



Conquest For Life

Improving the Quality of Life For All

ANNUAL REPORT 2018/2019



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About Us

Conquest for Life (CFL) was established in 1995 in Westbury, a township located 8km west of Johannesburg in South Africa. It was an initiative of a group of young people who came together with the aim of finding innovative approaches to social pressing issues facing their community and, in so doing so, make a significant difference in their lives, that of their community and country at large.

The organization has expanded its facilities by opening four new additional operational branches in other disadvantaged communities i.e. the community of Soweto, Ennerdale and surrounding communities. These dynamic communities have been crippled by apartheid effects such as discrimination, high mortality rate as a result of HIV/AIDS, high level of illiteracy and poverty.

It is evident that although these young people of these varied communities represent different cultural backgrounds, the disparities are prevalent cross-culturally. And there is a need for an urgent response to the challenges facing them and fostering of productive and supportive role models.

Conquest for Life (CFL) seeks to inspire young people to make a difference and to expose them to chance. Due to abject poverty many fall prey to the life of crime and despondency, as a result, anger, frustration and anti-social tendencies are released through random acts of violence, gang affiliation, crime, drugs and alcohol abuse.

Conquest for Life (CFL) aims to empower the youth through myriads of programs specifically designed to produce a safe and structured environment in which the youth can realize and have access to the life skills needed to enrich their lives.

Conquest for Life started in a dynamic, predominantly colored community characterized by unemployment rate of 80%, with high rate of school dropouts, extreme poverty, inadequate recreational and/ or extra-curricular facilities and high substance abuse, but how Conquest for Life has grown to be an NPO serving the needs of five communities in South Africa.



Our Vision

To facilitate the holistic development of young people so that they can be meaningful citizens who can contribute to the development of their communities

Our Mission

"To be a self-sustaining youth organization, run by young people, empowered to become agents of change by developing their identity, self worth, and a sense of community."

Our Objectives

- **Developing a Sense of Self**

Youth South Africans need time, space and a safe environment in which to pursue alternatives to their current lifestyles, attitudes and behavior. Conquest for Life has created and established this through a number of projects that give young people a variety of opportunities to redefine themselves from a minus to a plus, a failure to success and from nobody to somebody.

- **Strengthening Family and Community Structures**

Value Systems play a significant role in a family structures and family cohesion. It is for that reason that Conquest for Life invests in building and strengthening family and community formations by engaging all sectors of the community in a dialogue ensuring a holistic and sustainable approach to addressing community social pressing issues.

- **Youth Development & Empowerment**

Conquest for Life continues to empower young people through its projects and offer employment opportunities to some of its beneficiaries. Empowerment is done through gender advocacy, capacity building and skills development.



Chairman's Report

2019 is gone but not forgotten. It was a year that got the whole world paying attention to the markets and what was in happening in China that could affect the world. No doubt it did. Big business downsizing and some even folding. For us here in South Africa, we could not be spared as our economy is integrated with other economies. We could feel it in our fundraising drives. The ones that funded us did not have enough resources and capacity to help us meet our financial obligations. We had to restrict many of our plans for 2019 and use what is in our hands. Meeting with friends and partners you could hear them all saying the same thing. Conquest For Life is no exception as the team had to carry out its tasks. Many children, youth and the elderly are dependent on the service that the organization provides. It is during a crisis that the needs of people escalate and solutions seems so far off.

With the limited resources at the disposal of the organization they managed to keep the doors open. On a monthly basis they have executed their tasks and carry on with the race. I want to express my sincere appreciation to everyone that helped us surviving 2019. A special thank you to our loyal partners and funders who supported us financially and in kind. Thank you for always thinking about us and the work we do. You don't know the real impact your contribution has done. To all the organizations and Not For Profit Organization who work and network with us, Thank you.

My fellow Board Members who has been serving Conquest For Life and believing in what the organization does, Thank You for adding the extra mile and helping us make the past year a success. To Glen and the Staff of Conquest, thank you for your labor and for going out of your way to make your work pleasant and enjoyable. Together we shall reap the fruits of stable, successful and prosperous communities. We serve our future Leaders and with your help and assistance they can become better and better and untimely the best. We need to raise tomorrows Leaders today. That is the reason for the existence of Conquest For Life. We see the best in the Children and Young people. Inside of them are hidden treasurers that need to be discovered for the betterment of mankind.



