



WHITAKER
PEACE & DEVELOPMENT
INITIATIVE



2022 Annual Report

South Africa



PEACE IS CONTAGIOUS

www.wpdi.org



Table of Contents

■	Introduction	03
■	Our Mission	04
■	Key Achievements	05
	Post-Training Questionnaire Results	06
	Feedback from Local and National Stakeholders	07
■	Special Feature: WPDJ Conducts Violence Survey in South Africa	08
■	Our Touchpoints	09
	Youth Peacemakers	09
	Community Learning Center	11
	Vocational Courses	12
	Vocational Courses - ICT	13
	Vocational Courses - Business and Entrepreneurship	14
■	Peacebuilding Programs	16
	Mediation Among Community Members	16
	Community Dialogues	16
	Community Leaders Training	20
	Peace Activities	21
	Improving Access to Peacebuilding Skills for All Ages	25
	Conflict Resolution Education (CRE)	25
	Peace Education in Schools	26
	Peace Education in Primary Schools	28
	Peace Education in Secondary Schools	29
	Teachers Training in CRE	31
■	Fostering Entrepreneurship	31
	Women Livelihood Program	32
	Training 948 Women	32
	Launching 42 Women-owned Businesses	35
	Notable Highlights	37
	Community Outreach	38
	Cinema for Peace	38
	Media Presence	38
	Peace Engagement Days	40
	International Day for Peace	40
	International Women's Day	41
■	Conclusion	43
■	Partners	44

Introduction

In 2022, the Whitaker Peace & Development Initiative (WPDI) South Africa has continued to operate successfully, despite the increase of socioeconomic challenges and the increase in violence. The latter trend was notably publicized by the survey on the impact of violence for the populations of Cape Town, that we conduct annually with BNP Paribas and RCS, our main partners, which revealed that 74% of polled residents reported they felt unsafe in their area. In such a context, it was an overarching priority for us to redouble efforts and help the communities become more resilient and safer, notably in the face of the challenges that have arisen in the aftermath of COVID. **We were able to directly reach 12,785 beneficiaries** and 52,743 if we include indirect beneficiaries. Among our main achievements is the support **we brought to the creation of 48 new businesses**, which has attracted a lot of attention on our programs in general. In this light, we can add that the media coverage of our activities also allowed us to reach over 24.4 million viewers and listeners of different content platforms nation-wide.

The initiatives of our cohort of 42 Youth Peacemakers, the activities held at our Community Learning Center (CLC) in Athlone and other programs deployed within various areas of the municipality have allowed us to **work with and for the communities of the Cape Flats with growing impact and recognition**. This has notably been the case for the participants in two training programs that we developed in coordination with the Western Cape Government and the City of Cape Town, through which we reached 948 women, 42 of whom also succeeded in securing a competitive grant to create their own business. This was done in partnership with the L'Oréal Fund for Women. Such programs are telling examples of the impact we are having and of the quality of the partnerships that we have established with key stakeholders. Indeed, we notably work with local leaders and officials to jointly organize community dialogues to raise awareness on key issues, such as gender-based violence. We also delivered Conflict Resolution Education that we have deployed in 40 schools, which help both to improve the learning environment and to prepare children and youths for their responsibilities as citizens.

More generally, we have witnessed great progress through our trainings in Conflict Resolution Education, Business and Entrepreneurship and Information and Communications Technology, which, participants reported, have generated positive changes in their personal or professional lives. This has translated in the surveys we conduct every year among our former trainees, with, for instance, **53% of the polled trainees from the vocational trainings reported having created a business**. Besides the undeniable benefits generated for our trainees, the community as a whole also gains from such a program, since each new business will bring services that contribute to making neighborhoods more vibrant and more attractive.

This is the kind of ripple effect that WPDI aims for, as its long-term goals, ensuring that our successes in reaching our objectives build first and foremost on the personal successes achieved and owned by our beneficiaries.

Our Mission

Through WPDI's flagship program, the Youth Peacemaker Network (YPN), we provide young people and women participating in our programs with a wide array of tools to engineer peace as citizens and to create economic opportunities for themselves and their communities. It is the aim of WPDI to:

- Train, mentor and support a new generation of peacebuilders and entrepreneurs;
- Transform daily life in primary and middle schools through programs on conflict resolution education, peer mediation, and restorative justice;
- Incubate local small businesses, providing young entrepreneurs with funds and backstopping through our Business Bootcamp program;
- Harness the potential of new technologies to connect individuals and communities;
- Create and maintain a network of Community Learning Centers (CLCs) in remote and underserved areas, where community members can access, among others, connected computers, certified courses in peacebuilding, entrepreneurship, arts & crafts and ICT.



