

Strong Schools Community Collaborative

Summarised feedback from AGM for 2023



"It is not beyond
our power to create
a world in which all
children have access
to a good education"

Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela



JOIN US in building STRONG SCHOOLS!



LEAD THE CHANGE FROM ROOTS TO FRUITS



AGM : 21 September 2023

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Thank You to our Social Impact Partners & Donors

Our Support Hub Principals & Teachers Volunteers

Afrimat - Nomzamo High School Borehole

Blackburn Holdings (UK Lamb Family Trust) - SSCC Funding Breadline SA - Build Libraries

BrightStar Lifestyle - Life Skills, Mentoring & Coaching

Camino Consulting - Change Management Sessions

Capitec Bank - Sponsorships, Mathematics Program, Volunteer Teams

Complete Office Solutions - IT Support

City of Cape Town - Grant in Aid; Cleaner - Greener Project

Communities of Abundance - Strategic conduit Funding Partner

Grayswan Charitable Trust - Project Funding

HEY! - Gospel Programs

Malan Investment Holdings - SSCC Funding

Mergon Foundation - Funding Projects, Organisational Development

Real Deal - Organisational Development

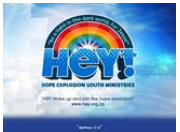
SHARP & SMD Technologies - Calculators

Trim Tab Foundation - Funding Partner for BrightStar Life Skills

Truth2Kids - Gospel Programs

Private Donors, Supporters & Prayer partners for their valuable contributions

Local businesses from our community who donate gifts and goods



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SSCC Key Results and Impact from Annual Report

By God's grace, measured against the Outcomes in our Theory of Change towards the Impact we are aiming for, we were able to deliver the following key results. After three years, we are starting to experience some visible impact and trust that our efforts and interventions will result in more sustainable impact as we continue this journey in faith.

- Our Support Hubs are fully functional
- Well-being Hubs are now established in 4 schools
- New partnerships with Faith communities, Capitec, Communities of Abundance, Breadline SA
- Continuing partnerships with Mergon, BrightStar LifeStyle, Grayswan, CoCT and previous donors
- Schools deliver on numerous goals set in Strategic plans
- School Management Practices improved significantly
- Work closer with SGB's and connected with parents through the Life Skills programs
- Life Skills programs impacted Learners, Educators and Parents positively
- Principals and Mathematics Teachers testify of improved academic performance
- Educating Learners and Educators through the Cleaner-Greener Nomzamo project
- Beautifying schools spaces (Libraries and classrooms) while improving learning environment
- Completion and Automisation of our Compass Calibration (whole-school audit) tool
- Two successful Fundraisers: A Music Concert and our first Golf Day

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Testimonies from our Support Hub School Principals



Charlton De Morney,
Sir Lowry's Pass
Primary School



Tauhira Fanie,
Dr GJ Joubert
Primary School



Chris Mgubanto,
Nomzamo
High School



Steven Quantolo,
Christmas Tinto
Primary School



Thobile Majingo,
ACJ Phakade
Primary School

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Nomzamo High School: Mr. Chris Mgubanto

“Nomzamo High is very privileged to have a relationship with Strong Schools. We have seen our strategic objectives move from paper to reality.

Please see below for the period of July 2022 to June 2023:

- Installed a borehole to solve our water outage challenge which has had a direct positive impact on teaching time.
- Revitalized our garden and installed an irrigation system
- Academic support
- Ensured 80% of the learners have scientific calculators for Mathematics
- Stationery for learners, educators and the office
- Life Skills for Grade 11, which has prepared them for Grade 12 in 2023
- Human Capital Development
- Trained the Senior Management Team to be more effective in their job performance
- Team building exercises for educators
- Monthly Support Hubs to tackle strategic objectives
- Identification of the Strengths program for our Principals, which has a direct impact on the institutional management.

We look forward to maintaining and harnessing this relationship, as it is beneficial to all the stakeholders. We would like to thank all partners who ensure that our dreams become a reality.”

Sir Lowry’s Pass Primary School: Mr. Charlton De Morney

“As a school, we would like to thank Strong Schools for the help and support during the past year. We realize how fortunate we are to have you on board. The courses we attended during the year had a great impact on the development of the SMT and the teachers. The Support Hub twice per term is a tremendous help and of great value.

Thank you for the various donations that we received - we appreciate it. The Life skills personal development project with the Grade 6 learners and the Prefects has a huge impact on the character of the learners. The teacher appreciation day was of great value.

We thank you so much.”

Christmas Tinto Primary School: Mr. Steven Qantolo

“SSCC has had huge impact on our school in providing us with resources. Our school was runners-up on the Spelling Bee competition after support of books and a library assistant.

The donation of extra chairs had a positive effect on our discipline. We received 10 computers, which helped us to keep up with the reality of today’s technological world.

Soon we will be opening our brand new donated library. This will make a huge difference in improving our Literacy results. Therefore, we will have a lot more improvement in terms of learner performance.”