CEO's Report

Another year has gone past and it seems just like yesterday when we ushered in the New Year with much anticipation and hope. Everyone I met and engage with had much anticipation for the year ahead. Then suddenly the turn of events globally and especially here in South Africa. We saw many corporates and businesses in the country requesting assistance. The Not Profit Sector were not immune to what was happening nationally. Many of our fundraising efforts did not yield the desired results as many of our donors and funders faced economical challengers thus impacting their businesses. Many of our faithful partners did the best they could in supporting us and lending a hearing ear. The year was very challenging as we had to cope and work with limited and at some times with no resources. Staff members had to double up or work overtime without been compensated.

We kept on asking ourselves, "If you love what you do and there is no monetary reward will you still do it." The answer always remains the same, "Yes" without a doubt. Some people ask you does the thought of quitting or giving up ever cross your mind. Yes it does but than you think of the many children and youth that requires your service and help. You think about the many lifes that you have already change. It is when you meet somebody at the supermarket or at the car wash and they ask you "Do You still remember me." You look at the individual and trying to remember but you were put on the spot. The reply is "No, it's the first time I seeing you". Than they call you by name and refresh your memory. The next question from you is what are doing nowadays. Than all of a sudden your eyes open wide, "I am an accountant and I just want to thank you for investing in my life. What I do today is attributed to the time I spent at Conquest For Life. Yes that is the driving force. One more person freed from gansterism, drugs, poverty and a lack of vision. There is so many stories I could tell you that will sent shivers down your spine. To our funders and Partners that is what we do. Creating hope in a hopeless situation. One of my goals is to write a short story book with all the interesting characters in it. Some who made it and others who just lost it although they were given the same opportunities and support.

A big thank you to everyone who contributed in making our work lighter and valuable – Our Funders and Donors. Thank you to the Chair and the Board for always being available to assist, at times on short notice but you were there. I don't have words to describe how thankful I am. To the staff of Conquest For Life, thank you. You guys surprise me on a daily basis. Your commitment, hard work, tenacity amaze me. Thank You