Key Achievements

Youth Peacemaker Network South Africa

2022 Impact: **52,743** Beneficiaries

Including 12,875 Direct Beneficiaries

Our Touch Points



42 Youth Peacemakers
318 Local Youths



One Community Learning Center
(Cape Town)

5,958 participants in CLC-Based activities and training

Our Programmes

Peacebuilding



Conflict Resolution Education (CRE)
508 graduates

CRE in Schools

8,200 children and
220 teachers trained across
40 primary and secondary schools

10 Community Dialogues

559 participants, some
participants were also among
the **549 Community Leaders**
Trained in Conflict Resolution

Livelihood



Business Bootcamp
1,233 graduated in Business
and Entrepreneurship
3 Business Plan
Competitions and
48 new Businesses
supported

ICT

288 graduates

Community Outreach



Peace Through Sports
launched in 2023

Cinema for Peace

6 screenings
1,440 participants

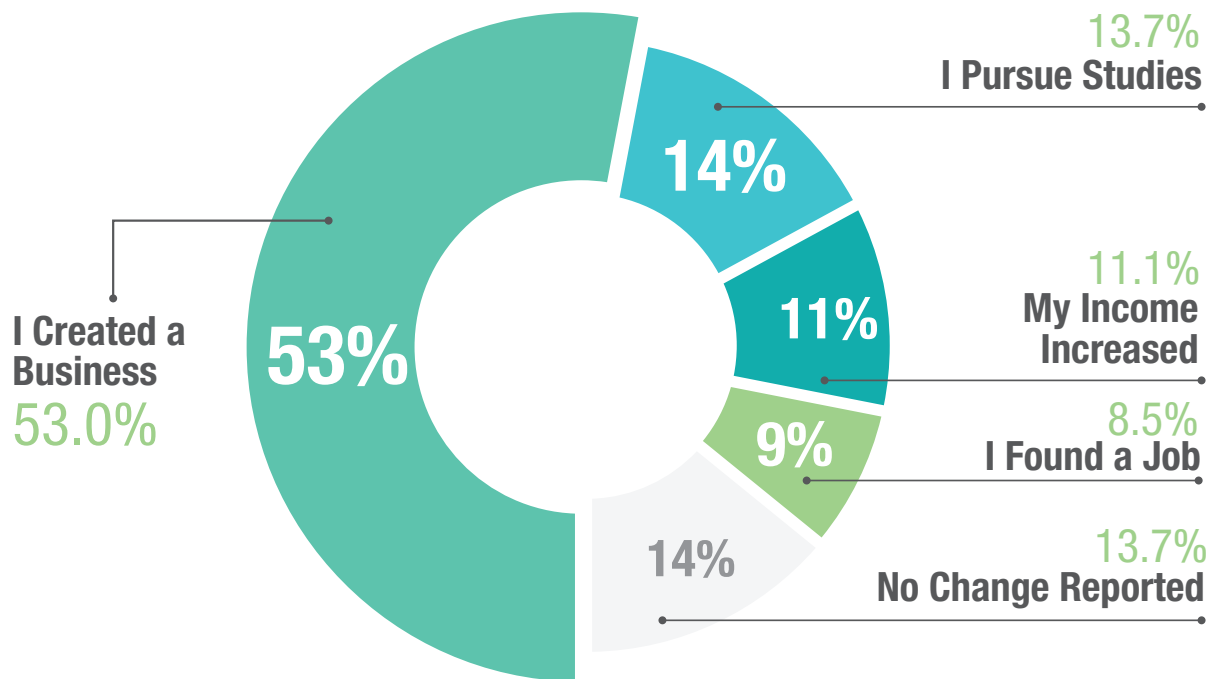
Peace Engagement Days

176 participants

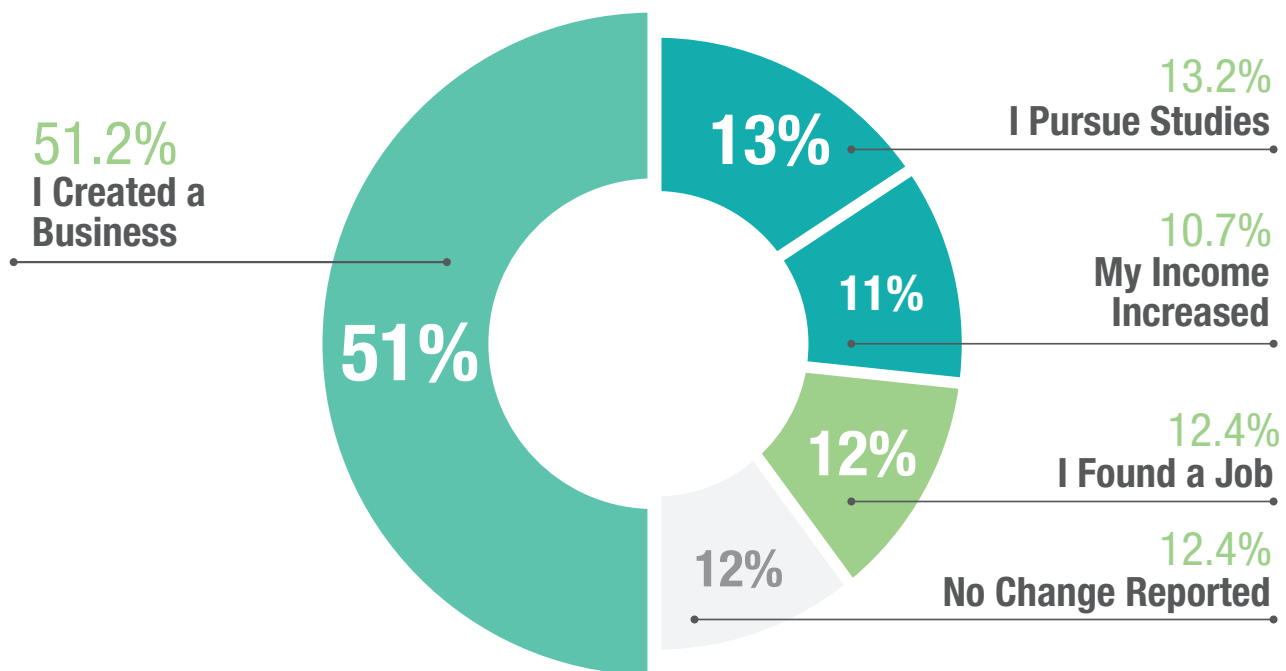
Peace Activities

1,052 participants

Post-Training Questionnaire Results¹

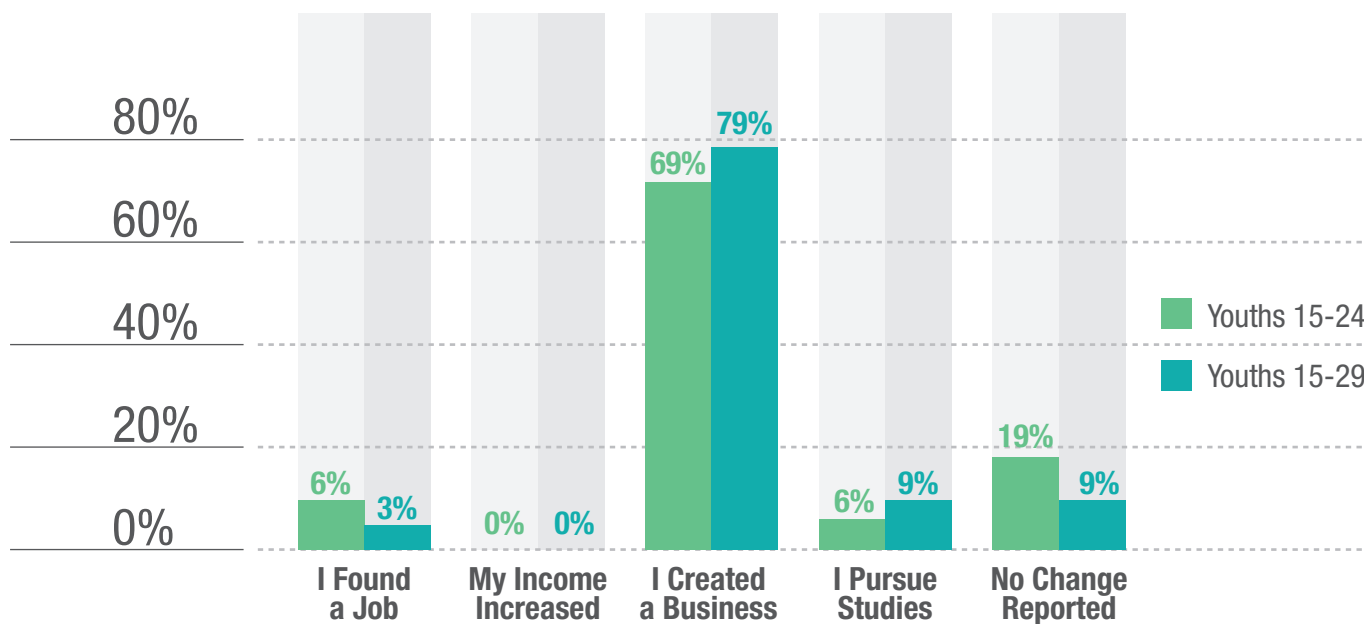


Feedback from former trainees six months after graduating



Outcomes of vocational trainings for women

¹37 respondents to the post-training questionnaire



Outcomes of vocational trainings for youths

Feedback from Local and National Stakeholders

“

The impact of this program is very positive. It has helped us to cultivate inner strength. I myself have grown from it and I have seen the positive effect it has had on the participants. I am overjoyed to see and hear great testimonials from our youth. Most of them were part of gang groups and had given up on life. This program has given them hope and I know it has not only changed their lives but their friends and families too. Thank you WPDI! May you continue to work and guide our youth in the years to come.

Nonceba Msutwana

Social Development and Early Childhood