Dr. GJ Joubert Primary School: Me Tauhira Fanie

“Ons is verskriklik dankbaar vir SSCC vir die werk wat hulle in ons skole doen. Ek was ontsetend skrikkerig om hierdie jaar my posisie as Prinsipaal in te neem. Die ondersteuning van SSCC het my die nodige “Tools” gegee om hierdie portefeulj met selfvertroue te kan bemeester.

Die kwartaallikse Support Hub sessies, is van onskatbare waarde vir ons. Hier ontmoet ons ook mense wat dienste kom lewer by ons skool, bv. die Helderberg Beradingsentrum - juis op ‘n tydstip waar ons ‘n Gr. 7 leerder aan die dood afgestaan het en hulle het onmiddellik ingekom en berading gegee aan ons Gr. 7 groep opvoeders om te help om die trauma te verwerk. Een van hulle beraders, Andre Venter, het daarna ook 2 sessies ter ondersteuning in my werk as prinsipaal gedoen.

Deur SSCC het ek die “Gallup Clifton Strengths” toets en opvolg Coaching sessies gedoen wat my gehelp het om nou volgens my sterkpunte te lei en my visies vir die skool te help bevorder. Ons splinternuwe en jong bestuurspan het gegroei en die vertroue en lojaliteit tussen ons is versterk, danksy die heerlike BrightStar Spanbou sessies op Saterdag. Verder het Sonja van der Bank (Camino Consulting) gehelp met ontwikkelingssessies van die bestuurspan. Ons het ‘n baie jong personeel en baie nuwe opvoeders. Hulle is bemagtig deur die twee sessies rondom klaskamer-bestuur en Dissipline.

Ons het baie goeie terugvoer gekry van die pappas wat die BrightStar Legacy Dad program voltooi het. Hulle sien uit na ‘n opvolgsessie en het na die kursus gesê dat hulle met nuwe oë na hulle families kyk. ‘n Span van SSCC het intussen ook begin werk met ons leier-leerders om hulle leiersvaardighede te help ontwikkel. As skoolgemeenskap is ons baie dankbaar vir Strong Schools en wat hulle vir ons skool doen en beteken.

Baie dankie.”



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ACJ Phakade Primary School: Mr Thobile Majingo

“It is a great pleasure and a privilege to be part of this amazing Non-Profit organisation, which seeks to support underprivileged schools of our community. On my first encounter with SSCC, I thought this is one of the many organizations which comes to schools and promise everything under the sun. Strong schools proved me otherwise, they plan, they implement and most importantly they go out of their way to seek donations for the simple reason - only to address our school’s needs.

Strong Schools has connected our school with various helpful people, like Palesa from Capitec, and many others. Our school library was there, but not functioning. Since we partnered with SSCC, our library is partially functioning again. It is bright and colourful, portraying a learning environment. Annette is one the names I think of when we talk about libraries - she orchestrated all the library initiatives. Yes, there is more to be done but hats off to SSCC. I personally acquire various leadership skills through facilitators brought by SSCC. Sonja van der Bank (Camino Consulting) played a big role in terms of empowering our School Management Team, with topics like Conflict Management and Time Management. She has been assisting us putting together our School Improvement Plan, through developing School Self Evaluation (SSE). Now we have better ways of developing our SSE.

Support Hubs facilitated by Juanita also helped me to be a better version of myself in terms of sharpening my management skills. Juanita’s session, unpacking my GALLUP Strengths, helped me to realise more about my strengths and that setting my goals as a manager would assist me to realise my vision and our school’s vision. As a leader I need to lead confidently and lead well at the same time.

The Brightstar workshop for educators was one of the thought-provoking sessions, where we had to realise who we are and how we treat each other, especially in a workplace. At times it was emotional, because we had to look back where we come from and where we are now.

Strong schools has played a very important role in our school with rare Well-being programmes like Legacy Dads, which is not easy to access. The training of prefects was another outstanding program and the Cleaner-Greener Nomzamo projects are also applauded.

I might not have mentioned every benefit of partnering with SSCC, but they are really contributing towards Education and assisting our schools. Thank you very much to the management and the facilitators of this organisation. I pray that God may expand this vision and attract more donations and sponsors so that you achieve all your goals.”

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**Juanita Möller,
COO &
Support Hub
Coordinator:**

**Our 5-step Change Journey
with Schools &
Highlights from the
School Support Hubs
(Read more in our
Annual Report)**



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Life Skills for Learners – Fefe Ngaye



Feedback shared from Projects, Partners & Volunteers

Christmas Tinto Primary School - Libraries
Fefe Ngaye - Cleaner-Greener Nomzamo,
Life Skills Programs

Lito Shone - Gospel Program in Xhosa Schools

Amanda Swanepoel – BrightStar LifeStyle

Henriette van Greuning – Capitec Bank Volunteer Projects

Sumaya Gabier - Classroom Management

Zelda Coetzee – Well-being Hubs

Johan Du Raan – Conduit Funding Partnership

(Detail about Projects in Annual Report)

Capitec Volunteers at Dr. GJ Joubert PS



Well-being Hubs strategy presented to a School Governing Body



Life Skills workshop for Nomzamo HS Teachers



Legacy Dad workshop for fathers



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Support Hub meetings led by Juanita Möller