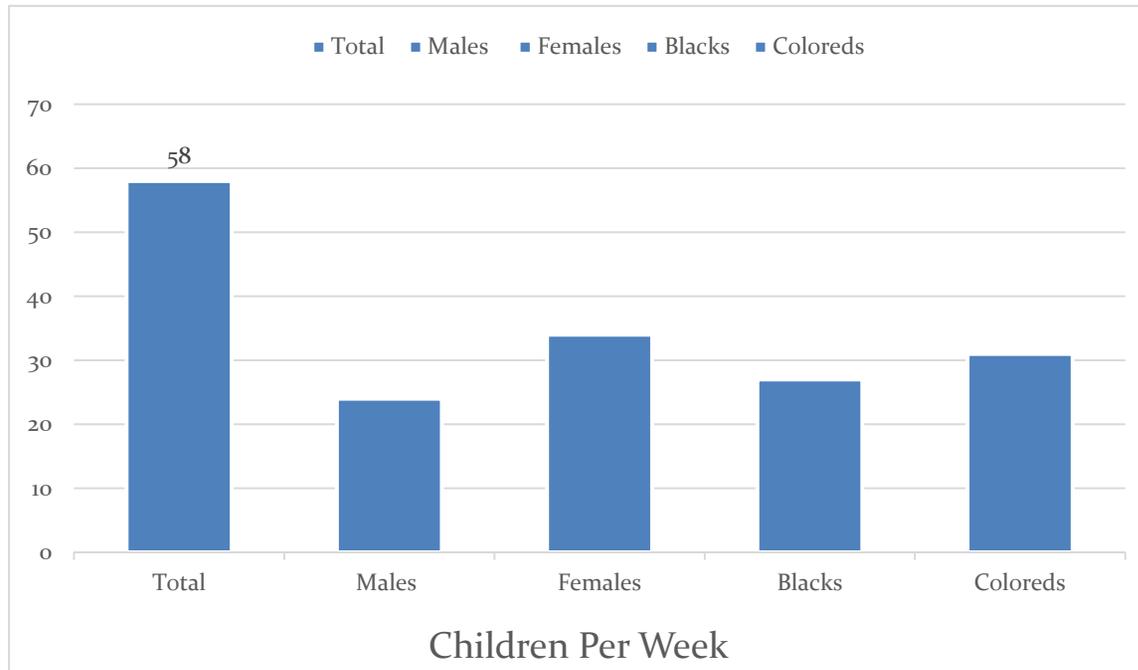


Our Projects

1. Youth Enrichment Project

1.1 Aftercare

The purpose of the Aftercare Program is to keep children of the street and away from negative influences. The program assist children Mondays to Fridays with homework, teach them differently life skills and provide a hot meal on a daily basis Children from all walks of life participate in the program.



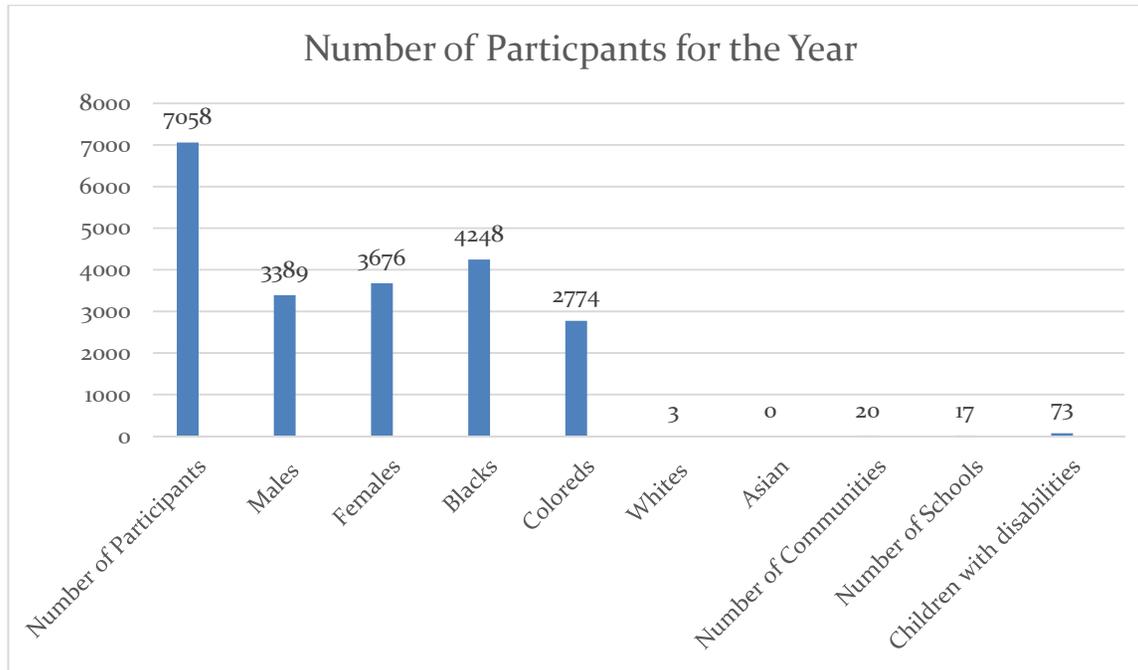
A group of children, including a boy in a blue jacket and a girl in a red sweater, are smiling and hugging each other. The background shows a wall with some text, including "at your" and "0800".

Elresha is a 10 year girl from the Eastern Cape who came to our Aftercare because she was struggling with English at school and her aunt Maggie sent her to learn how speak, write and read in English. She could only speak Afrikaans at home and did not have somebody to assist her in English. In the beginning she did not interact with participants and it seems that she was shy. Upon enquiring we learned that there is some issues at home and we called the aunt to come and see us. The problem affected her so much to the extend that she wanted to return to the Eastern Cape. After the interaction things began to change. Her attitude improved and so did her school work especially the English. She passed her grade and in December she moved back to the Eastern Cape. In January we got call from her mother wherein she expressed her heartfelt thanks towards us for assisting Eliresha. Her mother informed us that her English grade was so good that they accepted her into a English class.

