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## THE ROSEMARY NKHWASHU MEDAL

OF EXEMPLARY COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD

INAUGURAL

IN LOVING MEMORY OF



*Rosemary Nkhwashu*

In recognition of exceptional dedication, selflessness, and commitment to uplifting the community, your service exemplifies the values of compassion, leadership, and resilience, inspiring positive change in the lives of others.

"A life devoted to service is a life well-lived."

Program Director

Managing Director



# KEEP THE DREAM 196™

## Annual Report 2024-25

**"Building Tomorrow Today"**

## Keep The Dream 196



Dear Friends and Partners of Keep The Dream196,  
It continues to be a privilege and a joy to be part of something as dynamic and impactful as Keep The Dream196 (KTD196). What began as a mission to change individual lives has grown into a movement transforming families and entire communities. It is truly exciting to witness the scale and depth of this impact.

As a nurse, I used to care for people during brief, often critical moments in their lives—times of recovery or loss. My involvement, while meaningful, was usually short-lived. Now, through KTD196, our Children's Programme and the Self-Help Group (SHG) initiative, I have the unique opportunity to walk alongside people for the long haul. I watch children grow up, young people start families and entire communities shift toward resilience and hope. It is overwhelming in the best way – to see the difference our work is making.

Last year, I shared about the exciting organisational changes, including the evolution of our vision and mission to formally include the SHG programme. This year marks another milestone: we have finally moved into new premises! After 11 years of running operations from my kitchen to keep costs low, we progressed to small premises in Tzaneen. Now we have moved again to a dedicated space with room to grow—quite literally, we can swing a cat!

With our expansion has come growth in our team. While growth always brings its challenges—especially in onboarding new staff and embedding our core values – we are already seeing positive results. The SHG programme continues to expand, and we are grateful for the committed individuals joining our mission.

Staff wise we were especially thrilled to welcome back Angy Malatji, who, after a year away working with another NGO, has returned home to KTD196 as the Team Leader in the Children's Programme. We also celebrated the promotion of Netaly Muhlari to Project Manager for the SHG Programme. Additionally, we welcomed three new SHG Community Facilitators, one intern and three SETA (Sector Education and Training Authorities) funded interns who bring valuable skills to our team at no cost to the organisation.

This year was also marked by deep sorrow as we said goodbye to our beloved "Mum Rose"—Rosemary Nkhwashu. She joined our Children's Programme in 2005 and became an official part of KTD196 in 2007. Her warmth, compassion and unforgettable laughter left an indelible mark on all of us, especially the children she cared for so deeply. Her presence at the annual camps held at Fairie Glen Campsite will never be forgotten. In her honour, we established the **Rosemary Nkhwashu Medal of Exemplary Service**, the awarded was posthumously presented to her son, Mdala, and grandson, Mandla. She set a standard of love and service that will continue to inspire us.

Today, our team comprises 18 staff members and three external interns. Every time I reflect on our humble beginnings, I am filled with gratitude and awe. God has continually made a way—even when it seemed impossible.

The year 2024 has not been without its challenges, both personally and organisationally. Adjusting to a larger, evolving team after many years of operating as a smaller, close-knit unit required grace, patience and determination. But the foundations we have laid are strong. We are well-positioned for the future, and I believe 2025 will be a year of even greater impact.

Thank you for being part of this journey, your support, belief, and commitment are what make this all possible. I hope you enjoy reading the rest of this report and that you share in our excitement for what lies ahead.

With gratitude,

*Louise Batty*

### **KEEP THE DREAM 196 Our new VISION:**

"Our vision is to create a South Africa where children, women and families have access to the resources and support they need to thrive, regardless of their background or circumstances."

### **KEEP THE DREAM 196 our new MISSION:**

Our mission is to empower children, women and families by providing life skills training and self-employment opportunities that alleviate poverty and promote self-sufficiency. We aim to advance families as a whole, with particular focus on children and women, by providing resources and support that enable them to achieve their full potential.

We will achieve our mission by:

- Promoting Asset Based Community Development within a Rights Based Framework
- Providing life skills training and employment opportunities that are tailored to the needs of children, women and families.
- Advocating for policies and programs that support the well-being of families and communities
- Collaborating with community partners to create a network of spiritual, psychological, mental and emotional support that empowers individuals and families.
- Engaging and supporting families through education, mentorship and other resources that promote self-sufficiency

Our goal is to create a world where children, women and families have the resources and support they need to thrive, and where poverty is no longer a barrier to success.

