



PROCHORUS

ANNUAL REPORT

2023



**PROCHORUS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT EXISTS TO COLLABORATIVELY
ACHIEVE SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT OF INDIVIDUALS AND
COMMUNITIES**



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MANAGING DIRECTOR - JAN SCANNELL

South Africa is so very rich in potential and abundant in talented people. As with any potential and talent, it requires the necessary development through guidance, motivation, support and nurturing. One of the best examples of this can clearly be seen in the testimony of the life of our beloved Siya Kolisi, who captained the 2023 World Cup Rugby squad to victory. There are others in that very same team who are great examples themselves. Men who came from the humblest beginnings and extremely difficult circumstances, but they had a passion, a dream, living hope and worked hard to make use of the opportunities available to them. Perhaps some of them were just very lucky. The majority of young South Africans are growing up in similar circumstances and are looking for hope, exposure to something they can become passionate about, a spark to ignite a dream, and opportunities to pursue. The sad reality is that, for most, these are missing. They likely grow up in homes where hope is lost, exposure is minimal and often negative, dreams don't exist, and opportunities are probably not within reach. I want to call on every person reading this letter to use your power to empower, to make sure you are doing your whole bit to develop the talent and potential of young South Africans to build our country's future.

Since you're reading this letter, you've likely already made some contribution to the work that Prochorus is doing, so thank you. Prochorus is serious about sustainability and long-term impact. We believe that quality education is one of the significant and critical factors to facilitate all the needed aspects for development mentioned above. The foundation for this education is Early Childhood Development. We all know that a building can only be strong if it has a good foundation; the same is true for education. We aim to build a strong educational foundation, especially through our ECD Programmes. As you'll see in this report, through the various Prochorus ECD Programmes, we have impacted hundreds of young lives in 2023.

Also, through our Aftercare, Cycling and various Mentoring programmes, we've supported scholars with various resources, encouragement, teaching life skills and offering guidance to flourish in their different areas of development, be it intellectual, spiritual, emotional, physical or social. We could not have achieved this without our multiple partners, collaborators, volunteers, donors, staff and supporters. Often, a hand-out is not a hand-up to empower a person towards growth, hope and direction. As a principle, we aim to empower people through everything we do. This requires the intentionality and dedication of our staff and volunteers to go above and beyond the call of duty.

Strength lies in numbers, and if we can have enough people to show care and truly love their neighbours, we can change our culture and society. Do not grow tired, become weary or lose faith. Please continue standing with us, partner with us, love your neighbour in all areas of life, and lead others to do so.

WHO WE ARE

PROCHORUS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT EXISTS TO COLLABORITAVELY ACHIEVE SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT OF INDIVIDUALS AND COMMUNITIES

Prochorus is a community-based organisation, which was established in 1996 and is a registered non-profit. Registration number: 2008/012209/08, NPO Number: 086- 767-NPO. Prochorus offers sustainable programmes to ensure that every person has the opportunity to reach their full potential spiritually, intellectually, physically, and emotionally.

We partner Prochorus projects with local churches to ensure volunteer involvement, access to resources, and integrity of the management of projects.

BOARD MEMBERS



NIKKI TITUS



ANDRIES VD MERWE



HANNO OOSTENBRINK



JAN SCANNELL



GERARDUS ADEMA

Focus Areas

- Early Childhood Development
- Youth Development
- Skills Development
- Poverty Alleviation

MISSION

We serve disadvantaged communities according to the guidelines of need-assessment studies, and the accessibility of resources. Our focus is directed toward Early Childhood Development, Youth Development, Skills Development, and Community Welfare. Empowerment of individuals and communities.



Prochorus Branches | 5 in the Western Cape

This is a local branch that has been established in a designated area, and managed by an area manager employed by, or volunteering at Prochorus.



Partner Projects | 2 Nation Wide

These are projects that are empowered by Prochorus through resource assistance. These include our community champions.