Development Community Services and Health

”

“

Our children are exposed to a number of social ills during school holidays. I thank WPDI for protecting them against under-age drinking, drugs and substance abuse by offering educational activities that will keep them off the streets and occupied during school holidays. They are so vulnerable at this time of the year as boys are recruited into paddling drugs and girls are abused. We are so thankful for such an important program in our community. We will encourage parents to work with WPDI and continue to support their children to join these programs. Thank you once again WPDI.

Rashid Adams

Ward Councillor for Bridgetown Athlone

”

“

As the Manager of New World Foundation, I want to thank WPDI for the most enjoyable and rewarding staff development training. It has offered us high-quality training that meets the needs of our work in violent communities. We feel confident in responding to any future situations that may arise by using the tools and knowledge provided by WPDI. As a leader I have greatly benefited as the training refreshed my skills and will use them to navigate the tricky employee relations. And most importantly, it will help me deal with conflict as we work with people from violent backgrounds and one should be well equipped to solve any challenge that confronts us.

”

Charmaine Slinger-Smith

Training & Development: Education for Work, New World Foundation

Special Feature: WPDI Conducts Violence Survey in South Africa

In November, for the third year in a row, WPDI and our partner RCS publicized the results of a Violence Survey to assess the detrimental effects of violence on the residents and the businesses in Cape Town, a city that many security experts rate as one of the most violent in the world. The study revealed worrying trends:

- The report shows that, despite several downward trends in violent crime in South Africa, yet overall levels of violence and feelings of unsafety remain high. Physical violence without sexual assault and kidnappings, on the other hand, are trending upwards.
