



SLS – Profile

Organization Name:	Smart Ladies Society (SLS)
Physical Address:	Mohato Ring Drive, Thetsane West
Mailing Address:	P.O. Box 12730
Telephone:	+266 634 64813 / +266 585 33229
E-mail:	smartladiessociety@outlook.com
Year of Establishment:	2015
Registration No.:	2016/165
Contact Persons:	Ms Nteboheng Mahlaha
Area of Interest:	Girl Empowerment

Vision: The Smart Ladies Society envisions a world where all young ladies have the knowledge, skills, attitudes, and support they need to reach their highest potential.

Mission: Our mission is to provide young girls with a safe environment that exposes them to the benefits of critical thinking, positive self-image, responsible personal conduct, respect for self and others, career exposure, and being well informed. We strive to empower girls to make smart choices and become motivated, confident, capable, self-reliant young ladies who do not surrender to their current situations.

Aims

- Encourage girls to be critical thinkers
- Expose the girls to different career options
- Open the girls' minds to the world at large
- Increase the girls' self-confidence, self-efficacy, and self-awareness
- Help the girls develop and define their short-term and long term goals
- Help the girls become motivated individuals
- Foster the spirit of sisterhood amongst the girls
- Provide support and encouragement to the girls

Activities & Programs: SLS Core Program

-Co-Founders & volunteers go to Qhomane Secondary School every other weekend during the school term to spend time with the girls discussing and dissecting the following topics: Self-confidence, Goal Setting, Healthy relationships and sex, Careers, Loving myself, Consequences, Financial Savviness, Bravery an Courage, Around the world I 60 seconds, and Intelligence and leadership.



Girls Who Read

-An initiative that seeks to source books and build a library for the girls as a way to help improve their reading and to cultivate a culture of reading.

Career Day

- An annual fair, during which women from different career walks speak to and share their knowledge with the girls. The aim is to provide the girls with knowledge of possible career options, to motivate them, and to give them an opportunity to interact with people they normally wouldn't have the opportunity to.

- **SLS Entrepreneurship Day:** Similar to SLS Career Day, except it focuses on entrepreneurship, and targeted mainly at the girls at Good Shepherd Centre.

Tutoring Program

-Research shows that improved academic performance can help adolescents' self-confidence and self-efficacy improve. These are two concepts which SLS aims to instil in girls. The school that SLS works with has been underperforming academically for some time. In response to this, SLS has partnered with Vison: Math in Action to provide the girls with math and science tutoring. The sessions are twice a week, during the school term.

SLS Entrepreneurship Day

-Similar to SLS Career Day, except it focuses on entrepreneurship, and targeted mainly at the girls at Good Shepherd Centre for Teenage Mothers.

Computer Studies

-In 2018, we started teaching computers at the Good Shepherd Centre for Teenage Mothers.

SLS Tuition Fund

Because we strongly believe in the power of education, and also because we get access to our girls through their schools, we have increasingly realised the need to actively source school fees for them. This program pays school fees for a year for the neediest of our girls.

Happy Tummies

-One of the main issues that negatively affect the girls' attendance and concentration during the core sessions and tutoring sessions is hunger. The Happy Tummies program is an effort to mitigate this issue by providing each girl with a filling snack before each session.



Volunteer Program

-In a country with a high youth unemployment rate and a low spirit of volunteerism, the SLS Volunteer Program gives Basotho youth an opportunity to use and sharpen their skills and knowledge in a setting that positively impacts young girls. The program answers SLS's human resource needs, provides Basotho youth with a meaningful addition to their CVs, and promotes volunteerism. The volunteers dedicate their time towards SLS work including administrative tasks, research, facilitating core sessions, and more.

Accomplishments to date:

- We came in contact and worked with over 150 girls
- We gave the girls notebooks and pens
- We conducted sessions with the girls where we discussed self-confidence, goal setting, consequences, careers, healthy relationships, sex health, loving myself, financial savviness, bravery and courage, and intelligence.
- We have held 2 successful annual career days, where girls interacted with and were motivated by a host of professionals
- We gave our girls over 1000 sanitary pads
- We have provided math and science tutoring to over 50 girls
- We provided the girls with bread and juice before some of the tutoring lessons
- Our girls demonstrated higher performance in the 2017 form 3 results, with the only first class being one of our girls.
- We collected over 80 books to foster a culture of reading amongst the girls

Funding Sources:

- Contributions from members
 - Donations, Sponsorships, & Grants
 - Fundraising activities
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