345

BENEFICIARIES



1800+

INDIRECT
BENEFICIARIES

12

PROJECTS



EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT

Prochorus has, as one of its flagship projects, early childhood development (ECD) playgroups and early childhood development teacher and facilitator training. The two-prong approach is taken to tackle both the current state in communities, as well as to equip communities into the future.

Our early childhood education centres provide a nurturing and educationally safe environment for children aged 3 to 5, with the primary goal of preparing them for Grade R and beyond. In this report, we highlight our achievements, initiatives, and partnerships throughout the year 2023.

Assessment and Improvement: In February, we conducted comprehensive assessments on 4 to 5-year-old children to identify areas for improvement. These assessments covered fundamental skills such as pencil grip, cutting, colour concepts, and more. Throughout the year, our dedicated teachers focused on enhancing these skills, resulting in significant improvement. By year-end, 80% of the children showed great improvement across all areas tested, reflecting their readiness for Grade R.

Facilities Upgrade and Safety Measures: We take pride in ensuring our facilities are safe and educationally attractive. In March, Little Builders underwent a makeover, including painting classrooms and upgrading the playground with fire retardant paint, prioritizing safety for our children.

Partnership with Akkerfikelilia Project: Our collaboration with the Akkerfikelilia project has been instrumental in providing specialized support to children facing challenges such as fetal alcohol syndrome. Occupational Therapists visit our centres weekly, offering training and mentoring to our teachers. This partnership also includes ongoing training sessions for teachers, focusing on innovative teaching methods and curriculum development.

Nutrition and Health: We prioritize the nutritional needs of our children, providing healthy meals daily with support from the Lunch Box Fund. Parents have reported improved overall health in their children since joining our centres, highlighting the importance of nutrition in their development.

Holistic Education Approach: Our holistic education approach includes weekly library visits to foster literacy and a love for books. We also integrate learning programs from the LEGO Foundation, focusing on learning through play, and the One Hope program for emotional and spiritual well-being.

Community Engagement and Outings: We believe in broadening children's experiences, which is why we organize educational outings to places like zoos and playgrounds. These experiences enrich their learning and worldview. Additionally, our efforts to strengthen child-parent relationships through parent training and involvement have yielded heart-warming success stories, showcasing the positive impact of our programmes on families.

Partnership Highlights: Our partnerships with organizations like Clemengold Foundation, who celebrated Mandela Day with us, and activities during Child Protection Week demonstrate our commitment to community engagement and safety awareness.

In conclusion, 2023 has been marked by significant progress, achievements, and impactful partnerships. We remain dedicated to providing a high-quality early childhood education that prepares children for a successful academic journey and contributes positively to their overall well-being.



Approximately 6 years ago we embarked on a journey to reach and serve the children of Delft, Cape Town through curriculum training of ECD principals and educators. The vision was and still is the following: 1) To provide a strong foundation for preschool children in Delft through curriculum training at established ECD centres. 2) To support the building of sustainable quality businesses. 3) To assist ECD centres to provide quality education and assist and guide in the registration process at the Department of Social Development. 4) To continually build relationships with the principals. 5) To pastorally care for them and encourage them to keep on growing, hoping, and building.

OPERATIONAL HIGHLIGHTS 2023

PRINCIPALS TRAINING FOR GROUP 2

Group Two completed their principals' training consisting of 6 modules that were offered from June to October 2023. During the training, the principals were empowered with knowledge in the management of their school and staff. There is also a focus on empowering the principals with the application process to register their schools.

SMART-TEACHING TRAINING BY AMAZINGBRAINZ

Group Two completed their SmartTeaching training this year. They completed 26 modules in August 2023. Including numerous school visits depending on the schools' needs.

CONTINUED PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The heart of the Delft ECD project is to take hands with the principals and build a lasting supportive relationship. With this in mind, AmazingBrainz has developed a series of "Continued Professional Development" workshops for educators of all the Delft ECD schools who are applying the AmazingBrainz curriculum in their schools to attend bi-annually. This practical development in the project ensures that our investment in the schools will continue to benefit the children year after year by maintaining the standard of the curriculum taught by the educators and allows us to gauge what the needs are regarding training.