Our first Golf Day Fundraiser



The new Library for Christmas Tinto PS



Christmas Tinto PS Library - interior by Capitec Volunteers



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General feedback regarding SSCC Finances 2022/2023

- Revenue and income increased from R597 046 to R1 140 583 or 91%
- Costs increased from R667 818 to R1 142 999 or 71,2%
- The “Goods and services in kind” amounted to R566 720 which meant that SSCC managed overall donations of just over R1,7 million

Audited statements for 2022/2023 available



SERVICE



TRUST



ACCOUNTABILITY



RESPECT



SUSTAINABILITY



COLLABORATION



CO-CREATION

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Governance feedback 2022/2023

**New Chairperson of SSCC Board:
Berthold Alheit**

**Vice Chairman:
Vonnie Mostert**

**Newly chosen Board Member:
Palesa Qhalane**



Chairman: Berthold Alheit

Main Lessons Learnt

- For a holistic approach to support schools, meaningful change can only be achieved through collaboration and collective efforts.
- How to maintain positive cash flows to ensure uninterrupted operations and remuneration payments during the present high growth phase stage of SSCC.
- Implementation of our new virtual Compass Calibration (whole-school audit) tool and its introduction to many more schools in order to also create a “new income stream” for SSCC.
- Suitable, competent, affordable additional human resources to execute all the above
- Finding a new financial model and additional sponsors for the combined above requirements to be implemented simultaneously.
- Not-for-Profits need a broader funding strategy that will help us sustain our own organisations and not be dependent only on donors and fundraisers.
- Corporates and individual funders need to understand the need to remunerate staff for a Not-for-Profit organisation sufficiently if you want to draw and keep quality employees.



Summary of Challenges in our Schools

- Many of our Learners and their Parents have major emotional and physical challenges just to survive daily. Therefore, it is a big challenge to get parents involved in their children's lives and at school.
- Transport is a big challenge for almost every event/opportunity. This influences the attendance of most of our workshops and initiatives.
- A lack of good communication: People do not always have data or airtime on their phones.
- The main focus in schools should still be on education and achieving the academic goals. The challenge is to balance it all and manage time and efforts well.
- A challenge from time to time is the workload of the Principals in relation to Support Hub and other meeting dates. Sometimes the Principals are unable to attend due to unforeseen visits by the WCED.
- Slotting programmes, one-on-one counselling sessions and prayer meetings into the busy school schedule is challenging.
- Safety: We pray for safety when we have to work in areas that might not always be safe. Some volunteers or service providers do not feel safe to work in the areas where our schools are situated.
- A lack of basic resources, because the schools we serve are no-fees schools



SSCC helps to reach more Sustainable Development Goals

“Ending poverty and other deprivations must go hand-in-hand with strategies that improve Health and Education”

Very direct



Moderately direct



Indirect



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Vision and Dreams towards 2025

- Expansion of the SSCC model from the 5 schools in the Helderberg to schools in other areas and more specifically to the Limpopo area.
- At least 10 successful and 5 'in progress' Strong Schools country wide with suitably trained and successful School Support Hub coordinators.
- A fully automated Compass Calibration (whole-school audit) allowing for SSCC to also test the Compass Calibration as product offering for schools across provincial boundaries, providing both good user results and a consistent source of income to Strong Schools. 2024 will be used to identify the benefits for schools and initiate marketing of the online tool to a prospective market.
- The Support Hubs (proven to be extremely valuable to the schools and their engagement teams), will continue with the vision to train coordinators for each school in the future.
- Having proven the 5-Step Change Journey concept at the present 5 schools, also proving the model's sustainability in these and other schools over time.
- A competent Support Hub Coordinator for every 3 schools and eventually one per school.
- Fully established and well-functioning Well-being Hubs in all our schools. The coordination function also needs to be provided, as schools don't have the capacity or means to afford and appoint these critical resources.

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Vision and Dreams towards 2025 (continued)

- Collaboration with more key service providers will be important, as SSCC will focus to deliver on their Theory of Change through coordination and facilitation. The vision is to allow various service providers to each deliver their core services and contribute towards building stronger schools.
- Strong schools are seen as central components of the Education pipeline, where others such as Early Childhood Development and post-school development programs allow for strengthening of the people developed. The building of the Education pipeline with effective measurement of all the components forms part of the dream for 2025 and beyond.
- A sustainable financial model successfully implemented giving more certainty to all the committed personnel and the schools. Increasing to a solid foundation of at least 20 regular long-term primary donors.
- A working, successful Moringa-Carbon Offset program in the Vhembe area to expand our vision to address more than a hundred schools before 2030.
- Increasing the number of committed Volunteers to at least 20.
- Greater Parent Involvement in all our schools.
- Life Skills programmes to two more grades in every school and the Legacy Dad Mentoring Programme expanded to another 30 fathers in each school.
- Finding more effective strategies to improve Literacy and Numeracy in all the schools.

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**Thank you for your time and
wonderful support.**

God bless and keep you!

**With grateful hearts,
The SSCC Board & Team**

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