



News

Q3: 2023

By Bianca Petersen
- KDG Communications Manager

“Remove the heavy yoke of oppression. Stop pointing your finger and spreading vicious rumours! Feed the hungry, and help those in trouble. Then your light will shine out from the darkness, and the darkness around you will be as bright as noon. The LORD will guide you continually, giving you water when you are dry and restoring your strength. You will be like a well-watered garden, like an ever-flowing spring. Some of you will rebuild the deserted ruins of your cities. Then you will be known as a rebuilders of walls and a restorer of homes.”
- Isaiah 58:9b-12



Left: Anelisa Dyota KDG Love2Learn Facilitator, Nicole Abrahams* Grade Three learner and Lynn Abrahams* Primary Caregiver*

Present Primary Caregivers Raise Happy Children!

Lynn Abrahams* is a single 43-year old mother of five daughters. I ask Lynn to tell me more about herself. She looks at me, pauses for a while and then says “I am very proud of my daughter.” She is referring to Nicole Abrahams, the nine year old in Grade Three who is enrolled in our Love2Learn programme. This programme supports and empowers primary caregivers like Lynn to provide healing spaces through storytelling, at-home learning assistance, home support guidance, empowerment and skills development.

*Pseudonyms were used to protect the identity of this family.

Anelisa Dyota, one of our Love2Learn Facilitators, works with mother and daughter every Tuesday. She facilitates positive verbalisation between them, with the ultimate goal of strengthening their relationship. Lynn, the mom, openly admits that she did not want to work with KDG because she did not understand the context of the services provided. Six months ago, after numerous failed home visits and turning our staff away, she gave them an opportunity to explain themselves. She finally understood that KDG was there to help her, and she accepted it. Lynn says “I did it for my child”.

Although Lynn and her five daughters live on the same premises, they do not live in the same house. She lives in the main house with her sister, while her daughters live in a Nutech house in the backyard. The eldest daughter, Janice Abrahams,* is twenty-five years old and she takes care of the sisters like a mother. Lynn admits that she was not present in her children’s upbringing and this could be the reason why there is a missing bond between them.

Nicole came onto our radar because she was facing academic challenges in school, and one of her teachers referred her to our School2Home Programme for academic support. According to her age, she was supposed to be in Grade Four, however lagging academically, she was kept in Grade Three. Unlike other learners enrolled in the School2Home programme, Nicole does not miss out on school. During her assessment, it became apparent that she was struggling to see properly. The School2Home Facilitator took the liberty of making an appointment for an eye test, and

the results showed that she needed glasses. KDG assisted in the matter and Nicole received a pair of glasses. Her academic performance improved noticeably when she started wearing her glasses. Lynn mentions that in the past, her daughter Janice, who takes care of Nicole, took her for an eye test, but she never followed through with obtaining a pair of glasses. Things could have been so much different she says. Nicole is on the verge of graduating from our School2Home Programme, however, there is still a lot of work to do in the Love2Learn Programme. Lynn mentions at times, Nicole has a bit of a temper.

Anelisa says during their scheduled sessions, both Lynn and Nicole participate and interact with each other. One of the highlights for Lynn is, that while participating in games during home visits, she learned that her daughter loves playing. A highlight for Nicole is making her own stress ball. She can squeeze it whenever she feels overwhelmed. This tool also helps with sensory stimulation.

After working together for the past six months, there is a definite improvement in communication between mother and daughter. This creates a foundation for building a strong relationship and bond with each other. In the past, Lynn was not active in her daughter’s life. Today, whenever she is off from work, she makes an effort to walk her daughter home from school. This makes her daughter feel loved and cared for. Our Love2Learn team will continue rendering services to Lynn and Nicole with the ultimate goal of creating a strong, sustainable bond and relationship between mother and daughter.

Youth day celebrations during Community Play in collaboration with Shofar Church in Stellenbosch. Community Play takes place on a weekly basis. All children are welcome to join in on some fun!



Achievements Q3 2023

Active in 9 schools
9 Schools reached

243
Number of children reached

216
Number of active children

1 261 Individual and group sessions with learners at risk of dropping out

573 Home visits to children not attending school and to empower parents to reduce dropout

68 Primary caregiver group sessions and workshops

322 School visits, network and collaboration meetings to empower teachers and learners to tackle the issue of school dropout

Special child protection focusses: (82)
65 External case discussions with DCPO’s.
14 External referrals for extra services.
3 family meetings.

128
Primary Caregiver Individual Sessions

668
Community Interactions

136
Go2 Captain sessions

3 434
Go-Go & So-So Show Reach

2 259
Prayer Week Learner Reach

232
External Training Reach

Through love and education, we can make a difference.