WEBPAGE DEVELOPMENT

Last year at our annual Principals camp a principal mentioned that a webpage could be helpful for her small business for various reasons but that she didn't have the skills or the means to have such a 'luxury'. A website holds various practical benefits for a small business. We thought this was something we could attempt to support all the schools with and give as a reward for the schools that maintain the standard and expectation of the AmazingBrainz curriculum. This year much time and effort has been put in by our new committee member, Marion Erasmus who trained herself in website development, took it upon herself to collect all the information of 36 schools, take photos of each school and their staff, update their google maps details and create a webpage for 36 schools as an extension of the Delft ECD projects website. In the short time that the schools' websites have been running, we have received feedback that public services are responding to the schools' needs faster because they can see the address belongs to an ECD and so receives higher priority than a general resident and the schools have received more applications because of parents in the area finding them online with all the needed information. The website of each school holds more potential which we hope to unlock in the coming years.

PRINCIPALS CAMP 2023

We had our 5th annual Principals Camp in Hermanus at Amana Conference Centre. We enjoyed a weekend of rest, fellowship, encouragement, and amazing food as our custom. This year, the joy of relationships built over 6 years was an obvious benefit as the camp has become a place of deep friendship and knowing each other's stories. We were joined by teams of ladies from Arise church in George and Shofar Durbanville who served and ministered to the women. We all left encouraged and refreshed.



SPRING OF LIFE

This was our 11th year operating on these premises. This alone is a wonderful testimony of God's love and provision over the years. It also testifies to the love and dedication the principal and her team poured into Spring of Life, the children and their families' lives. We can see the impact they have on the children and the community. Praise God for them.

Even though the creche was operating in a struggling national economy with ever-increasing unemployment and rising living costs, yet it again managed to maintain its annual student intake and filled its quota early.

The number of grade RRs who graduated in December 2023 was significantly higher than the 12 students who graduated in 2015; our very first graduation. A partner school in Germany, the Bernard Stiegel Gymnasium Memmingen, who have been coming to us for the past 6 years, also came in from Germany in 2023, and keeps on supporting the project for which we are very grateful.



YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

CYCLING PROJECT STELLENBOSCH

The Prochorus Development Cycling | Whole Life Coaching project had a significant 2023 in many ways; focusing on engaging children through cycling while promoting holistic life coaching. The year saw around 30 children benefit from the programme, with regular racing events serving as incentives for attendance, good behaviour, and cooperation.

The year began with enjoyable rides and trail maintenance during fair weather, showcasing the privilege of accessing high-quality trails and natural beauty. The team also welcomed back a beneficiary turned mechanic, enhancing bicycle maintenance and fostering skill development among team members. This practical training not only improved bike care but also offered potential income opportunities for participants.

Despite challenges like wet weather affecting riding frequency, the project adapted by providing maintenance training to the boys, instilling a sense of responsibility and teaching valuable life lessons. The year also witnessed the success of beneficiaries in racing events, highlighting their talent and sportsmanship.

A notable success story is Ayola, whose journey from a quiet participant to a mentor and leader reflects the project's transformative impact. Ayola's spiritual and personal growth, coupled with practical training from a sports ministry school, equipped him to lead effectively, impacting both the project and his community positively.

Lessons and discussions, including topics on obedience, sexual purity, identity, and friendship, were integrated into mentoring sessions, contributing to the holistic development of participants. The engagement of two talented brothers further exemplified the project's success in nurturing athletic, academic, and spiritual growth among participants.

The year concluded with a vibrant Year-End Celebration, where participants showcased their talents, received gifts, and celebrated their growth. The success of the programme was attributed to the dedication of donors, staff, and volunteers who supported its initiatives throughout the year.

Overall, the project impact was evidenced by the growth, achievements, and transformations experienced by the children and staff involved. Through cycling, mentorship, and holistic coaching, the project continues to make a positive difference in the lives of its participants, fostering a community of growth, learning, and mutual support.



