalis Academy	Gun Free South Africa	Kouga Windfarm Trust	Natiball Trust	Phonosis Students Development Trust			
Citizen Leader Lab	Gun Free South Africa	Kuwusulu NPC	National Association of Child Care Workers (NACCW)	Pledge Nature Reserve Trust			
Click Learning	GN Foundation NPC	Lake Farm Centre Aid Association	National Youth Development League	Primary Science Programme			
Cloves Without Borders SA	HVSA						



Sponsored by the DG Murray Trust

**Imagine a South Africa where every person has the opportunity to fulfil their potential.**

# Recycle Swop Shop

Giving hand-outs can create a culture of dependency, in which individuals come to rely on external support rather than taking responsibility for their own well-being. We do not want that but the reality of many families in our context is that they can't even afford basic essentials and school supplies. It is important to take a nuanced and compassionate approach that recognises the complex realities of poverty and works to address the root causes of inequality.

Therefore, we launched the waste-not project to make school supplies, food and clothing affordable for all families. This program allows families to exchange recycling for supplies. The participants are also encouraged to join in our learning programmes.

The recycle swop shop programme not only incentivises recycling but also promotes the reduction of waste in the community. It provides an opportunity for individuals to exchange items they no longer need for something they do need, while also promoting a sense of community and environmental responsibility. Additionally, the programme creates employment opportunities for individuals involved in the collection and management of recyclable materials.

# Food Garden and Food Garden assistance

Our Boost food garden and the Silverleaf Primary food garden continues to provide inspiration and greenery in an area where there are almost no trees or gardens. Dunoon is extremely over populated and sewerage problems and waste pollution has a very real psychological effect on the wellbeing of the residents.

Our Food garden therefore not only serves to promote food security and learning opportunities but also a feeling of hope and possibility. The aim is to establish a food garden at every school in Dunoon. Food gardens play an important role in beautifying townships, transforming otherwise neglected spaces into vibrant and attractive areas that promote community well-being and environmental sustainability.

# Soup Kitchens

We support three Soup Kitchens with the food donations we receive through the Foodforward partnership. FoodForward SA connects a world of excess to a world of need by recovering quality edible surplus food from the consumer goods supply chain and distributing it to community organisations that serve the poor.





# Student Sponsorship

We take great care to unlock the potential of our staff and make every attempt to assist in the sponsorship of study fees, transport and other resources when needed.

This year we continued to sponsor one of our After school facilitators with her 3rd year of studying Intermediate phase teaching through Unisa University. We also formed a partnership with SALT who assisted three of our employees in upgrading and obtaining their grade 12 certificate. Two of the Gold Youth interns are studying at CPUT - High School teaching and the other Town and Regional planning. Our sewing centre manager is studying finance at a private college. We also encourage employees to obtain their drivers license and provide assistance with the cost involved.

Study sponsorship for employees can be a powerful tool for unlocking potential and driving personal and professional growth. By investing in our employees education and development, we aim to create a motivated and skilled workforce while it also serves as a retention strategy. Employees are more likely to commit to our organisation for a couple of years which in turn increases the impact of our work. Our employees build strong relationships with our learners and help to create a safe space for connection and learning.

# Community Events

Community events bring people together, fostering a sense of belonging and connectedness. In Dunoon , social isolation and fragmentation are prevalent and the aim of our community events is to provide opportunities for residents to interact, form relationships, and build a strong support networks.

In 2022 we hosted:

Family Strengthening workshops at our centre for our Aftacool parents. It is a three day workshop on Saturdays where parents and children learn about communication, how to spend quality time together and self regulation. It is fun and interactive!

Aftacool Talent Show and theatre showcase where all our Aftacool clubs come together and get an opportunity to perform and interact.

Gold Youth Talent Show and Beauty pageant where all the High School learners from the three different sites come together and interact and share their talents.

Community market was piloted at the Dunoon Taxi Rank to showcase the best Dunoon has to offer. We would love to turn it into a monthly event!

Library Visits to introduce staff, volunteers and beneficiaries to Library system and obtain library cards



# NETWORKING & PARTNERSHIP

We commit ourselves to establishing partnerships and seeing social change from within.

## **Education Dunoon NPOs**

Think tank with educational NPOs working in Dunoon to create a pipeline for quality education in Dunoon to unlock potential.

### **Little Lambs**

Partner with First 1000 days programme at Dunoon clinic.

### **Learning Trust**

Aftacool funder and capacity support.

### **Mikhulu Trust**

Shared reading facilitator training, support and resources.

### **Soil for Life**

Food garden training, support, resources and mentoring.

### **Food Forward SA**

Provides quality edible surplus food from the consumer goods supply chain.

### **Gold Youth**

High school leadership programme partner.