### **KEEP THE DREAM'S MAIN PROJECTS:**

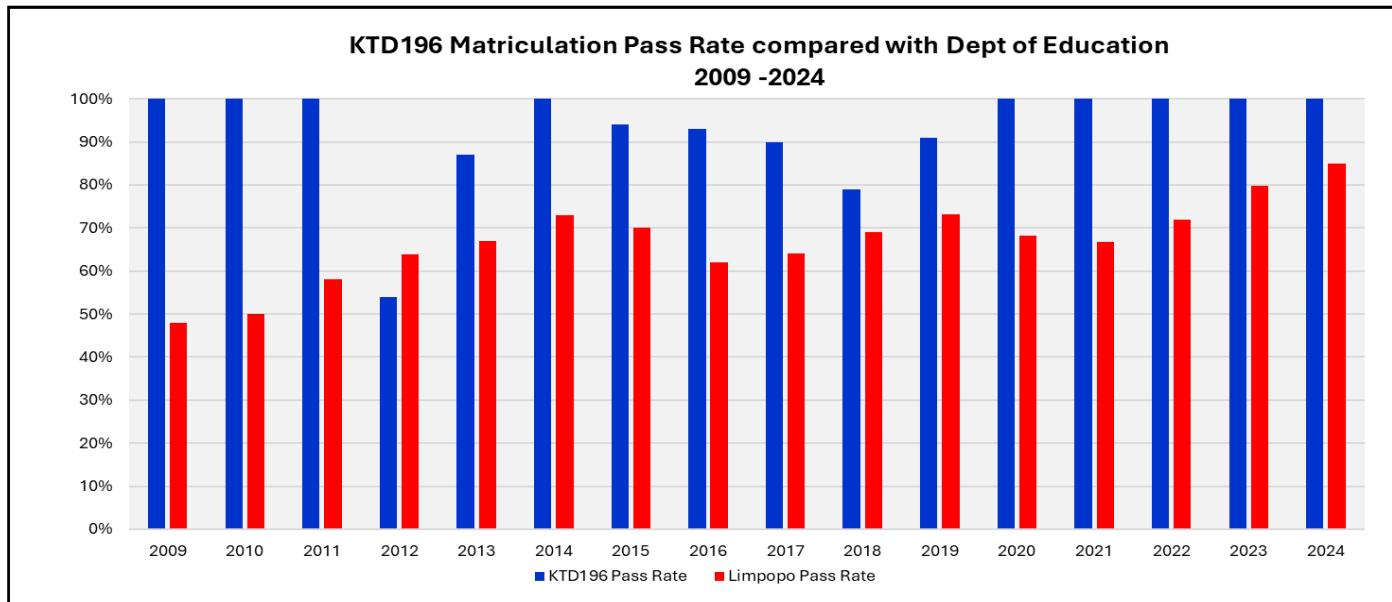
This project is not a quick fix answer to the needs of children; rather it is a long term investment in the future to build the child holistically and sustainably to overcome not just the current situations they find themselves confronting but all the challenges that life has to present in the future.

1. Training
2. Support
3. Advocacy and Awareness Raising Activities

### **MATRICULATION RESULTS FOR 2024**

As you can see from the graph below our Scouts achieved once again, for the 5th year in a row, 100% pass rate. This is because of the skills which are taught regarding perseverance, having a goal and working towards that goal, plus positive peer pressure.

#### **KTD196 Matriculation Pass Rate from 2009 to 2024**



## Keep The Dream 196

### Children's Program Impact

#### **Education**

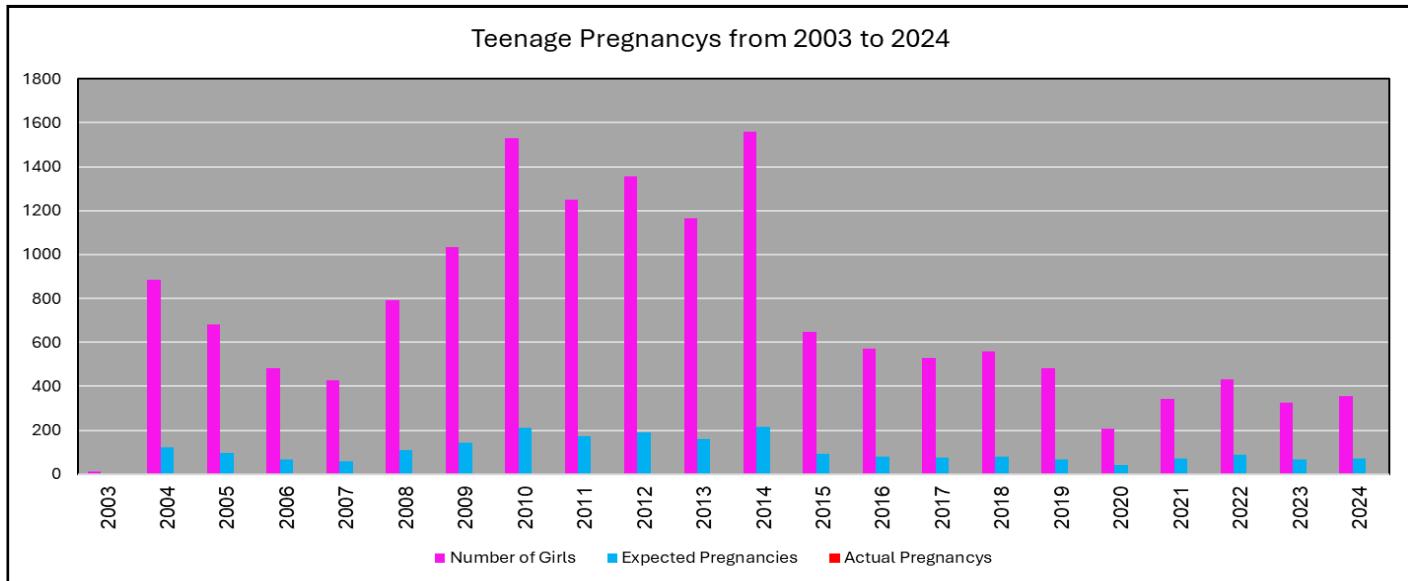
Every year I compare KTD196's pass rate with that of the Department of Education for Limpopo. On average over the last 15yrs Government schools pass rate for Limpopo is 63%, our first matriculant group was in 2009 although we started KTD196 in 2003. Keep The Dream196 pass rate averaged for the last 15yrs is 93%. For the last 5years we have had 100% pass rate for our matriculants.

A majority of our children have gone on to tertiary education because of their achievements at high school. It is definitely exciting, when the young adults apply for jobs or bursaries, and their community volunteer work, through our program, puts their applications ahead of many others. What is also exciting is seeing the young people come back as professionals to uplift their communities and also continuing to assist KTD196 by serving as Rovers and Adult Leaders.

#### **Pregnancy Prevention**

Limpopo's teenage pregnancy rate is 13%. In 23years of our project, only 12 girls instead of an off average 180 girls per annum have become pregnant, and we have had no pregnancy's for 6years. The moral and values portion of the project is impacting the lives of particularly the girls in the program. We are not experiencing as high numbers of children in the project as in the first decade however, this has more to do with capacity and funding than the children themselves.