AFTERCARE CENTRE JONKERSHOEK

Introduction and Demographics: The Jonkershoek Aftercare Project has had a successful year with 43 registered children, focusing on a structured environment for children aged 4 to 18 years. With 18 boys and 25 girls from Jonkershoek, attending up to Matric level, the project aims to provide comprehensive support, education, and holistic development for the local community.

Attendance and Staffing: Attendance fluctuates between 22 to 40 children daily, influenced by factors like extra-curricular activities, weather, and domestic responsibilities. Lucinda, as principal, and her team of four assistants, all from the valley, have effectively managed the centre, fostering a safe and nurturing environment where children feel secure and supported.

Project Highlights: Throughout the year, the project organized various events to engage parents and the community. Family days, drama lessons, art sessions, and programmes on nature conservation and children's rights were conducted, enhancing the children's learning experience and self-awareness. A new system called "Value of the Week" positively impacted discipline and overall atmosphere, with volunteers contributing significantly to different aspects of the project's functioning.

Mentoring and Leadership Initiatives: The project introduced mentoring sessions for boys and girls, emphasizing emotional intelligence, good values, goal-setting, and leadership. The "Superstars" initiative recognized children's leadership potential, promoting maturity and responsibility among participants.

Academic Progress and Well-being: A holiday programme, youth camp, and ongoing academic support contributed to balanced development. The project's focus on numeracy, literacy, and reading skills saw remarkable improvements, highlighting the positive impact of targeted interventions and individual attention on children's behaviour and academic performance.

Community Engagement and Support: The end-of-year celebration brought together parents, volunteers, and supporters, showcasing the collective achievements and talents of the children. The project's partnership with Lunchbox Fund for nutritious meals, Shofar, CBN and One Hope for spiritual mentoring, and its various activities aimed at holistic growth have positively impacted the children's well-being and motivation.

Conclusion: The Jonkershoek Aftercare Project has demonstrated resilience, innovation, and community collaboration in providing comprehensive support to children, fostering a conducive learning environment, and preparing future leaders. The commitment of leaders, staff, volunteers, and community support has been instrumental in the project's success throughout the year.



DREAM AGAIN FOUNDATION

What a wonderful year, filled with joy, laughter, and opportunities to develop body, mind, and spirit! The DreamGirls attended our monthly GirlsClub faithfully. Looking forward in anticipation to each gathering.

Dream Again Foundation (under Prochorus) was established in 2017 to empower and equip girls, ages 12 to 18, who live on farms in the Riebeeck Valley. 2023 was also the year where we saw 2 of our girls - young women now – completing their high school journey with us. We are overjoyed with the knowing, that we played a part in their development and growth over the last 6 years.

Our donors and sponsors made it possible to treat them with High Tea at a local establishment, blessing them and thanking them for their contribution and for being examples to the younger girls.



DREAM



COMMUNITY WELFARE

SHINING LIGHTS (PARTNER PROJECT IN DE DOORNS)

The Shining Community is a Christian Non-Profit Organisation with its main focus on the development of children and youth. Prochorus is partnering with the organisation to reach the community in De Doorns. The organization focuses on a small but growing community that lives in extreme poverty, with a lot of crime. The Character Development Programme is the flagship programme of the organization, which serves as a transformation tool, helping children and youth overcome life challenges, towards becoming better individuals and citizens. This programme seeks to help children and young people shift from their negative attitudes and negative behaviour patterns to becoming purpose-driven and successful in life. The programme's foundation is the Word of God. Over the years, those involved in the programme have shown positive change both in attitude and behaviour, and they are being transformed significantly and continually as they attend and participate in the programme.

The Character Development Programme is linked to the Community Gardens Project, which aims to empower young people through farming, business, and related skills. In addition to character development, children are taught the importance of farming and basic farming skills so that they may become empowered individuals. Children and youth involved in the Character Development Programme are welcome to also join the Farming Programme.

