



2024 Annual Report

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Support Education. Deliver Hope.

Every child deserves a chance to have a bright future. We believe the only way to gift a brighter future for disadvantaged children in southern Africa is through a good education and developing skills to find employment

Our Commitment:

Transparent relationships with our partner charities.
100 % of all donations go directly to our projects.



Every act of kindness changes lives in so many ways.

Together, we bring the gift of growth and opportunity.

Zilla Stekhoven – Founder

5

Partner charities in South Africa and Lesotho

236

Children no longer need to learn on an empty stomach

1847

Children supported via 24 Pre-Schools, 48 teachers trained and provided with educational toys and books

2nd

Year of supporting Maths and Science tutoring for Girls

Growing

Social Media following and donor base

100

Students at Help Lesotho could graduate



2024

a year of growth



It just keeps getting better

This year was an exceptional year for Sawabona Africa. With the help of the increasing network of incredible supporters we could raise funds that we could not have even dreamed of in the beginning.

We feel a great honor and gratitude to everyone who donated to our projects and are grateful for the opportunity to support even more impactful projects.

We are super proud of our partner charities who continue to deliver such powerful programmes on the ground.

Thank you everyone for your trust and helping us achieve our mission to support those in need through providing a quality education in the communities we serve.

We are eager to keep going. We hope you stay on board – it is an exciting and rewarding journey.

Sawabona Africa Board
Heidi Schneider, Claus Kaltner, Zilla Stekhoven



PYMA Maintenance team learning how to grow vegetables



Phakamani Young Minds Academy

PYMA is an afterschool academy focused on uplifting and empowering young people around Freedom Park, Soweto Johannesburg. Recognizing the importance of education and personal growth, they offer a nurturing environment where children can thrive both academically and personally through: academic tutoring, homework supervision, exam preparation, and extracurricular activities that promote holistic development and prepare learners to exit school to further their tertiary education.

<i>Projects</i>	<i>Details</i>	<i>Outcome / Impact</i>
Kitchen and Garden Project	Build a kitchen to feed 236 learners and establish a vegetable garden for nutritious food. No child should learn on an empty stomach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved attention in class enabling improved academic performance • Education on nutrition - improved dietary habits • Reduced food insecurity • Sustainable, community-driven model for local food production.
Train and equip ECD Centres	Train and equip 24 ECD Centres with educational toys and books supporting 48 caregivers and 1857 children.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Higher rates of school readiness • Improved skillset for ECD caregivers
Sexual Health Workshops	Conduct interactive workshops on sexual health for 162 learners aged 10-18. Distribute sanitary products to help girls attend school.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promoting sexual health education and access to services contributes to overall well-being
Tutor Projects	Maths and Science for girls. Sponsorship of tutors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased participation in STEM • Completion of High School and access to tertiary education • Sustain jobs for tutors • Improved Maths skills and literacy



The kitchen goes up, meals are cooked and enjoyed by learners



Garden workshop and the flourishing vegetable garden



Sexual Health workshops hosted for boys and girls and dignity packs provided to all



ECD trainings at PYMA



Tutoring, Maths and Science and Flash Cards in use



Help Lesotho

Help Lesotho delivers life skills training and mental health support in rural Lesotho, Southern Africa.

Over the past 20 years their work has been strategically tailored to help vulnerable people build resilience so they can heal and move forward with their lives in healthy and productive ways.

Projects

Details

Outcome / Impact

Addressing Violence at Pitseng High School

Empower students to learn their rights and form supportive relationships for addressing violence in their schools

- Making schools safer with reduced violence at school
- Support structures in place for victims and improved communication tools
- Reduce barriers to education

Deliver 3 Rachel Plus Servers to schools with no internet

RACHEL servers are pre-loaded with an extensive library of educational content

- Improved academic outcome through learning resources

Parental Workshops

Train guardians on the need to prioritise and provide support and encouragement to children for their educational success.

- Improved parent-guardian relationships
- Increased school attendance
- Improved academic performance

Help 100 Students graduate

Cover the costs of exam fees for learners completing school.

- Enable children to finish school and enter tertiary education

Child Sponsorship

Sponsor disadvantaged children to attend high school and attend a leadership camp.