Mpho is a 13 years old boy who is also a grade 6 learner at a primary school. He is in our aftercare program. He stays with his mother and his grandmother. His mother goes to work every day and he is left with his grandmother to take care of him. His grandmother brought him to our program because she was unable to assist him with homework. When the grandmother came to register the child she mentioned that Mpho is a very problematic child and he does not listen. She also said that he always beat other children even at school. She said that she is tired of being called at school because he does not even listen his teachers. She said that the school principal wants him to be removed from school because he does not want trouble. After the registration I called the school and made an appointment to speak to them because we know the principal and we have a good relationship as we conduct the Just for kids program at school. I then went to school to speak to the school principal and find out what seem to be the problem. Mpho came to attend the program and we made sure that he attends every day. The parents and school teachers with us we agreed to try and work together to assist him. We took time to sit down with him and teach him life skills. We showed him what is good and bad in life and choose what will help him in future. After 2 months we have seen a change in his life, he became a different child in the class and even at home. His mother called one day to tell us that she has not heard any problems for two months and she is grateful for the work we did to his life. Mpho started doing his homework on his own without anyone reminding him.

1.2 Just For Kids

The Just For Kids Project is a Experiential life skills Program taking place on a daily basis in different communities in a number of schools. The project take place during school time. The sessions seek to promote positive relationships and peace amongst people and children from all walks of life. The Just For Kids Projects address daily issues the children might face at school and at home and uses play to teach life skills. Our biggest challenge is to let the whole school participate in the program due to lack of capacity and personnel. The children at school loves the program because they get a chance to be out of the classroom or to see a new face that is relevant to them and understand them.