Testimonies



- A Grade 1 Teacher applauded our staff for the services rendered to a learner enrolled in our School2Home Programme. The learner's grades were very low, however after Khula's intervention, she noted progress and improvement in schoolwork.
- A family known to our organisation for ten years, has been struggling to keep their children in school. During visits to their home, the mother complained about her youngest two children who did not want to attend school. One of the boys would go out hiding on the roof during home visits. After a successful family meeting in August, the boys are both attending school again. Our staff remain committed to supporting this family.
- "During prayer week, I had the opportunity to pray for a grade 4 learner. My heart melted. The learner's prayer was to attend school every day." Andriette Diedericks KDG Love2Learn Facilitator.

DONOR Spotlight



Quantum Foods has been supporting our mission of promoting school attendance for the past six years. Their HR Practitioner; Wendy Oostendorp, emphasises how we align with the Quantum Foods philosophy: **Education and Food Security.**

"I am a firm believer in the saying, it takes a village to raise a child, and I have witnessed the relationship between Khula Development Group and the communities that they serve. The work that Khula does, by investigating severe absenteeism and socio-economic circumstances, contributes greatly to combatting drop-out rates, but the love and compassion displayed by every staff member is what takes Khula from good to great, to phenomenal".

School dropouts cause a ripple effect on the workforce and the number of skilled people entering the job market.

Donations

If you would like to join the act of charity you can donate via Zapper, EFT or Givengain.

EFT: Khula Development Group | Nedbank | Cheque Account 1019306149 | **Branch Code:** 198-765
Swift Code: NEDSZAJJ | **Reference:** Your Name

Did you know donations made by individuals and businesses to Khula Development Group can result in **reducing their tax liability** upon submission of their annual tax return? As a Public Benefit Organisation, Khula can issue the donor with a Section 18A Certificate for submission to SARS with an annual tax return. **Donating to Khula Development Group has great benefits, both in terms of the reduction in tax liability as well as the contribution made to further the education of vulnerable children.**

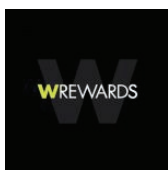


givengain

MySchool

We are very excited to be listed as a **MySchool MyVillage MyPlanet** beneficiary. Whenever you swipe your MySchool MyVillage MyPlanet card at a qualifying partner as listed below, a percentage of your spend will be donated to us and it won't cost you anything extra!

Sign up today and make a difference through love and education!



WOOLWORTHS

loot.co.za

WorksheetCloud

NETSTAR
A SUBSIDIARY OF ALTRON

ENGEN

power24.co.za

JOIN TODAY & MAKE A DIFFERENCE

- Sign up with QR code
- Choose us as your cause
- View your transactions
- Search for partners

SCAN HERE TO SIGN UP



ABSA Cape Epic 2024

Khula has been named one of the official charities of the ABSA Cape Epic scheduled for March 2024. All participant tickets are sold, **but we still have one for sale!**

Support our cause of promoting school attendance while participating in the

ABSA CAPE EPIC 2024

One Ticket

Two Riders

R145 000

Ticket includes the Standard Rider Experience.



For more information **contact**

blanca@khuladg.co.za
+27 73 176 5086

Khula Development Group is an official charity of the ABSA Cape Epic 2024



SOME PEOPLE WANT IT TO HAPPEN, SOME WISH IT WOULD HAPPEN, OTHERS MAKE IT HAPPEN"

MICHAEL JORDAN

Basic training in PREVENTING school dropout



At least 40% of learners drop out of school before reaching Grade 12 in South Africa. In addressing this issue, KDG presented Basic Training in Preventing School Dropout to over 100 Primary School Teachers and ECD Practitioners in the Cape Winelands area in August 2023. This forms part of The Tracking Children Project, a collaboration between Khula Development Group, Inceba Trust, and the Western Cape Education Department.

Left: Daleen Labuschagne (Khula Development Group Programme Director) Dr. Johannes Erasmus (Inceba Trust Collaborating Researcher), Abongile Cekiso (Little Flower Principal), Nomzamo Julayi (Inceba Trust Mentor Mbekweni), Carien Van Zyl (Khula Development Group (Principal Social Worker) and Nondumiso Jafta (Khula Educare Centre Mbekweni).

Prayer WEEK

We celebrated prayer week during 21 August to 1 September 2023.

During this period, our staff and volunteers were active in schools for group and individual sessions. Little hearts opened up, and out of their own will, learners came in need with numerous prayer requests. Prayer boxes were also provided for those who did not have the courage to ask for prayer. These boxes were filled with prayer requests relating to unemployment, abuse, safety, loadshedding, relationships, household circumstances, sickness, disease, and bullying.

Teachers also participated and some came with heavy hearts. One with over 18 years' experience was in tears and close to quitting due to ill-discipline in class. Khula staff prayed with her and a week later she was in good spirits, thanking Khula for their prayers which helped her through a challenging time.