- Enable children to attend high school
- Improved Life-skills
- Increased time spent at school
- Attend tertiary education



Parental workshops



Anti Bullying Clubs in action at Pitseng



Rachel servers are bringing much needed resources to rural schools



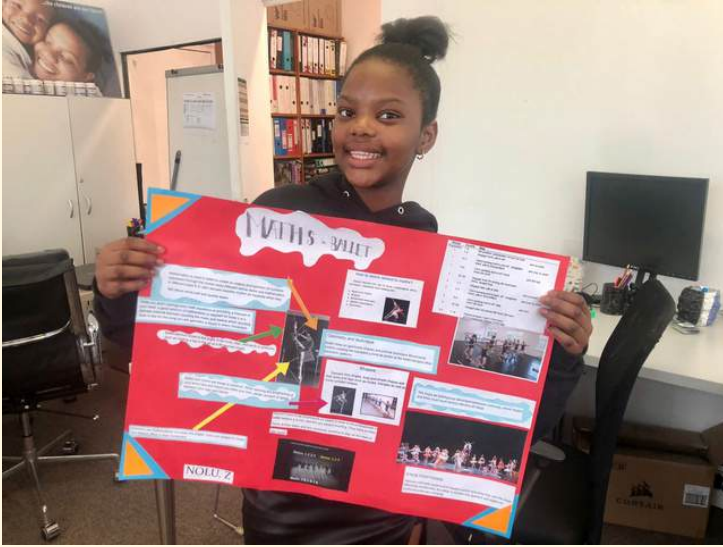
Bright Start

Bright Start Education and Mentorship Programme was founded in 2008. Their goal is to provide quality education opportunities for disadvantaged children, from early primary to secondary and tertiary education, contributing to the economic transformation of South Africa.

<i>Projects</i>	<i>Details</i>	<i>Outcome / Impact</i>
<p>Child Sponsorship Programme</p> <p>5 children sponsored</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full time education at quality schools • Weekly academic and mentorship program • Ongoing monitoring and evaluation • School reports review and reflection • Performance tracking • Provision of digital learning platforms • After school activities, safe transport, medical check ups • Cooperation with parents • Workshops and personal development enhancement e.g. time management 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economically empowered individuals enabled to break the poverty cycle for themselves and their family. • Learners continue to tertiary education or skilled employment

In 2024 Bright Start launched a tutoring programme aimed at supporting maths and reading deficiencies in weaker children at Kronendal Primary School.

We aim to raise funds for this in 2025.



Career and vision board workshops at Bright Start



Visiting sponsored learners at Bright Start

Prize giving at Bright Start



In the new learning centre. A space to study, receive support and access computers



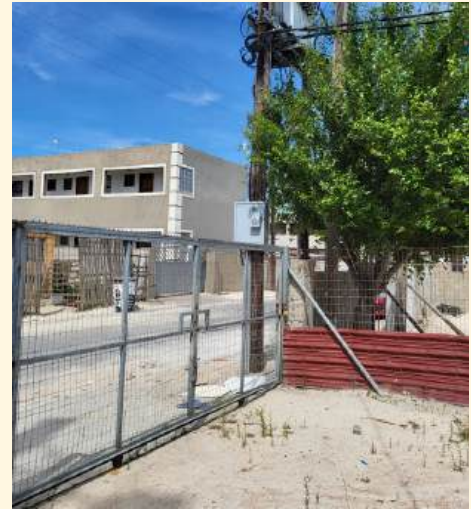
Uthando (Love) South Africa

Uthando (Love) South Africa is a non-profit organization committed to supporting sustainable community development by bridging the gap between responsible tourism and impactful social initiatives. Their mission is to support and uplift communities across South Africa by addressing critical social challenges, particularly in the areas of education and Early Childhood Development. Through strategic partnerships with community-driven projects, Uthando provides opportunities for young children to access quality ECD services, and adults gain skills to help with job creation and alleviate food insecurity.

<i>Projects</i>	<i>Details</i>	<i>Outcome / Impact</i>
Goal 50	Build a sustainable ECD centre for 100 children out of recycled materials, provide meals and implement an ECD curriculum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School readiness • Job creation and skills development through employment of locals for teaching and building
Ulwazi Educare	Enable registration through building a parking lot and establishing vegetable garden. Provide meals to the nutrition programme at the school	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainability of the pre-school through government registration • Nourishing meals to enable growth and focus at pre-school
Pebbles Project	2,950 healthy meals delivered to ECD and afterschool facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduced food insecurity at education facilities • Enable children to learn and focus in classes
Abalimi Bezekahya	Urban Farming training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skills to grow vegetables and alleviate food insecurity • Job creation
Learn to Earn	Skills development courses accompanied with interpersonal and psychosocial skills training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skills development • Job creation



Site visit to Goal 50 building site, and building in progress



Site visit to Ulwazi Educare and location for the parking space.