- Community-based violence in South Africa continues to have a profoundly negative impact on business performance, with almost half of businesses participating in a recent survey agreeing that violence is a major driver of absenteeism and that it has a significant impact on the mental health of employees.
- In terms of its impact on employees, 74% of those surveyed felt unsafe in their area (with those living in the Western Cape feeling the least safe), and 46% of respondents believed that gang violence had increased.

The WPDI 2022 Violence Survey confirms that, even at slightly lowered levels, community-based violence remains an endemic dimension of daily life in Cape Town and continues to have a profoundly negative impact on the socio-economic landscape at large. First launched in 2020, the annual WPDI Violence Survey is an important tool to understand and identify the effects of violence on vulnerable communities as well as its impact on business in Cape Town. The survey was born out of a collaboration between BNP Paribas, RCS and WPDI, whose shared goal is to help communities impacted by endemic violence to transform into safer, more open, productive and resilient communities. The findings of the WPDI 2022 Violence Survey correlate with the 2022 Global Peace Index, which ranked South Africa 118 out of 163 countries in terms of its overall peacefulness. While this year sees the country's best ranking in 14 years, the prevailing sentiment is that violence remains one of the most serious issues to undermine the progress of South African society. Against this background the information provided by the Survey is instrumental to guide the development and implementation of our programs in the Cape Flats, focusing on empowering local residents so they can contribute to making their own environment safer and more enabling.