#### **Teenage Pregnancy's experienced by KTD196 since 2003**



#### **HIV Prevention**

Due to the values and morals of our program, the children state they are not sexually active, which is reaffirmed by the very low pregnancy rate within the program. Therefore we are also having a positive influence on reducing the HIV transmission rate in our area which currently stands at 8.9%. Previously when KTD196 first started our HIV prevention programs, the prevalence was 29.4%, the highest in the nation.

In 2022, according to STATSSA Limpopo now has one of the lowest HIV prevalence levels among all provinces at 8.9%. The findings also showed that in 2022, HIV prevalence in the province was disproportionately higher among the 25-49 age group, with females recording a prevalence of 22.3% and males 17.0%. Moreover, HIV prevalence was high, 7.4% among individuals living in rural formal or farm areas. Notably, females consistently showed a higher HIV prevalence across all selected demographic variables compared to their male counterparts.

## Keep The Dream 196

### Children's Program Impact

#### **Suicide Prevention**

12.9% of all natural deaths amongst children are suicide, we have had no suicides with over 31,000 children over 21yrs.

So statistically, we have saved 3,999 children from an early death and the subsequent devastation to the families and communities at large. That is amazing.

#### **Crime Prevention**

Statistically by the time a child is 15yrs of age 70% of them will have committed their first **JAILABLE OFFENCE!**

Sadly 70% of the 20.9million (or 14.6Million) South African youth are more likely to be victims **and** perpetrators of assault, robbery, rape and murder than adults. 50.2% of surveyed children in one research said they had knowingly committed a criminal offence by the time they were 15yrs of age.

In 20yrs we have had one child involved with the police and he was deemed incompetent to stand trial.

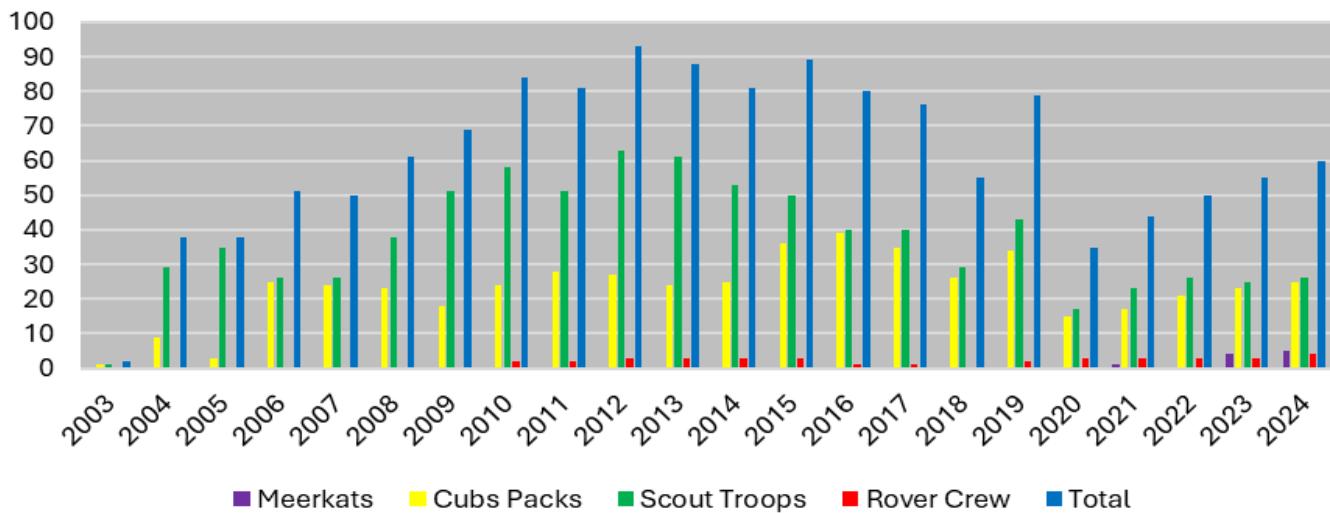
Our program is influencing all spheres of life. It is so satisfying to see. This impact also is being recognised by parents, teachers and Induna's as they are seeing the value of the program generally.

Utilizing the Self Help Groups, we are mobilizing for more Children's groups but most importantly we need more volunteers to work with the children. In the past the government has used volunteering as a means of employment, the expectation from "Volunteers" is that they will be paid. KTD196 is not in a position to pay for these services, we are requesting 3-4hours/week service. This gives the volunteer adequate time to create programs (or KTD196 provides the program) and to do the paperwork required to register the children, get consent forms, and track advancement.

We want Volunteerism to be the reason why people step up, not the lure of a job. Volunteerism is not valued currently, however we are continuing to challenge these beliefs, slowly but surely the attitude is changing as Self Help Groups and Cluster Level Associations are working for their families and communities bringing substantial change.

**Graph regarding the number of different Children's groups KTD196 has in 2024.**

**Meerkat Dens, Cub Packs, Scout Troops and Rover Crews since 2003-2024**



## Keep The Dream 196

### Children's Program

#### 1. Training

Training is a core function of our project, we use cascade training particularly to be efficient, effective and cost mindful. We train the Patrol Leaders who then in turn, return to their patrols and troops to implement the training they have been taught. All Patrol Leaders are taught "how to instruct", they then teach the members of their troop and patrols, we also teach other skills using cascade training such as First Aid, Communication, Leadership, Compass, Map work, home work support etc. Before you can teach something, you have to know something.

This type of training empowers children in an amazing way, they are part of the learning process and the younger children respond very well to older peers. Many realise new talents and gifts along the way.



Scouters train the young Scouts who in turn train the Cubs. This process is very cost effective and productive as all learn new skills.

5 Meerkat  
Dens

25 Cub  
Packs

26 Scout  
Troop

4 Rover  
Crews

437 Boys

631 Girls

42 Volunteers

## Keep The Dream 196

### Children's Program

#### 2. Support:

Support is a second core function at KTD196. Through the children's project, every week, we go out to 53 different sites to implement the Meerkat, Cub, and Scout program. We do this through the support of our Rovers, Volunteers and Field Officers. Every week we touch base with 53 groups, and over 1,000 children directly to implement a fun, skills based, value laden program. The children see us coming and will often run to us with excitement and expectation. We have been doing this since 2003 and the kids excitement never gets old.

