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# **PROPOSAL**

# COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT PROJECTS:

# FOCUSING ON: YOUTH AND VULNERABLE MEMBERS OF THE SOCIETY (CHILDREN, WOMEN AND INCARCERATED PERSONS).

ON BEHALF OF

WINGS OF FAITH

[WOF]





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#### INTRODUCTION

The intersection of poverty, youth unemployment, crime, substance abuse, and gender-based violence in South Africa creates a deeply entrenched cycle of social challenges. Addressing these challenges requires holistic, community-driven solutions that tackle root causes, provide support systems, and empower affected communities. Therefore in recognizing the significant challenges faced by communities in South Africa, the WOF aims to empower women and youth in Soweto through sustainable community projects focused on four key pillars: **Nutrition**, **Hospital Support**, **Prison Reintegration**, and **Support for Vulnerable Community Members**. These initiatives aim to equip women and youth with the skills, opportunities, and resources they need to uplift their communities and improve livelihoods. We believe that through addressing systemic issues such as poverty, unemployment, and gender inequality, WOF will contribute into fostering resilient, cohesive and inclusive communities in South Africa.

# **Objectives**

- To empower vulnerable groups in communities (women, youth and elderly) through skills development, education, and entrepreneurship.
- To address hunger and malnutrition while promoting sustainable food systems.
- To improve healthcare access and support for hospitals and healthcare workers.
- To rehabilitate incarcerated people and reintegrate ex-offenders into society with dignity.

# **OUR APPROACH**

Our approach is based on four cardinal pillars:

# **Pillar 1: NUTRITION**

**Objective:** Promote food security and nutrition while creating income-generating opportunities.

- Youth-Led Urban Farming Projects: Train women and youth to establish urban gardens and micro-farms using sustainable methods.
- **Community Kitchens:** Establish community kitchens where women and youth can provide affordable, nutritious meals while earning income.
- Nutrition Workshops: Educate communities on healthy eating and food preservation techniques.



# **Expected Impact:**

- Improved food security and health outcomes.
- Economic empowerment for women and youth through sustainable agriculture and cooking ventures.

#### **PILIAR 2: HOSPITAL SUPPORT**

Objective: Strengthen healthcare GIVservices and provide support for healthcare workers.

- Youth Volunteer Programs: Engage youth volunteers to support hospitals with administrative tasks and patient care.
- **Resource Provision:** Supply hospitals with essential medical equipment, hygiene products, and PPE.
- Mental Health Awareness: Conduct workshops for healthcare workers on managing stress and mental health.
- Day Hospital: We envisage conducting back clinic, 3-day hospital admission and wellness center

#### **Expected Impact:**

- Enhanced healthcare delivery and worker morale.
- Increased involvement of youth in community healthcare.

#### **Pillar 3: Prison Reintegration**

**Objective:** Empower incarcerated people and ex-offenders with the tools to reintegrate into society and reduce recidivism.

- Skills Training for Women and Youth Offenders: Offer vocational training in trades such as sewing, baking, carpentry, and coding.
- Mentorship Programs: Pair ex-offenders with mentors to guide their reintegration process.
- Community Awareness Campaigns: Reduce stigma and foster acceptance of rehabilitated individuals.

#### **Expected Impact:**

- Empowered individuals with employable skills.
- Stronger community cohesion and reduced crime rates.

# Pillar 4: Support for Vulnerable Members



Objective: Uplift and protect children, women, and the elderly through targeted initiatives.

- **Child Development Centers:** Provide safe spaces for after-school programs, educational support, and recreational activities.
- Women Empowerment Programs: Offer entrepreneurship training, financial literacy workshops, and access to micro-loans.
- **Elderly Care Services:** Create home-based care networks and social programs to combat isolation among the elderly.
- Informal Settlements: Serving with practical and spiritual needs of individuals and families living in the selected areas.

#### **Expected Impact:**

- Improved safety, education, and opportunities for children and women.
- Enhanced quality of life and dignity for the elderly.

#### **BOARD MEMBERS**

# A. GENERAL

1. Name and address of Head Office:

Due to limited funding for renting, building, or purchasing office space, we currently operate the organization virtually. Our meetings are held in the homes of board members who generously volunteer to host them. Once we secure land, we plan to establish a dedicated office space to better serve our mission and community.

- 2. Mailing address: Board Chairperson: Dr X Qhogwana: xqhogwana@gmail.com.
- 3. Board Members and their current Occupations:

0	Dr B.N. Ogundipe		General Secretary
0	Dr. X. Qhogwana		Chairman
0	Mrs. V.J. Khasana		Treasurer



#### B. BOARD SUMMARY

# **BOARD NAMES**

#### **SUMMARY**

Dr Xola Qhogwana



**Introduction -** currently serving in the Senior Secondary School governing body (SGB) as an academic chairperson. Being exposed to Government Deperatment of Education policies including not limted to CAPS has given me a great deal of experience.

**Work life** - Highly developed skills in problem identification and implementation of effective solutions. Comfortable with analysing and understanding data, working under time pressure and presenting myself in a professional manner. I also enjoyed helping those who are more in need than I am, thus being involved community projects

**Educatio**n – In possesion of a National Diploma in Mechanical Engineering, Project Management, Bachelor of technology in Management, Business Administration status, Masters degree in Management Sciences – specialised in Business Administration from the Durban University of Technology. Currently holds a Doctorate degree in Business Leadership from University of South Africa.