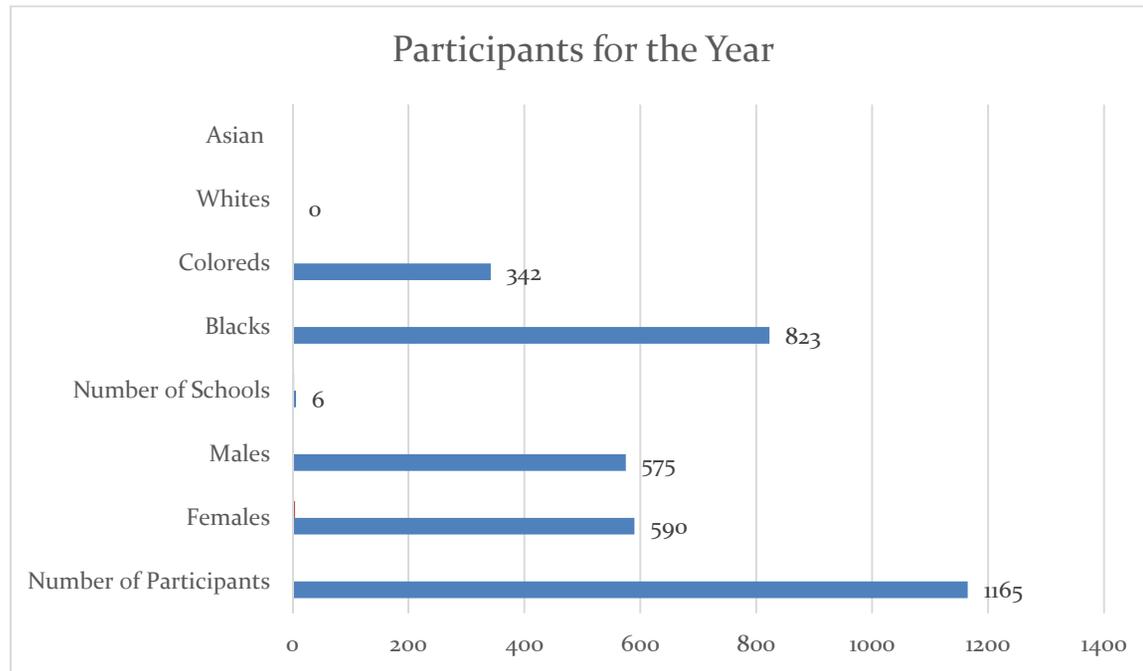


I met Mr Roskins in 2016 when I started working for Conquest for Life. He is our contact teacher at school for the JFK Program. The day I met him, I could see that he is a very nice and caring person. He always have time for us or make time no matter how late we were for the program. Our Relationship with the school improved quite a lot due to Mr. Roskins. He very understanding and would always ask if we need a class even if was exams or cycle tests. Mr Roskins is also one of the volunteers for Conquest For Life and is always available when needed. He has become one of the family members



1.3 Youth to Youth

The Youth to Youth program is the same as the Just For Kids. We use the same concept and methodology as the just for Kids. Just for Kids is for the Primary School and Youth to Youth is for the High School. The young people in the schools don't want to be called kids, so we just changed the name to accommodate them and to make them more likely to participate. The program allows the young people to come out of the class environment where everyone feel so pressed down and create an an opportunity to laugh and play.



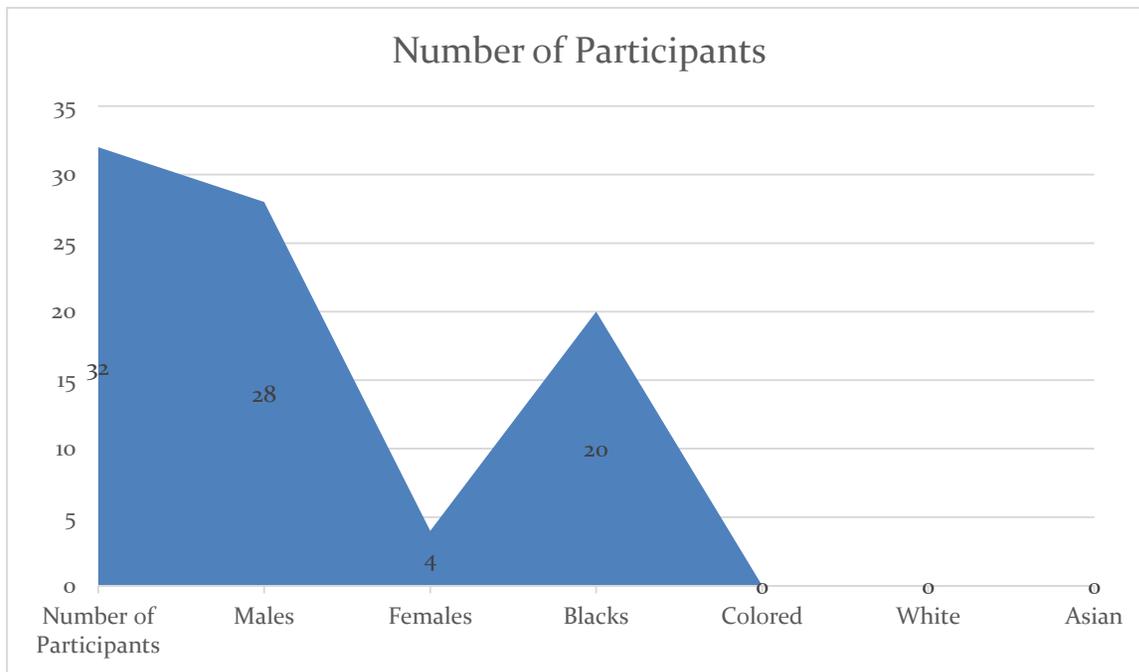
It is never late to restore a good behaviour that was lost due to peer pressure. Kabelo is a 15 years old boy who is in our youth to youth program. We normally conduct the program at a school in Zone 10 Meadowlands in Soweto. Kabelo was a very good child when he arrived at the school in January. The teacher said that he was a very good learner quiet and humbled. He got to school and befriended wrong class mates. He became a problematic child and he started bunking school and missed classes. He was expelled from school for a week because he was out of hand. One day while we were conducting a program he was brought back to school by his mother. We were asked to speak to him and his parents. Luckily Kabelo was one of our participants in the school but his class was not allocated to us so that we can conduct the program. We have made arrangement with his class teacher and we were given a class where he was present. We then started conducting the program for a month. We had one on one talk with him most of the time so that we can call him back to right way. Kabelo understood that the school is serious about letting him go and he will have to repeat the same grade in the following year. Kabelo took and good step to let his bad friend go and got out of the gansterism. His friends started smoking drugs at the toilets and Kabelo did not wanted to be part of that. Kabelo's life and a good behaviour was restored slowly and his friends started to call him a stupid. Kabelo focussed on the school work and behaved well. The school teachers and the learners recommended Kabelo to be a class representative. We had a last talk with him and we were very happy about his progress in the school. We are glad to call him a good child who will make it at the end of the year even if Covid 19 disturbed their learning process we still believe that he will make it to the next grade.