Often times this is the only positive interaction these children have throughout the week. School is not necessarily a place where they are built up and encouraged but at Scouts every week new skills are mastered, a new activity is enjoyed, and the children feel loved, accepted and cherished just for being them.



Our current focus, through KNH (Kindernothilfe) is that of Child Participation and Children's Rights, to that end we included a selection of children at our Strategic Planning sessions to hear their voices, and to implement their requests as much as is possible.

Parents, Teachers and Induna's through our Children's and Self Help Projects express their concerns regarding the issues they are facing at individual, family, and community levels and where possible we provide extra help, as necessary, through our multi-disciplinary approach to psychosocial support.

The photos are of a Springbok Construction project utilizing all the construction skills taught. Look at the neatness of the knots on the left. This structure can be used a bridge over a flooded stream. All made possible through the constant support of KTD196.



## Keep The Dream 196

### Children's Program

#### 3. Advocacy

Advocacy is our third core function, essentially KTD196 is a Children's Rights Based Organization. Through Kindernothilfe, one of our core focusses is Children's Rights and Child Participation. We are advocating for the voice of the child to be heard within the family, school and communities in which they live. It is well researched that positive experiences with Participation at any level improves Health outcomes for the participants.

Following the completion of the Children's Rights Situational Analysis (CRSA) in 2022, KTD196 created a baseline and framework of action till 2028. This programmatic approach is not new to KTD196, however we are excited to be able to systematically target stakeholders such as parents, teachers and Induna's. What is exciting is the traction we are gaining, the parents are thoroughly enjoy putting into practice the training they have learnt regarding enabling their children to speak out about their concerns and worries. This has been revelation for most parents. They didn't realise the pressures their children were under, not only that, their whole relationship has improved and there is far more harmony in the home with the simple task of listening.

Abusive behaviours by parents are reducing, the parents are actually verbally lifting their children up instead of pulling them down and constantly criticising them. This is the way they were brought up, they don't know any other way to communicate. Personally, I believe this is an untold, hidden consequence of Apartheid where parents and children were separated for long periods of time and active parenting did not happen.

The Induna's also are embracing the ideas of Child Participation, most adults are not willing to have children at their community meetings, however the Induna's are now having their own meetings with the children to discuss the issues the children face in the villages. We are not yet at action plan stage with the Induna's and children, however in 2025, that is where we are heading, for now it is about establishing relationships and trust.

Finally, the teachers portion of the project was very slowly developing in 2024. In 2023 we could only access primary school teachers when our target was high school teachers. In 2024, we were finally able to target high school teachers and some School Governing Board (SGB) Members (incidentally some of our scout parents and SHG parents are now engaging in governance positions within their communities). However, at the beginning of 2025, those trained last year were eager to get started with their Classroom Level meetings, then Learner Representative Councils (LRC), and finally the Chairperson of the LRC will represent the Learners at the School Governing Body, there by completing the cycle.

**Photo: Our Annual Colour Run which combines Child Participation with Children's Rights.**



## Keep The Dream 196

### Children's Program

#### 3. Advocacy

We have a baseline from the Situation Analysis in 2022 and have now added the work done in 2023 up until February 2025. The information below is constructed from the Spider Tool which has been adapted to show the change and impact of the work KTD196 is doing in the area of Child Participation within the Family, Schools, and Communities. Each year we work in different villages to expand the impact. We also utilize the SHGA to implement cascade training on Rights and Responsibilities particularly for children and to increase the impact of the work we do.

For those who are not into graphs, perhaps this comment by a parent will be more informative!

*"After the training I was able to reconcile with my child. We had a bad argument, and my child decided to leave and go live with my mother. I felt convicted after the training and called my child, we both apologised and now my child is back home. This has been a big lesson for me and I am going to start being more of a listener to my children than someone they see as a mother who is unapproachable and difficult to talk to."*

2022	Identified through the CRSA 2022
2023	Baseline data extrapolated from the Spider Tool
2024	Results from 2024
2025	Results from 2025

#### **Key Performance Indicators**

<b>Key Performance Indicators</b>	<b>Rating Scale</b>	25%			
		0	1	2	3
<b>CHILDREN</b>					
1.1. Children's Rights within the Home					
1.2. Children feel listened to within the home					
1.3. Life Skills within the home					
<b>FAMILY</b>					
1.4. Parents/Caregivers knowledge of Children's Rights within the home					
1.5 Democratic Decision making within the home					
1.6. Discipline in the home/PAD					
<b>SCHOOL</b>					
2.1. Children's Rights within the Classroom					
2.2. Children's Rights					
2.3. LRC Meetings					
2.4. Life Skills at School					
2.5. Democratic Decision making at School					
2.6. Whole School Interaction					
2.7. Discipline at School					
<b>COMMUNITY</b>					
3.1. Children's Rights Knowledge by Induna's					
3.2. Children's Rights within the Community					
3.3. Discipline in the Community					
3.4. Discrimination in the Community					
3.5. Implementing Junior Community Meetings					