Dr Belinda Nomteto Ogundipe



**Introduction** - Nomteto describes herself as a wife, mother and grandmother, Medical-trepreneur, Doctor and Ambassador of Health for "her" people, the under-serviced. Nomteto is an advert supporter of technological advancement in medical science and practices. Nomteto also has an established public profile and wrote as a Weekly Medical advisor columnist for Drum Magazine during 2009 to 2016, when the magazine went digital. She has also been invited as a Medical Practitioner Guest on a Medical TV Programs and Radio.

**Work life** – Nomteto is also the Principal owner of Dr Belinda Ogundipe and Associates Incorporated (2017/045663/21), a 100% Black Female owned practice, which she started specifically to engage in her new found interest in Medicine, The Back and Neck Functional Musculo-Skeletal Rehabilitation. In this day and age of unemployment she has a staff of 13 on board including herself, Biokinetists, Physiotherapists and Administration staff, all from SOWETO.

**Education -** Nomteto attended the University of Transkei in 1980 to 1982 studying Bachelor of Science (BSc) and did Radiography in the King Edward VIII Hospital, Durban Kwa Zulu Natal. Wanting to pursue her dream of becoming a Medical Doctor, Nomteto attended the University of The Witwatersrand, in 1987 studying Medicine between the years of 1987 and 1993.



Mrs. Vangile Jacobeth Khasana



**Introduction -** I am currently working as a lecturer in the Department of Health and specialising in Primary Healt Care.

**Work life** – I consider myself to be very strong in project management especially those project of community upliftments in Soweto. I am very passionate about community work and have a desire to help those who are disadvantaged and vulnerable.

**Education** – I hold a B Cur degree in Nursing education and Nursing Adminstration. I also have a post graduate Diploma in Clinical Nursing Science, Health Assessment, Treatment and Care. Also, Clinical Masters' Degree from the university of Pretoria.

I am currently a PhD candidate

Detailed resumes of all proponents/staff are available on request.

#### PROJECT METHODOLOGY

Our current targeted community is Soweto. According to national accommodation association of South Africa (NAA-SA) (2017) Soweto population stood at 1.56 million people, with 98.54% of the population being black Africans, followed by 0.11% whites, 0.10% Indians and 1.25% not specified. The main language spoken as a first language by most people is Isi Zulu which stood at 41% of the total population. The poverty-stricken areas include people living below the living minimum living wage and therefore not affording shelter are from:

Orlando East – 85% informal settlement [people living in shacks]

Kliptown - 65% of residents unemployed

Orlando East and Pimville has 62% of people unemployed.

As indicated above, the high levels of poverty and unemployment, particularly among youth in Soweto, leave many feeling hopeless and excluded from economic opportunities, pushing some toward criminal activities and substance abuse as coping mechanisms. Substance abuse, in turn, fuels violent behaviors, exacerbating community instability and perpetuating cycles of victimization. Gender-based violence, deeply rooted in patriarchal norms and inequality, is further intensified by these socioeconomic pressures, leaving women and girls disproportionately vulnerable. These issues are interconnected, creating a complex web that undermines social cohesion and impedes sustainable development. WOF therefore aims to provide community-driven sustainable projects that tackle root causes, provide support systems, and empower affected communities.

#### **IMPLEMENTATION PLAN**



# **Phase 1: Planning and Engagement**

- · Conduct community needs assessments.
- Form partnerships with churches, local leaders, businesses, and government agencies.
- · Recruit and train staff and volunteers.

# **Phase 2: Pilot Programs**

- Launch pilot projects in selected areas of Soweto.
- Monitor outcomes and collect feedback from beneficiaries.

# Phase 3: Expansion and Sustainability

- Scale successful programs to other parts of Soweto.
- Establish revenue-generating activities (e.g., community kitchens, farming) to ensure long-term sustainability.

# **CURRENT PROJECT STEERING TEAM OF VOLUNTEERS**

We currently have a team of six dedicated members who have volunteered to lead and facilitate small-scale community projects in Soweto.

In 2024, with funding and support from a local church and our board members, the team successfully implemented WOF projects. Further details can be found in the link below.

# **BUDGET OVERVIEW**

Project Component	Estimated Cost (ZAR)
Urban Farming and Nutrition Programs	600,000
Hospital Support and Volunteer Programs	400,000
Prison Reintegration Initiatives	350,000
Support for Vulnerable Members	500,000
Total	1,850,000

#### MONITORING AND EVALUATION



We will measure success through:

- The number of women and youth trained in various programs.
- Reduction in malnutrition rates and increased food production.
- Improved hospital efficiency and staff satisfaction.
- Successful reintegration of ex-offenders into the workforce.
- Enhanced quality of life indicators for vulnerable community members.

Regular progress reports, community surveys, and impact assessments will guide program adjustments and ensure accountability.

#### **PARTNERSHIPS**

We will work closely with:

- Community leaders to ensure cultural sensitivity and local engagement.
- Local government for policy support and funding.
- Churches, Schools, hospitals, and correctional facilities for program implementation.
- Businesses for resources, mentorship, and funding opportunities.
- Universities for research and development

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