Impressions from Learn to Earn sewing class, graduates from Abalimi, Pebbles kitchen

NEW!



Welcome Impande

Impande supports grassroots Early Childhood Development for children of the ages of 0 to 5 (ECD). The focus is on the children in the most marginalised and poorest communities in South Africa. .
Impande’s mission is to provide high-quality early learning services to these children and their caregivers. Impande improves access to classrooms and related infrastructure while also providing resources, including meals for the children.



Site visit to Impande

Our focus projects at Impande are Infrastructure.
We aim to raise funds to build many fully resourced Pre-Schools in the communities Impande is active.



From this



To this

Events



A tour of South Africa up close and personal

In collaboration with Wild-life-Culture tours we went off the beaten track in South Africa, while tasting sustainable wines at Blue Heron Wineshop.



Sawabona 3rd Birthday

Thank you to PR-COM for hosting our birthday party and to everyone that joined us. We had a super evening together.



Crafting Educational Materials

We hosted 2 employee experience events with Visit.org to create learning flash cards to support the tutors of PYMA with reading and maths skills.



Berlin and Munich litter clean up

Together with Visit.org we hosted 2 litter clean ups in Berlin and Munich, raising funds for Ulwazi Educare Centre.

Finances

TOTAL RAISED IN 2024

384.360€

INCOME

Memberships	360 €
Donations	384.000 €

EXPENSES

Administration, Marketing, Bank Fees	276 €
Events	1.368 €



Funding summary

319.500 €

43.443 €

5.000 €

6.500 €

9.211 €

Grant
Funding

Individual
Donations &
Online Campaigns

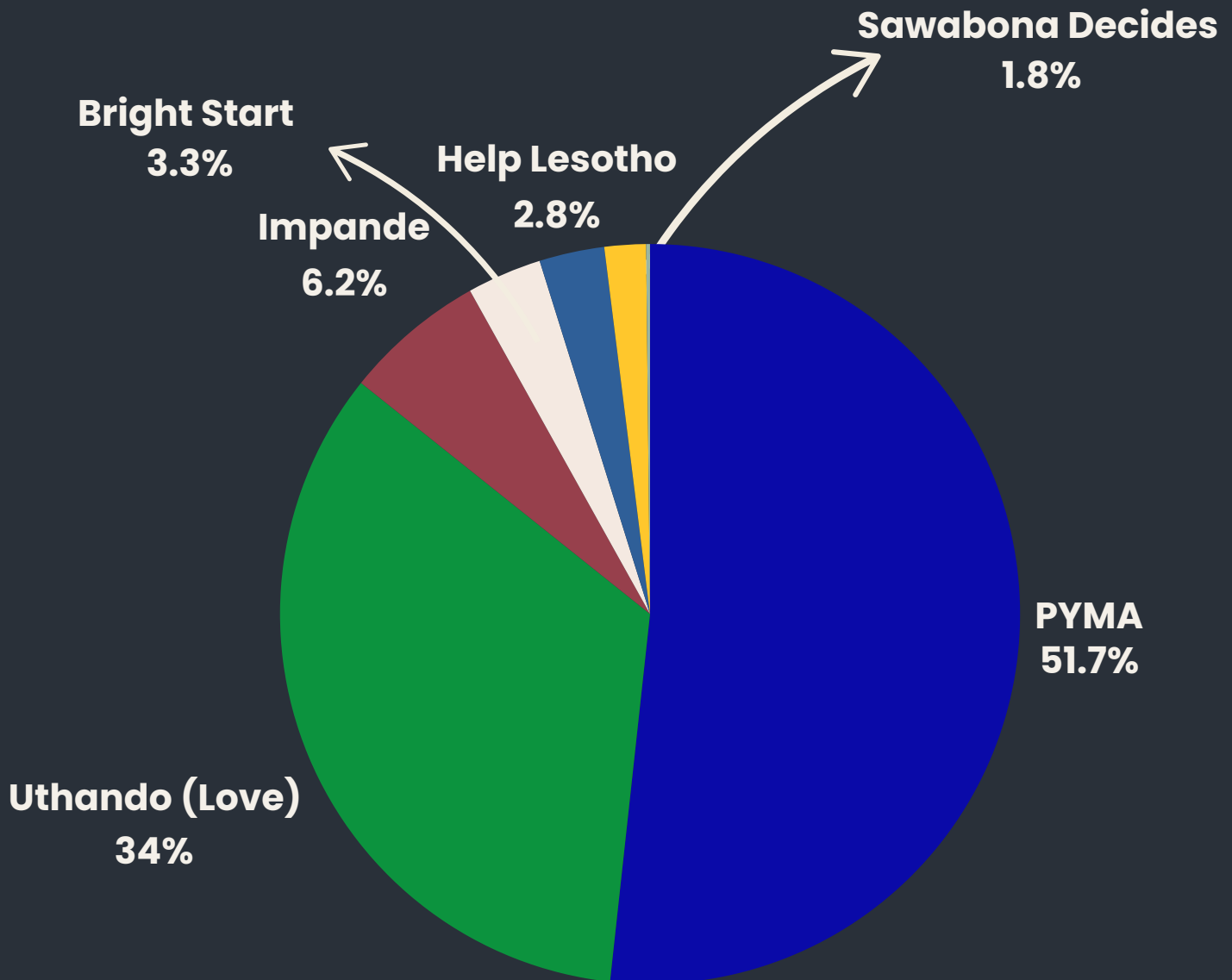
Corporate
Donations

Donations
Associations

Events

Income distribution

€ 384.360
DONATIONS RECEIVED



***Notes:**

- Administration costs for example Website Hosting account for 0.07 % of the income
- Income received at the end of 2023 was distributed early 2024
- Administration costs are covered by membership fees and donations from the Board members
- Grant funding for 2025 received in 2024

A shout out to our partners and volunteers for your generous support



Thank you for volunteering your time:

Tania Primitayada
Ritwika Chatterjee
Lea Stegemann
Coco van Zandvoort
Tanja Schoepke
Diane Arvanitakis
Saskia Hedrich
Silvia Burn

Thank you to our partners:

PR-COM
EOS GmbH
Wild-life-Culture Tours
Blue Heron Wineshop
Visit.org
Parish Obernbeck
Allianz Kinderstiftung
Climbers for Change e.V.

Impact stories