## Keep The Dream 196

### Children's Program

#### 3. Advocacy

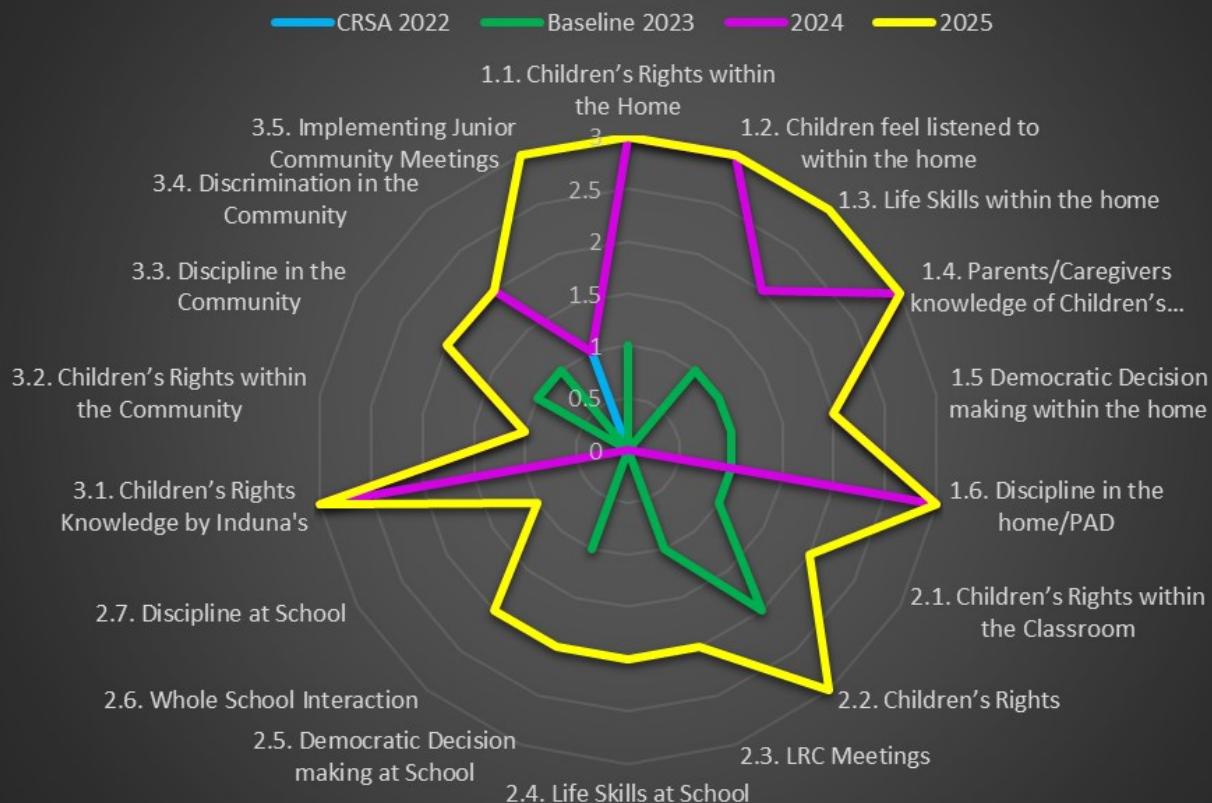
As you can see from the graph on the previous page there is a noticeable improvement in the Rights of Children to Participate within their environments. This has the added benefit of being able to build relationships between parents and children. Children are more willing to help at home and be supportive to their parents regarding younger siblings and chores, they feel they are an active member of the family, because their voices are now being heard.

Teachers are realising the capacities of children to make a difference however, there is a cultural and professional resistance to sharing power with children that needs to be overcome. During the CRSA teachers identified that it is disrespectful for children to comment on teachers or school structures. They need to be in their place, quiet, submissive and do what they are told, irrespective. During the training, these issues are addressed, slowly teachers are starting to see the value of co-operating with children and giving them a voice. Sadly, this is mainly with the younger teachers under the age of 30yrs, however it is a start.

Induna's although initially very reluctant to bother with children are now excited to start Junior Ward Committee's with the Children to hear their ideas and challenges. As this process develops KTD196 will assist them to create Action Plans using a Spider Tool Approach so that everyone can identify the problems, create a plan to address the issues, who is responsible for what action and as a means to hold people accountable.

This really is exciting..... At the moment it is just pockets in different villages, but an underswell of action is happening.

### **Key Performance Indicators 2025**



## Keep The Dream 196

### Adults Program

#### 3. Advocacy

The SHG ladies are all the poorest of the poor, they save R10 a week, they then borrow the money available at 10% interest which is added to the kitty for the following week. They used the saved money initially to create food security and to get out from underneath the money lenders or macheroni's. The ladies no longer have to go begging for money for school fees, school clothes, food etc. they are the solution to their own problems. KTD196 has no involvement in the SHG's finances in anyway, the monies generated are for the ladies only, KTD196 does not benefit in any way. We are incredibly proud of this programs impact and empowerment process for the ladies and groups, over 70% have self created business's to pay back the loans they take.

As part of the process for SHGA, the ladies form a Cluster Level Association (CLA) of 7-8Self Help Groups. The CLA has seven functions:

1. Forming new SHG's
2. Strengthening current SHG's
3. Facilitate meeting the communities needs either material or services
4. Facilitate meeting of service needs within the community.
5. Work towards social transformation in the community by addressing social problems
6. Participation in governance, lobbying and advocacy in the community
7. Carry out administrative functions: such as writing reports, paying for a community facilitator, creating a wise investment for sustainability purposes.

This executive arm takes community based issues identified by the SHG's to the various stakeholders to ensure that the concerns are addressed. As I reported in 2023, Bokamoso CLA were able to have 6 Boreholes repaired. Now they have turned their sights upon addressing crime in their communities and consequently through engaging with the South African Police Service (SAPS) and developing Crime Prevention Forums they are orchestrating the removal of thugs and bandits from their currently four villages. Their villages have become safer for all now.

CLA Tswelopele has prioritized the upskilling of Early Childhood Practitioners at the local Creche in their area to ensure that the agreed upon curriculum is being taught to standard through negotiations with the Department of Education. Other support to the creche includes the provision of quality services and resources to the children and their families, plus mentoring the creche in regards to how to run a business, budgeting, conflict resolution, upskilling staff, Train the Trainer training as examples.

This CLA is also discussing community concerns with CN Phatudi's (Hospital/Clinic Service) CEO regarding poor service delivery, staff shortages, attitudes of staff especially in respect to foreign nationals. This will be a long term engagement but the ladies are determined to succeed and bring substantial change to their communities.