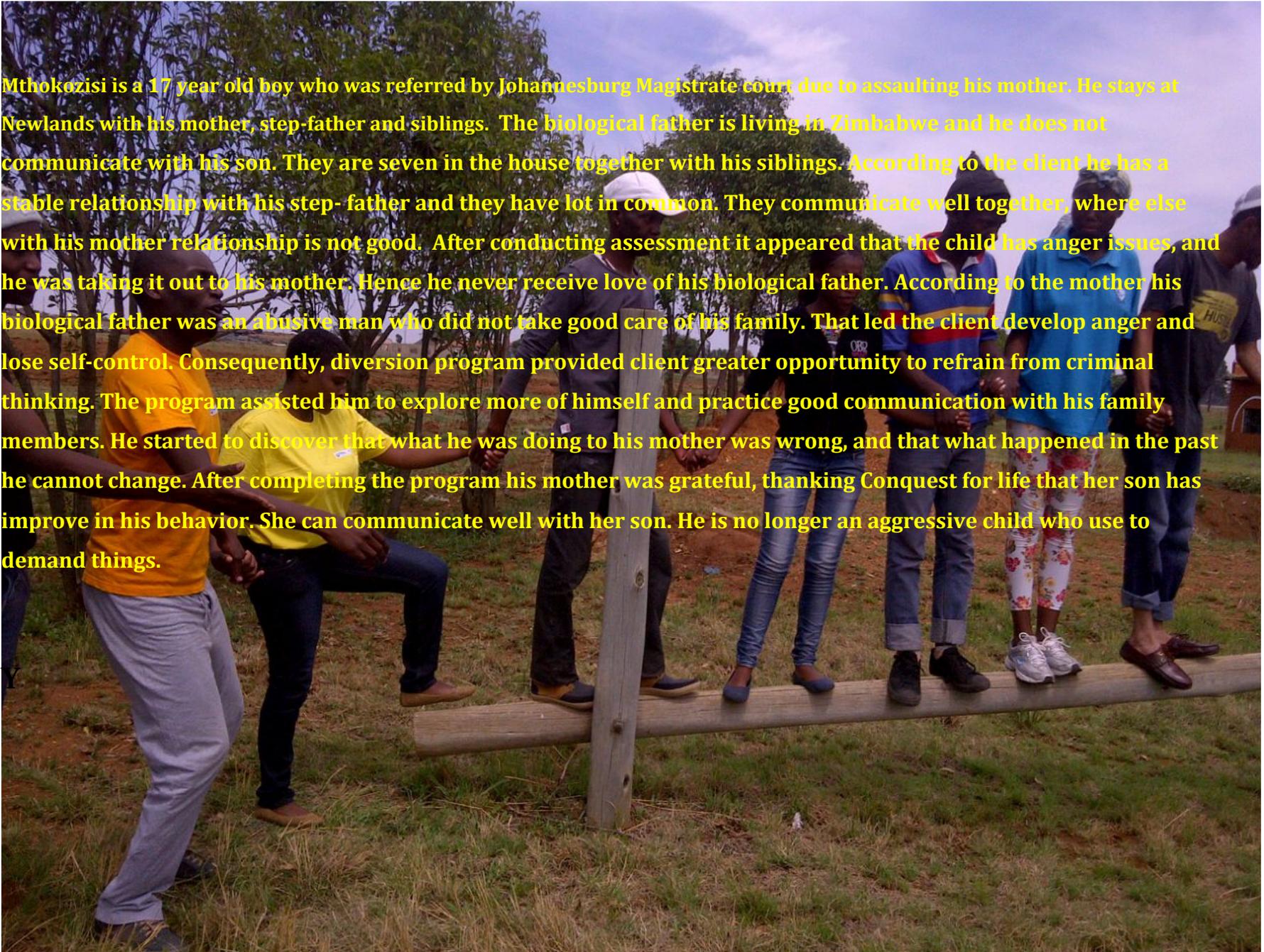
2. Youth at Risk Program

2.1 Building Bridges Diversion

The Building Bridges Diversion Project is one of Conquest for Life’s more intense programmes, targeted at youth in the community who are at risk of getting involved in gang related activities, drug abuse, and getting in trouble with the law. Young people who are not allowed to be part of the solution will always be part of the problem. The building Bridges Diversion Program keeps young people accountable and responsible for their actions. Life skills topics covered in the Diversion program includes but is not limited to Goals and Dreams, Substance Abuse, Bullying, Conflict Management, Anger Management, Believing in oneself, etc. The program gives everyone who have done something wrong an opportunity to make it right. One people are given a second chance to get out of the hole. A support structure is formed with Staff, Social Workers, Prosecutors, Parents and Family Members. The ball is in your court and you have the chance to play.