They can either join as learners, volunteers or employees in the future when there is capacity for employment. Others may, however, choose to transition to leadership within the Character Development Program. Due to a need, the NPO also supports the community through a soup kitchen program, food parcels as well as clothes, but only when support is available.

Previously, the Character Development Programme was hosted in a very small house, however, due to the growing number of attendees, it is now hosted outside, which is often challenging in various other ways. However, seeing the growth of children and youth encourages those involved to keep on working hard against all odds. With the help from Prochorus the youth programmes are able to reach these precious children and young people with the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ and observe as the Lord changes them, often gradually. Together we can do better. Please feel free to contact us if you would like to be part of what the Lord is doing in the small community of De Doorns. God bless you.





STOREHOUSE PROJECT (SOMERSET WEST)

Through continually building relationships with displaced people on the street, and disciplining them, we have been able to facilitate reconciliation with families and help re-entry into society for several individuals.

We have been blessed with huge support from our donating partners, to such an extent that we could bless many other organisations and individuals.

Networking with and supporting other NGOs, including:

- Bright Lights, Somerset West
- Goeie Hoop children's home, Firlands, Strand
- Inspired2Become & Christian Skaters Africa (small business development & event support)
- Shofar Christian Church
- Somerset West Family Shelter (material donations, i.e. clothes, facemasks, food and maintenance)
- Somerset West Night Shelter: supporting the displaced people groups in our community in acting as a 'bridge'/mediator to this local Shelter
- POPUP Western Cape (People Upliftment Programme)
- Work-4-A-Living centre (Firgrove/Somerset West)





Community Welfare | Claudine Ukwishaka (Delft - Khanya)

The Prochorus Delft - Khanya branch is involved in a Community Welfare initiative that includes counselling and ministry. Claudine runs this initiative and mostly does home visits to families, and those who stay alone and have no one to look after them. In 2023, some of these included a struggling family of five consisting of two men, a four-year-old boy, a cancer patient and a mother who looks after them. The cancer was already at the last stage and it has damaged her body extensively. The neighbours did not want to see her outside, and even friends could not stand her condition.

Claudine met with them at least once a week for encouragement and prayers. Food parcels and toiletries were also given to this family and to others with similar needs. The family found the times of engagement very encouraging and were able to also carry each other through this difficult season, even though they had to say good buy to their loved one.

Through this support initiative, Prochorus Khanya offers struggling families help to do their laundry and clean their yards and houses. Some people are even unable to feed themselves due to sicknesses. The initiative serves their community in many unselfish ways.

Another initiative called the Adopt a Girl' programme, where purchases of toiletries and sanitary products are made every month to give to those girls who are on the programme, and they also do a follow-up visit to check on them. The next phase is to reach out to the Delft schools and allow the Adopt a Girl programme to grow. Prochorus Khanya has been a blessing to the Delft community.



Home Based Disability Care | Vuyiswa (Delft - Khanya)

The Home-Based Disability Care project is managed by Vuyiswa. She is fully trained as a Carer and she helps to care for 15 children from different families who are mostly boys. There is one home where Vuyiswa helps Mama because she is looking after five children, of which a few have cerebral palsy (a group of disorders that affect a person's ability to move or maintain balance and posture). Her duties mostly include feeding, bathing, cleaning and changing the nappies.

Many things are still required to assist with taking care of these children. The house is also being extended so that there is enough space. Prochorus Khanya assisted with building materials. Other families required wheelchairs, nappies, toiletries, wet wipes, and clothes.

Vuyiswa finds it very challenging to help take care of all the children because the home only has one Carer. More trained Carers like Vuyiswa is needed to assist with the visits to different homes and offer similar assistance. She finds it to be such an honour to serve the Delft community.



THANK YOU

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Valcare
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Winelands Cycling Club
Winelands Municipality
Wish Internet

The generous donations and continuous support from all our faithful donors has allowed us to impact lives, and serve communities with excellence.

Thank you!