At a school located in a gang riddled community, a teacher came forward with a heavy heart. The previous day, while learners were changing classes, a learner from another school in the area entered her class and attacked a learner. Shocked to the core, all she could do was scream for help. Her cries were heard in time while the learner was making his way off the school premises. The teacher remains concerned as the learner who was attacked is a potential school dropout. Bullying is known as one of the reasons why learners drop out of school. We remain in prayer for this learner while the school principal handles the situation at school.

"For me, it was a special moment to share the word of God with the learners and the teachers and it was so special to see a school assistant joining the praying sessions", Analise Dyota KDG Love2Learn Facilitator



Collaboration matters

We are grateful to every organisation and individual for collaborating with us. Working together shows promising results and makes a difference on a huge scale.

QUARTERLY SOCIAL WORKER BREAKFAST

In collaboration with Valcare and KWV we had our quarterly Social Worker Breakfast and Journal Club at Ashanti on 8 September 2023. This event creates an opportunity for social workers to network and get to know each other. The significance of positive intelligence was discussed by guest speaker Marlene Cronje.



FETAL ALCOHOL SYNDROME AND TEENAGE PREGNANCY AWARENESS WORKSHOP

We joined hands with Change Within Development and Fountain of Hope to spread awareness about Fetal Alcohol Syndrome and Teenage Pregnancies in Paarl East. During the workshop, making the right choices was hugely emphasised. The negative impact of alcohol consumption during pregnancy was discussed as well as reasons for teenagers to abstain from sexual activity.



Through love and education, we can make a difference.

Welcome



Abigail Vermeulen joined our Paarl Branch as a Social Auxiliary Worker in July 2023. **We are very excited to have you as a part of our team!**

Promotions



Clechaë Flanders was the first Social Auxiliary Work student who started her practicum at KDG in 2014. In January 2016 she was appointed as KDG's first Social Auxiliary Worker. In 2018 she resigned to

pursue her career at another organisation but returned six months later as a Social Auxiliary Worker. In 2015 she started with her studies in Social Work through UNISA and completed this degree in 2022. In August 2023 she was appointed as the Branch Manager in Paarl. Clechaë's story reminds us of God's promise in Jeremiah 29:11 "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the LORD, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end." **We are so proud of you and know that you will prosper in this new position!**



Chumisa Madze has been promoted from Community Worker to School2Home Facilitator at our Stellenbosch branch. In 2021 she joined our team as an intern in the @Home Learning Programme. **We are extremely proud of you!**

Albertina Francis from Change Within Development and Niesha Februarie, our Love2Learn Facilitator, presented a Women's Empowerment Workshop in Lantana Paarl during Women's month which was widely attended by women in the community.

Khula Tours

Khula Tours gives supporters, potential donors, and volunteers a hands-on experience of the work the organisation does. After a short information session at our Paarl office, attendees are driven to the Paarl East community where we render services. Guided tours of our three programmes are conducted among the different schools we work in.



SEE OUR WORK IN ACTION!

ATTEND A KHULA TOUR

19 OCTOBER 2023
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM
AT OUR PAARL OFFICE
6 LOOP STREET

RSVP by 17 October 2023
Bianca +27 73 176 5086 or
bianca@khumadg.co.za

THROUGH LOVE AND EDUCATION,
WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE.



Goodbye



Carien van Zyl was appointed as KDG's first Social Worker in 2014. Our programmes developed under her guidance and leadership. In 2017 she was promoted to Principal Social Worker after referrals from schools increased. She was responsible for the individual supervision of newly appointed KDG Social Workers and Social Auxiliary workers. Our quarterly Social Worker Breakfast and Journal Club in collaboration with Valcare and KWV was Carien's brainchild. Child Protection is a topic very close to Carien's heart and she has played an integral part in creating KDG's child protection policy and projects. Her coordination and contribution to our bi-annual and external training were impeccable. A milestone in her journey at KDG was developing the STERK Programme with the purpose of building resilience where children are equipped with skills to cope better with adversity and empowered to make better choices. Hugenote Kollege second-year students were trained in this programme and it was implemented in all the schools that Khula is involved in as well as other organisations. Ezra Community Training and Development is fortunate to have you join their team. Thank you for your hard work and dedication Carien, may God bless you abundantly in your future. **We love you!**

Womanhood is part of the Hanna Charity and gathers on a weekly basis. In celebration of Women's month, we showed them how to make toys from recyclables over a cup of tea while sharing stories of strong women in their lives.

Rawson Property Group Paarl was very generous in donating a printer to our Stellenbosch branch. Our staff are extremely grateful for their donation as they can use it to print activities for our programmes.



Our Go2Teachers celebrating Women's Day at Magnolia Primary School. From left: Mrs Vivian Hefca, Cyrillene De Kock KDG School2Home Facilitator, Mrs Jeanine Sampson and Ivona Carolissen KDG School2Home Facilitator.



CONTACT DETAILS

Paarl:
+27 21 871 1511
Stellenbosch:
+27 83 228 6032
www.khumadg.co.za