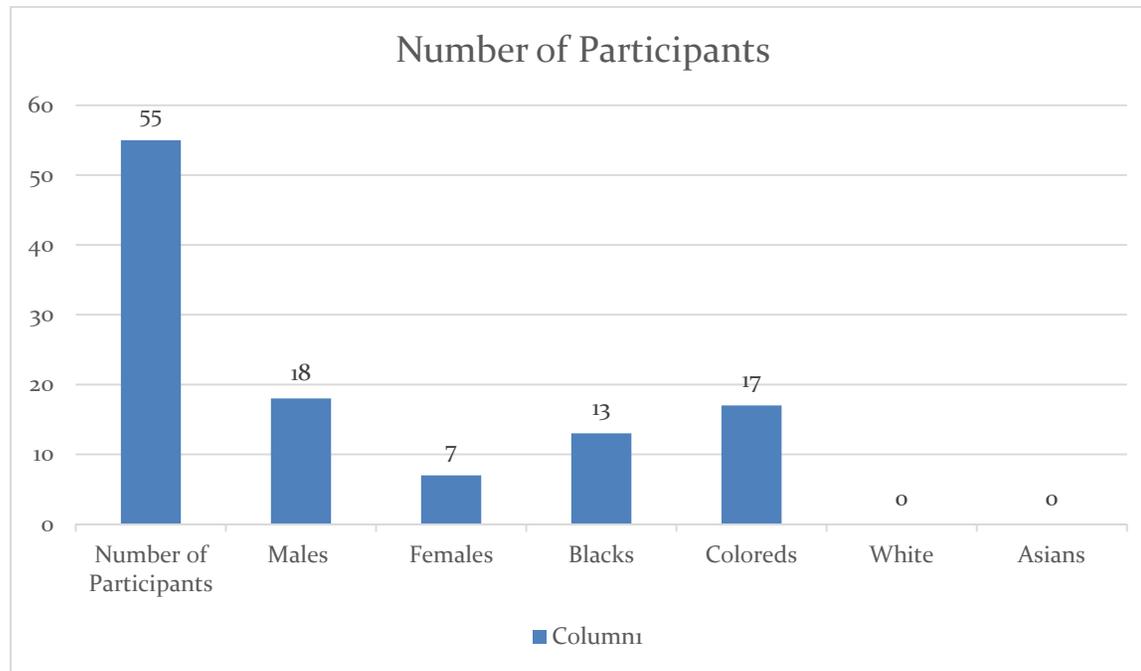


Mthokozisi is a 17 year old boy who was referred by Johannesburg Magistrate court due to assaulting his mother. He stays at Newlands with his mother, step-father and siblings. The biological father is living in Zimbabwe and he does not communicate with his son. They are seven in the house together with his siblings. According to the client he has a stable relationship with his step- father and they have lot in common. They communicate well together, where else with his mother relationship is not good. After conducting assessment it appeared that the child has anger issues, and he was taking it out to his mother. Hence he never receive love of his biological father. According to the mother his biological father was an abusive man who did not take good care of his family. That led the client develop anger and lose self-control. Consequently, diversion program provided client greater opportunity to refrain from criminal thinking. The program assisted him to explore more of himself and practice good communication with his family members. He started to discover that what he was doing to his mother was wrong, and that what happened in the past he cannot change. After completing the program his mother was grateful, thanking Conquest for life that her son has improve in his behavior. She can communicate well with her son. He is no longer an aggressive child who use to demand things.



2.2 Youth Development Program

The Youth Development Program focusses on young people at risk who are at school, out of school, unemployed and who wants to make a change in their lives. Most of the participants are referred from school because we can monitor them and keep them accountable for their actions and the decisions they have made. Young people get reintegrated back into the school to complete their schooling.



The following story consists the experiential world of a young girl who stays at Meadowlands (Soweto). Nokwanda is a 16 year old girl who reside with her mother and other siblings. Her adolescent stage led her to find herself in a situation where she couldn't resist temptation, and allowed peer pressure. Nokwanda was referred to our Youth Development Program by the Noordgesig Secondary School. She was referred because of drinking alcohol in the school. At Conquest for life she went through drug test and the result showed that she is also using dagga. Her mother was worried and it was painful to hear that her child has started to smoke weed. The assessment was conducted with the child and it transpired that what led her to substances was due to peer pressure. She enrolled in life skills program and learned many things regarding how to behave herself as young girl. How to deal with peer pressure and the values that are important in the person's life. As she was attending the program the change started gradually. Her perception and behavior were no longer the same. As she started to believe that alcohol and dagga are not healthy for her body. She realized that her dream is to become actress and she likes model. She discovered that when she continues smoking dagga she will never fulfill her dream. As a result she started to quit smoking. She maintained a healthy life and before she completed the program she went through drug test. The results were negative, and her mother was very happy. She sent Conquest for life many gratitude for helping her child.



Our Funders / Partners



social development

Department:
Social Development
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



Frederick Wartenwell Trust

SR & A Winer Education and Benefit Trust

Financial Report

CONQUEST FOR LIFE NPC

4.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION at 29 February 2020

	NOTE	2020 R	2019 R
ASSETS			
NON CURRENT ASSETS			
Property, plant and equipment	4	1 910 035	1 910 035
Intangible assets	5	62 192	62 192
Investments	6	1 915	1 915
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash and cash equivalents		39 403	686 141
TOTAL ASSETS		<u>2 013 545</u>	<u>2 660 283</u>
EQUITY AND LIABILITIES			
ACCUMULATED FUNDS			
		787 264	1 281 309
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Trade and other payables	7	1 226 281	1 378 974
TOTAL EQUITY AND LIABILITIES		<u>2 013 545</u>	<u>2 660 283</u>

CONQUEST FOR LIFE NPC

5.

STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME
for the year ended 29 February 2020

	NOTE	2020 R	2019 R
INCOME		452 642	1 583 852
EXPENDITURE		946 687	992 200
		<u>(494 045)</u>	<u>591 652</u>
(DEFICIT)/SURPLUS FOR THE YEAR TRANSFERRED TO ACCUMULATED FUNDS	8	<u>(494 045)</u>	<u>591 652</u>
ACCUMULATED FUNDS AT BEGINNING OF THE YEAR		1 281 309	689 657
ACCUMULATED FUNDS AT END OF THE YEAR		<u><u>787 264</u></u>	<u><u>1 281 309</u></u>

Published by:



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