Another task of the CLA is to strengthen current SHG's and develop new SHG's on their own and train these SHG's up to a level where the KTD196 team can step in and provide further training, now KTD196 is no longer responsible for reaching all 25 groups or for developing all the current SHG targets. In 2025 the new target will be 50 new SHG's, and two new CLA's which will move us closer to our goal of Federation, an organization which will influence the District and Province eventually and advocate for real change for women and children in conjunction with KTD196.

Many of the CLA ladies are now involved in the governance structures within their communities for example: they have volunteered at their ward committees; volunteered on their School Governing Boards for their children. This means they are enacting #5 of the CLA's function.

#7 Raising funds for the Administrative needs of the CLA are also being enacted. No longer are they needing support from KTD196.

106 SHG's	1,865 Women	5,080 Children	R2,839,221 Savings	R12,781,035 Total Loans	R10,405,624 Loans Repaid
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## Keep The Dream 196

### Adults Program

#### 3. Advocacy

The SHG's formal meeting places range from under a tree to in a garage. What I love about this project is that each group forms their own name and identity. KTD196 provides the skeletal framework and they set about adding flesh to their groups. This group pictured are called Rixile SHG meaning "the sun has risen". They all dress in the same color, this sense of belonging is really adding strength to the ladies emotionally as well as financially, many state they have made strong bonds like a family and they take care of each more so than their natural families. The ladies also state that their relationships with the partners are much stronger and the source of most friction being finances or lack thereof is no longer an issue.



The ladies state they now have a voice by their own families and extended families because they now have money and therefore a voice.

The relationship with their children is also improved dramatically because as mothers they are no longer as stressed and irritable with their children of financial issues.

Although the initial emphasis is on finances, and enabling women in particular to break out of poverty and the cycle of impoverishment, this process is so much more. Self esteem rises when people become self-actualizing, their pride and self respect increases and as testified by Annah, even the community recognizes and celebrates with her, her achievements.

The SHG children also feel more confident and more encouraged. They are performing better at school, their brains have the correct nourishment to grow and develop, this in turn helps to realize academic performance and push them further down a career path to employment and giving back to the tax base for South Africa. Currently, over 5,000 children are being supported through the SHG project.

The benefit for the children's program is that parents are now supporting their children in paying to attend scouting, plus going to camp which means resources are spared for other important activities. The sense of personal fulfillment for the children and adults as they pay their own way.

As part of KTD196 vision of services for all, CORMSA (The Consortium for Refugees and Migrants in South Africa) was invited to attend a strategic meeting to share with the foreign nationals we serve how to go about becoming documented in South Africa. This was a great success as many ladies and their families are now in process.



## Keep The Dream 196

### Children's Program

### Voice of the Child



Hello, my name is Katlego, a 17-year-old living in Gavaza Village, born on the 31<sup>st</sup> of May. Currently, I am in Grade 10, pursuing the science stream at school, with dreams of becoming a pilot one day. Ever since I was a child, I have loved airplanes. When I read about pilots, I often notice that there are not many female pilots and want to be the first one from Gavaza. I want to travel the world and I am fascinated by how such a large object, carrying people, can stay in the sky.

I come from a big family, but at the moment, I live with my grandmother, mother, and three siblings. We are a close-knit family of six, supporting each other through life's ups and downs. Some challenges of coming from a big family include not having pocket money for school, sharing household chores, and not having much personal space.. In my spare time, I enjoy expressing myself through drawing, which allows me to unleash my creativity, and I have a great time playing with my siblings, creating unforgettable memories together.

My Scouting journey began in 2020 where I was recruited by a friend to attend a Troop meeting in 1<sup>st</sup> Burgersdorp Scouts. Before that I was unaware of the existence of Scouts. From that moment, I fell in love with Scouting and its values. What stood out for me were the principles of responsibility and respect that are deeply rooted in the Scouting culture. What also stood out to me during my 1<sup>st</sup> Troop meeting were the teachings I received about being accountable for my actions and treating everyone with respect regardless of age. I also loved learning about children's rights and ground to air signals. Ground to air signals are ways that people who are in distress can communicate with people who are looking for them using a plan or helicopter.

I had to take a break from Scouts due to the distance, as I live in Gavaza and the Scouts were located in Burgersdorp, which is a different community about 10 kilometres away. Additionally, my school commitments made it challenging to participate. However, I rejoined this year with the establishment of the 1<sup>st</sup> Gavaza Troop. I felt a renewed sense of purpose and commitment, and I am proud to serve as a Troop Leader within my troop.

As a Troop Leader, I assist the Scouter in teaching the scouts, maintaining discipline in the troop, providing instructions, and being a positive role model. This role reflects my dedication to Scouting.

Scouting has impacted my life in positive ways. I remember my first experience at camp in 2022, where I slept in a tent for the very first time in my life. It felt exciting to be surrounded by the beauty of nature, sharing this experience with my peers and forming bonds through various activities. Interacting with so many different personalities was exciting for me, and every moment felt like a new adventure. While I thoroughly enjoyed most aspects of the camp, the pioneering (tying knots and lashings) were challenging for me; but I'm still working on overcoming it.

Before I joined Scouts, I was a shy girl who often kept to herself and isolated. However, through the supportive environment at Keep the Dream196, Scouting has helped me build confidence and overcome my fear of public speaking. I now proudly embrace my newfound confidence in various aspects of my life, including leadership and communication.

I highly recommend joining Scouts through Keep the Dream196 to all the teenagers out there. The valuable skills and experiences one gains through Scouting are truly worth every moment invested. It provides a positive environment that encourages personal growth and keeps you away from unhealthy habits. I am grateful for the opportunity to be part of this community, and I look forward to continuing my Scouting journey, diving into new experiences that await me.

## Keep The Dream 196

### Voice of the Staff



My name is Thabiso Majola, known by youth members of our organisation as "Brother T". I proudly serve as a Project Manager at Keep the Dream196, a role that has been a true blessing, especially due to KTD196's strong ties to Scouts. A movement I have devoted my life to for over 30 years, which has significantly shaped my values, leadership style, and passion for community development.

