

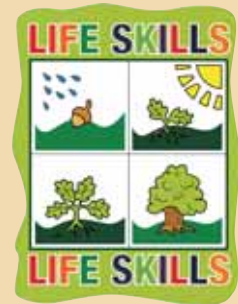


# learning for life



# indlela life skills programme

empowers disadvantaged schoolchildren to make wise life choices, instilling a sense of self-worth and purpose based on christian values, and offering them hope for their future.



As a result of unemployment, poverty, and the HIV/AIDS pandemic many South African children grow up vulnerable to abuse and prone to risk-taking behaviour. Without help today, they have little hope of a brighter tomorrow.



“ the purpose of education is not just learning to make a living, but learning to make a life ”

- John Dewey

## our objectives

- To empower learners with the knowledge that they are unique, special and of value to themselves and others.
- To develop within the individual the realisation of their destiny.
- To help learners develop personal vision to enable them to plan for a future without HIV/AIDS
- To empower youth with effective relationship strategies
- To improve the schools' physical environment.

Based on the successful HIV/AIDS prevention programme developed by Ithemba Lethu in Cato Manor, Durban, Indlela's Life Skills programme was launched in 2005 with a group of 53 Grade 4 learners at the Amaoti 3 Combined School. The Life Skills team continued working with these learners as they progressed through to grade 7, monitoring their development, and noting a significant decrease in risk-taking behaviour. The fruits of this programme became evident in 2009 when these learners, then in Grade 8, set a new standard at the school by ending the year with no learner pregnancies.

By 2010 the programme had expanded to incorporate six youth workers working into four schools in the Amaoti and North Durban communities under the supervision of project leaders and qualified social workers Toni Wilkins and Leigh-Anne Stevens. All these youth workers grew up in the Amaoti community and are role models for the next generation.





## help in every way

### supporting learners

Formal Life Orientation curriculum. We also organize after-school clubs, leadership development, individual counselling and holiday clubs.

### literacy support

Our literacy programme, developed by Rachel Bowyer of Soul Action, encourages and assists reading and writing development.

### school renovations

Creating a safe and inspiring environment promotes conditions that ensure that learning and growth can take place. By partnering with business and individuals to upgrade school buildings and learning resources, both the educators and learners have said that they are encouraged because change is visible and their futures looked brighter. Moreover, the 'School painting days' are proving to be an effective way for companies to build camaraderie amongst their staff.

### supporting educators

School management forums facilitate discussions with staff about educational challenges and objectives.

## research and evaluation

We recognise the importance of evaluating the effectiveness of our programme; Professor Anna Meyer-Weitz of UKZN and her Masters students in Community Health Promotion conduct an annual evaluation of our programme. This feedback is used to improve the way we work into the schools and the community.



“they will be called oaks of righteousness, a planting of the lord for the display of his splendour.”

- Isaiah 61:3



# caring for our community



love · truth · hope

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