Our Touchpoints

Youth Peacemakers

Our cohort of 42 peacemakers have continued to undertake activities in the Cape Flats. They were actively involved in organizing and conducting community dialogues in their communities. They also provided Conflict Resolution training in 20 primary and 20 secondary schools. Moreover, in another effort to promote peace in their neighborhoods, our peacemakers delivered peace advocacy programs, each time focusing on a particular issue that affected community members. Our youth peacemakers also work with 318 local youths that they have trained in order to build their capacity in peacebuilding.

Gender Breakdown Among Our Network of Young Changemakers

Youth Peacemakers



Local Youths



Testimonials from Local Community Members

“ We are so proud to see youths from our community being involved in such activities. We thank WPDI for supporting our youth to be active and engaged young people that are dedicated to serving their community. ”

Ian Wrinkle
(Lavender Hill)

“ Young people are often labeled problematic, or not yet ready to lead. We want to thank WPDI for believing in our youth, they are working day and night with community leaders in mediating conflicts and building peace. They are at the forefront of helping people to unlearn violent attitudes and behaviors and learning the importance of peace to our community. Thank you once again WPDI. ”

Adam Evans
(Hanover Park)

“ Building Peace in our community will leave a good example behind for future generations. We need Peace to flourish, to keep our minds at ease so we can accomplish our life's objectives. We thank WPDI for organizing these platforms for us to reflect on issues of Peace. ”

Mark Nickleson
(Lavender Hill)

“ I want to thank WPDI for organizing this event here in Lavender Hill. It has been an eye opener to us that we can co-exist together despite of our differences, I see a brighter future if we all participate in fighting crime and make Lavender Hill a Peaceful society. ”

Sakina Ackermans
(Khayelitsha)

Highlighting Notable Achievements of our Peacemakers

Khadija Mayman Promoting Peace Internationally

Khadija Mayman lives in Bonteheuwel, a community within Cape Flats, where there are high rates of school dropouts, youth unemployment, and a high level of gang violence. She joined WPDI in 2019 to help bring transformative change to Bonteheuwel. She is now a Conflict Resolution trainer for WPDI.

On November 3rd, Forest Whitaker was honored by the UN Foundation with the 2022 SDG Vanguard Award in recognition of his pioneering leadership on peace and justice. Khadija Mayman, traveled to the US for the occasion and received the award on his behalf from the hands of Hans Vestberg, CEO of Verizon and long-time Board member of WPDI.



In her remarks, Khadija said: "I hope that the SDG Vanguard Award will help more people around the world to learn from Mr. Whitaker's work and also to learn about it, so they will give young people a chance to make change happen."

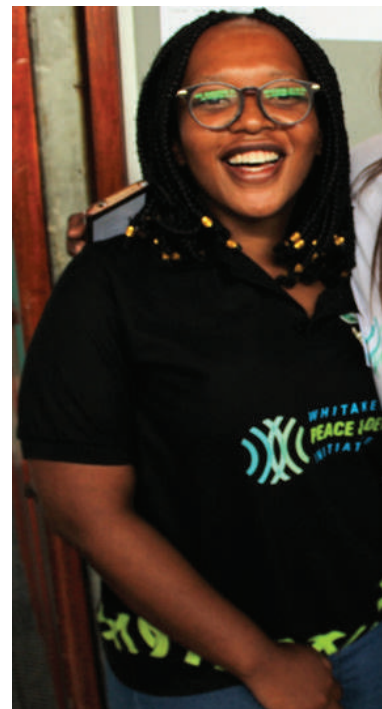
Also in November, Khadija Mayman was invited as a featured speaker to the livestream event "The Road to 2030: Getting Global Goals Back on Track", organized by GZERO Media and Microsoft. Khadija explained how gang violence affects the lives of community members, even when they work hard to create opportunities for themselves.