### **Craft Design Institute**

Youth Sewing internship partner.

### **Yearbeyond and Rogz Academy**

Youth programme – YeBoneers (youth interns) work as facilitators that provide numeracy and literacy support to Grade 3 and 4 learners in 4 primary schools in Dunoon cluster.

### **Breteau Foundation**

Sponsor of 55 tablets for our reading programmes. Also free doodlemath software for Aftacool learners.

### **Jelly Beanz**

Referral partner for trauma counselling children.

### **Hope House Counselling**

Referral partner for trauma counselling.

### **Community Intervention Centre**

Referral partner for trauma counselling and gender based violence.

### **Olico**

Math clubs resources and curriculum.

### **Butterfly Art Training**

Art therapy training, support and resources.

### **Zanokhanyo Network (Common Good)**

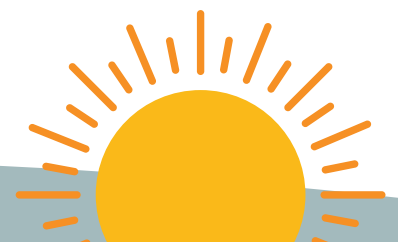
Work readiness course partner.

### **Sifunulwazi Community College**

Providing space at our centre for Adult basic education

### **Potential partnerships**

Thank you for being part of the Boost village and helping us to serve the Dunoon community with quality programmes for the last 15 years. The challenges faced by people living in poverty are incredibly complex and we would never be able to address these complexities alone. Therefore, we try our best to build bridges and partner with other organisations, government, churches, companies and experts to bring innovative solutions that will result in sustainable impact. Please make contact with us - we need you.



# 2022 IN NUMBERS

**600**

Books distributed to learners in our programmes to help promote book-ownership from a very young age, so that children can build libraries in their homes.

**2 new reading corners**

created and stocked with books at Silverleaf Primary

**32**

Educational Home tablets issued to learners for home use to improve numeracy and literacy

**16**

Principals who run their own creches in Dunoon graduated from our 8 week shared book reading programme

moms & tots graduated from our 12-week shared book reading programme

**17**

**10**

Aftacool clubs running!

Learners reached. 120 attending more than 75% of the sessions. 112 showing improvement in math. 149 showing improvement in English. 138 showing improvement in Emotional awareness.

**87**

individuals attended our 2 week basic computer course

**26**

learners identified as struggling readers and attending our weekly Remedial reading Club. All learners have shown an improvement in their reading ability and understanding.

More than

**100**

learners reached weekly with our fun Math club, Coding Club, Creative Club and Dunoon Explorers Club

**90**

High School learners engaged in our Gold Youth leadership programme

**3**

Gold Youth Interns recruited and trained as Facilitators

**30**

individuals graduated from our 10 week sewing course and encouraged to start their own businesses

**28559**

KG of waste recycled

**6**

Youth Interns recruited in the Craft Design Institute programme to gain practical work experience at our sewing centre

**18**

individuals completed a 4 week work readiness journey

# 2022 IN words

I have experienced first hand the impact of having books in our home. Being a Aftacool mom now for the last four years my toddler grew up with books. He is now in Grade 1 and his teacher is amazed by his vocabulary and general knowledge. I am so proud.

**Ngeniswa (Aftacool mom)**

I have learnt many things at shared book reading. I will now go to the library and get books and show her the pictures and we will count and sing songs. He loves spending time with me reading.

**Ntombenkosi (Mom of Carmel - 4 years old)**

Math Club has very helpful for the learners as it have improved their mathematics reasoning, even grade 4's have picked up pace and are more confident about maths. We all enjoy playing the math games and its good to see that they are starting to love maths.

**Asonle (Math Club Facilitator)**

The Butterfly Art training was a very enlightening experience for me. It was my first time at an art museum and it was healing to learn to express my emotions through art. I enjoy my art sessions with the learners at Boost weekly and I can see how they are gaining confidence and creativity. I also did an art workshop with High School learners.

**Phiwe (Art Club Facilitator)**

I love computers and coding! I am learning something new every week. I really need to concentrate - it can be very tricky to solve some of the puzzles.

**Inako (Advanced coding club learner)**

I have read 10 books this term!

**(Remedial Reading learner)**

I am proud to be a Gold Youth facilitator Intern. I want to make a difference and learn something new every day.

**Mawanda (Gold Youth Intern)**

What is the most important thing you have learnt during sewing course? Confidence and asking why in everything.

**Mantoa (Sewing graduate)**

Thank you for fighting for my child and getting a school for him. I can now sleep at night and wake up early to prepare him for school. There is hope.

**Mom (Walk in assistance)**

# CONTACT US

Join us on this journey! We would love to hear from you

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