My career aspirations have always been fuelled by a desire to empower others and make a tangible impact on their lives. As a Project Manager at KTD196, I am responsible for organizing exciting projects and events, as well as training both youth and adult members of KTD196.

Before transitioning into the community development sector, I built my career in banking and sales for over 10 years, gaining valuable experience in communication, strategic planning, and client relations. Then covid hit, I was given the opportunity to join my wife, Nkulu Mabuza - Social Worker for Keep The Dream196, as a Project Manager for the Children's Project.

Currently I am pursuing a degree in Law, which has been my childhood dream. However, I initially abandoned this path due to the rising demand for computer science during my upbringing. I believe strongly in lifelong learning and strive to seize every opportunity for personal and professional growth.

A few years ago, I was invited to a training organized by our partners at Kindernothilfe (KNH), titled "Children's Rights Situation Analysis." This training was conducted by a children's rights Lawyer from Kenya, a gentleman by the name of Tonny Odera. In my role at the organization, I conducted the desktop research on the rights of children in Limpopo. Additionally, I worked closely with Louise and Elizabeth to develop a proposal for a five-year programme we were planning.

This experience made me realize how much the child in me still longs to serve justice, particularly for children. As a result, I decided to return to school and pursue my long-lost passion for Law. I am grateful to Keep the Dream196 for reigniting this passion, and provide study leave to realise my dream. One day I hope to serve and protect the rights of children.

I would also like to extend a heartfelt thank you to KNH for providing me with this opportunity and supporting future training opportunities. More than ever, the world needs this important work.

Just like the work we do, KTD196 is **BUILDING TOMORROW TODAY**, not just for the children and adults we serve but also for the staff.



## Keep The Dream 196

### SHG Program

Annah Chipape is a 32-year-old woman from Tshwaranang Self-Help Group (SHG). Annah is a single mother caring for her three children, two boys aged 12 and 10, and a girl aged 5. Annah and her children live in a one-room house, which they have divided using a curtain to create separate spaces. After Annah's mother passed away, she moved to Burgersdorp with the father of her children. However, after the birth of their third child, he chose to leave her for another woman.

Annah explained that life was difficult before she joined her SHGroup. She was unemployed and relied solely on the Child Support Grant (CSG). Unfortunately, she did not receive any of the CSG money because a loan shark had taken her ID and SASSA card as collateral on the outstanding loan. Deep in debt, there were times when her children went to bed hungry, often eating only a slice of bread with water. It broke her heart to see her children struggling because no parent wants to witness such hardship.

In June 2023, Annah joined Tshwaranang SHGroup. Her first loan was for R40, which she used to buy bread and tomatoes to prepare meals for her children. To earn extra money and repay her loan, Annah started doing odd jobs for people in the community, such as cleaning yards and washing laundry. By July 2024, as the group's capital grew, she decided to take out another loan for R1,500. This loan allowed her to settle her R1,000 debt with the loan shark, which enabled her to reclaim her SASSA card and ID. With the remaining funds, Annah was able to buy proper food for her children.

Annah was overjoyed to have her SASSA card and ID back, as it meant she now had an income of R1,650 each month. This financial stability allowed her to purchase clothes and food for her children, for the first time and made a significant impact on their lives.

Annah's most recent loan, for R2,500 was for building materials to improve their home. She purchased one pallet of bricks and two bags of cement, with plans to add more materials and build an additional room before the end of the year. Annah also loaned R200 to buy sweets and Simba chips to sell in her community. This venture has already earned her R75 in profit, and she plans to expand her stock by selling atchar (a spicy mango chutney) to her business offerings.

"I am very happy with the progress and changes I've made in my life since joining SHG. I have my SASSA card back, we are eating proper food, and I've bought building materials. I feel that the community respects me as a member because of the changes they see in my life," Annah said.



## Keep The Dream 196

### Board Report - Fred Hoffman- Chairmann



The remarkable successes achieved by Keep The Dream196 (KTD196) over the past year have once again underscored the vital importance of the work being done in our communities - work that uplifts, transforms and instils hope in the lives of those whom Louise and her dedicated team engage with every single day.

The unwavering commitment, compassion and resilience demonstrated by the leaders, community facilitators and field officers do not go unnoticed by the Board and the many friends of KTD196. It is both humbling and inspiring to witness such consistent dedication to serving others.

If we were to offer even a brief snapshot of this past year's impact, we could point to several exceptional outcomes. One of the most notable is the 100% matriculation pass rate achieved for the fifth consecutive year—a powerful reflection of the quality leadership development and educational support KTD196 continues to provide.

Equally inspiring is the continued success of the Self-Help Groups (SHGs), which have empowered nearly 2,000 women who, in turn, support over 5,000 children. Together, these women have saved an extraordinary R2.8 million and accessed R12.7 million in loans - building economic resilience and restoring dignity in their households.

We celebrate life-changing stories, like that of Annah Chipape, whose journey of transformation mirrors the impact that KTD196 strives to create every day.

Notably, the organisation's holistic programmes have contributed to the continued reduction in teenage pregnancies and HIV transmission-tangible proof that the ripple effects of education, mentorship and health awareness are far-reaching and effective.

Another extraordinary achievement is the prevention of suicide and crime, with no suicides reported among the 31,000 children reached over the past 22 years. This alone is a testament to the depth and quality of psychosocial support provided by KTD196.

These highlights represent only a fraction of what has been another extraordinary year of success. On behalf of the Board, I extend our deepest thanks to the generous donors and longstanding supporters of KTD196. Your ongoing belief in this mission has made it possible to reach and transform the lives of over 31,000 children and adults, offering them the opportunity to live with dignity, hope and purpose.

The many programmes being implemented across numerous villages are like beacons of light shining brightly in often-forgotten places. May this light continue to grow, never dimming, but ever illuminating the path to a better future.