Ayanda Mhlongo Selected to Join a Network of Young African Leaders

Ayanda Mhlongo, a Youth Peacemaker with WPDI, was one of the 24 selected to take part in the Futurelect program, out of 1,000 youths across the Southern African Development Community (SADC). SADC is a Regional Economic Community comprising 16 Member States.

Futurelect delivers non-partisan leadership development and training programs to diverse groups of ethical and innovative young leaders in Africa.

Ayanda believes she could not have done this without WPDI training as a Youth Peacemaker. Ayanda is part of the SADC Public Leadership Class of 2023, the next generation of transformational ethical leaders. Upon finishing this class, Ayanda is expected to join others in supporting the development of ethical and transformational leaders in Africa by engaging and training leaders to participate in the public life of their countries.



International Speaker and Life Coach Anand Chulani Delivers Leadership and Trauma Healing Workshop to our Peacemakers

In August, WPDl partnered with Anand Chulani, India's #1 Success Coach, International Speaker & Leading Expert in Mental and Emotional Strength. While he was traveling in South Africa, he visited our CLC and conducted a leadership and trauma healing workshop session with our Youth Peacemakers. He provided them with tools to be leaders for themselves, to influence their thoughts, actions and behavior and be peacebuilders in their communities. This session enabled them to understand why people come into conflict and gave them tools to influence people's way of thinking and actions in order to foster communal peace.

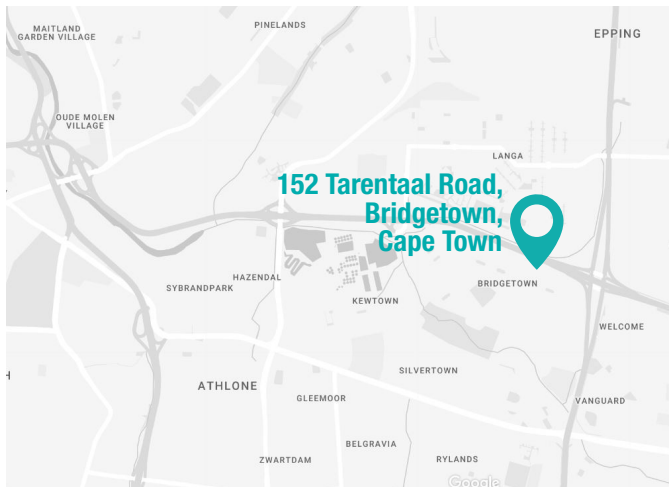


Community Learning Center

Most of our activities took place at the Community Learning Center (CLC) located on Tarentaal Road Athlone-Cape Flats. With just short of a dozen staff members, including trainers in ICT, CRE and Business and Entrepreneurship, our center is open and free to all. It is a safe place where people can access training to increase their employability and peacebuilding skills,

they can also access connectivity tools, and learn about issues that affect the community and how to collectively improve behavior towards marginalized groups. 5,958 people took part in one or more activities made available at our CLC this year.





Of the activities available, our trainings have remained very popular, with a total of 1,331 beneficiaries trained, which is more than in 2021.

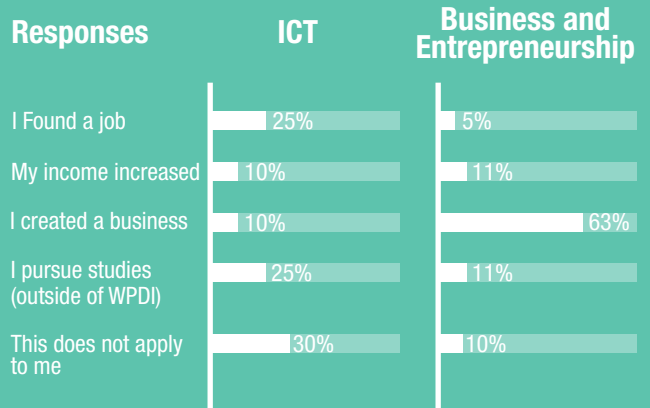
Outcomes reported by participants in all training programs	All Respondents	Female Respondents
Number of former trainees who took the survey	122	120
Percentage of surveyed beneficiaries declaring that WPDI's program made a difference in their lives.	100%	100%
Percentage of participants who recommended WPDI's program to other people.	98%	98%