from our partner charities

Hi my name is Ayakha Xesta,

I am 18 years old and grew up in Imazazo Yetho township, Hout Bay, South Africa. I have been sponsored through Bright Start. I graduated from Camps Bay High School in 2024 with a bachelors certificate.



From the beginning Bright Start felt like family. They gave me a safe space, and provided guidance through primary and high school years. At moments I felt like giving up, but Bright Start never gave up on me, pushing and encouraging me every step of the way.

The learning centre was a place with everything I needed: tutors, mentors, computers, printers.

Thanks to Bright Start I now have a bursary to study marketing and advertising at a business school.

I am so grateful for what Bright Start has done for me.



Impact stories

from our partner charities

Help Lesotho

Thabo, grade 11 Malithuso High School, RACHEL Plus user



"I want to take this opportunity to express my heartfelt gratitude for your ongoing support in enhancing our learning. Your generosity has made a tremendous difference in my life, providing me with access to information at the palm of my hand. Your support has given me hope for the future and motivated me to work hard to achieve my goals."



Impact stories



from our partner charities

PYMA

Winnie Mphafudi, Programmes Manager

At Phakamani Young Minds Academy, the partnership with Sawabona Africa has brought incredible transformation, not only to the learners we serve but also to the wider community. I have witnessed firsthand the life-changing impact of your support through the Kitchen Project, Garden Project, Sexual Health Project, and Early Childhood Development (ECD) Project.

I have seen learners grow in confidence and awareness, breaking down stigmas and taking control of their well-being. It's incredible to watch young people become more informed and empowered to make positive decisions for their futures.



I am filled with gratitude for Sawabona Africa and the incredible role you play in making all of this possible. Your support has not only strengthened Phakamani Young Minds Academy but also touched the lives of each learner and family we serve. Thank you for believing in this work and for being a part of their stories of hope, growth, and transformation.



And so we press on

*to change more lives and support
education in disadvantaged communities
of South Africa and Lesotho*

**This is only possible with every
contribution we receive from each
one of you.**

**Join us on this mission – every cent
counts.**



**Support Education.
Deliver Hope.**