To the entire KTD196 team: congratulations on another year of outstanding work. Your tireless efforts, driven by love and an unshakable belief in the potential of others, are truly commendable. As a Board, we honour your passion and your selfless service to a generation who, without you, may never have had this chance at a different life.

Thank you and bless you all.

Fred Hoffman

Board Chair - Keep The Dream196

Keep The Dream 196  
**The Dream Team:**  
Executive Management Team



**Louise Batty**  
**Managing Director**



**Elizabeth Mabuza**  
**Program Manager**



**Abrina Moshole**  
**HR & Finance**

Management Team



**Nkululeko Majola**  
**Social Worker**  
**SHG Project Manager**



**Thabiso Majola**  
**Project Manager**  
**Children's Project**

Team Leaders



**Netaly Muhlari**  
**Project Officer SHG**

**Angy Malatji**  
**Team Leader**  
**Children's Project**



## Keep The Dream 196

### The Dream Team: Children's Project Team



Catherine Mushwana



Thabo Ramalepe



Blessing Nogielo



N khensani Madzibe



Nkhensani works in both SHG and Children's Program.

Nomasi Thuketana has a duel role as both Child Sponsorship Officer, Receptionist, Data Capturer and in the Children's Program.

### Community Facilitators for SHG Project



Dikeledi Rakabe



Mhloti Phakula



Nkhensani Madzibe



Rachel Moagi



Surprise Tangananalo



Aphiwe Sazuwa

## Keep The Dream 196

### Our Partners

Our success is because of the partnerships we create, whether with our donors, individuals, beneficiaries or state or private actors. We believe by working together we achieve a lot more than as a stand alone organization. We work hand in hand with Scouts South Africa implementing the scouts program for the province of Limpopo. I want to thank particularly Andrew and Sheila Tanner, Chief Scout Khonzaphi Mdaka, Gary Pienaar, Wayne du Plessis and 1st Polokwane Scout Group.

We also have developed relationships within Limpopo and Mpumalanga with other like minded organizations and as KTD196 we assist them in implementing our children's program in their organizations. We work with Seeds of Light in Acornhoek; Bush Babies in Phalobowra; Japanese Volunteer Centre in Mpego (Thohoyandou); Eestergeluk Academy (Steelport) and Life Way Society in Ga-Mphahlele.

Then there are the local businesses who support our work such as Otto from Letaba Wifi; Carys Smith from Tropical Pharmacy; Eugene from Letaba Computers; and Westfalia Fruit Estates; Gail Altona from Gail Altona Optometrists; Waldo and Martin from Vixtrix; Tinie from Premjee, Ritluka, Northern Security, Khulani Timbers, NTT Toyota-Tzaneen, and Cloud Mountain Spur.

Then we move further afield to national friends and partners such as Gillian Nkuna from National Development Agency; Duncan & Adri Kirkman, along with Andrew Dugmore, Dave Fisher and Dylan Smith from Fisher & Dugmore Financial; Fred and Margy Hoffman.

Internationally, we have developed relationships particularly from Australia and America but not limited to. Thank you to Meg and John Smythe; Mandy and John Shepherd; Janet Summers, Caroline, Margaret Hollister, Lighthouse Church Balaklava Women's Group, Sasha and Paul - Presence Church and congregation; Robert Batty; Daphne Weston; Caroline; Thea and Steve Whittle; Erica Annear, David Kilmartin; Helen Kenyon; Helen McDonald; Catherine How; Daphne Weston; Cherie Love. Including Andrew and Linzi Mullek - Central Community Church plus Suzanne and Marty Del Santo. Sheila Hall, Delmar, Anja & Bruce Van Basten, Anne Chahala, Phyllis Robinson, Bob and Ronnie Moore, Andrew & Belinda Smythe.

Global Giving has enabled us to reach the world, the following people come from all over the planet and give monthly to support the work we do. Anonymous, Nina Aguilar, William West, Anja and Bruce Van Basten, Eric Aman Martin, Ariane Caparella, Susan Gail Lamb, Ali Dejalilian, Swapna Gouni, George Little, Avani Mheta, Stephne Du Rand, Simone Claason, Hanna Jacobson, Farah Shaban, Kevin Levron, Michael Worden, Viola Shaban, Marcelo Campuzano Yaluk, JuJun Liong, Viola Tsai, Sara Little.

We work in partnership with our donors Kindernothilfe and Dlalanathi regarding our major programs such as our Children's Program and the Self Help Group Program, these are our institutional donors. I would like to thank Ingrid, Phil, Dorothea and Grace from KNH (Germany) for your continued support of our vision. Thank you also to Xoli, Anderson and Rachel for working with us to achieve our vision and mission, we look forward to continue partnerships with both organizations.

It is wonderful to have such committed supporters, you really are all a part of the KTD196 Family and in reality unsung hero's that are the basis of the work we are doing and the impact we are achieving and have achieved for the last 22yrs. I am grateful that you have partnered with us and help us to become the premier children's program in Limpopo.

Thank you to the new Dream Team, the board, the staff and of course and all the volunteers, parents and of course the children. Together we are realizing our life's purpose of changing lives, changing families and also communities. Thank you for your dedication, commitment and vision. Thank you for all your hard work and support, it has been a privilege to serve as director for the last 18years.

Finally, thank you to our God without whose vision we would not have a mission. Father you are awesome! Your guidance, provision, support and wisdom have been the cornerstone of the work we have achieved. You have had your hand on this organization since day one! We serve and amazing God.

God Bless you all!

Louise

## Keep The Dream 196 Donors and Supporters

Name of Donor	Period of Support	Activities Funded
Global Giving	March 2024- February 2025	General Organizational Support
Dlalanathi	January 2024- Feb 2025	Self Help Group Approach Project
Kindernothilfe	March 2024-Feb 2025	Children's Rights & Child Participation Project
Fisher & Dugmore Securities	March 2024- February 2025	General Organizational Support