Vocational Courses

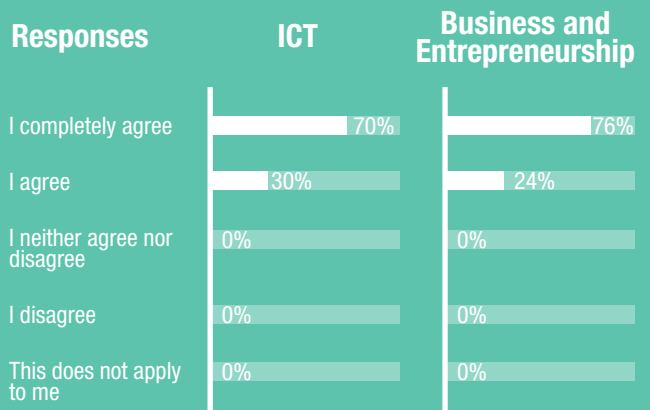
Our vocational courses continued to demonstrate their relevance, as illustrated in the feedback we received from the beneficiaries who responded to our survey presented on the right.. It is revealing that 100% of them affirmed that both the ICT and the business programs had a positive impact on their personal or professional lives and that 98% of them had recommended the training to other people.

Responses to the post-training survey

How did this program improve your employability?



Have the skills developed through the WPDI program made a difference in your personal and/or professional life?



Have you ever recommended the WPDI training to other people?

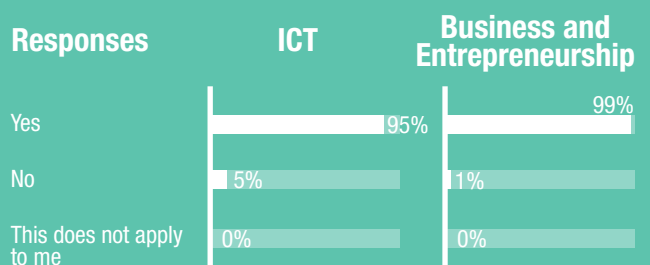


Table summarizing the number of trainees in 2022



1,331
Trainees

Course	Trainees in 2022
# CRE trainees at CLCs	508
# ICT trainees (adults and children)	317
# Business trainees at CLCs	506

Information and Communications Technology

There is an ever-widening gap in ICT knowledge in South Africa. Technology changes quickly and those who were already left behind a few years ago, now find that they are so far behind that it seems almost impossible to catch up. Whereas in the past, only office workers needed to have ICT skills, it is now a requirement for most jobs. The high unemployment rate means that competition for jobs is fierce and anything that adds to a candidate's basket of skills is a huge advantage. In the Western Cape, many lower income schools cannot afford to set up a computer room or provide ICT instruction. This means that many school leavers don't even have a basic understanding of ICT.

Today almost all information is available on the web. Anyone who doesn't have access to the Internet or who lacks the necessary skill to navigate it, is shut out from a wealth of information. Most employment opportunities are posted online, excluding most South African job seekers. The WPDI ICT program teaches participants how to type a document, format it correctly and how to search the Internet. The free ICT courses offered by WPDI at the Athlone CLC provide a lifeline to impoverished communities, giving individuals an important skill to assist them in their search for employment and improving their access to knowledge. Teaching ICT in schools puts children on a path that can enhance their future by providing necessary technology skills.

As part of our standalone training, 182 people trained and 153 graduated. They now have acquired skills essential to many job sectors today. We also delivered ICT training to 135 children in school to ensure they are equipped with essential connectivity skills that will enable them to pursue their studies and enter the workforce with competitive skills.



Business and Entrepreneurship

We received 2,507 applications for the Business and Entrepreneurship Training. We delivered training to a total of 1,464 trainees which included men and women aged between 18 and 60 years old, including 506 people trained at our CLC. Of the trainees, 1,233 trainees graduated in Basic Business & Entrepreneurship Training and more than 75% graduated in Intermediate Business & Entrepreneurship Training as well. Our conversion ratio from training to graduating stands at an impressive 84%.

Testimonials

“

I'm so excited about this computer course I've been doing so far. It's been different getting out of my comfort zone and meeting new people. This course has had a good effect on me and my mental health. The teacher is amazing. She has been so kind and patient with me and the whole class. I know you'd be proud of how far I've made it. I've learnt many new features and applications on the pc that I didn't know were possible. Being on this course has changed my mindset and my perspective on computers. I might want to change career fields after this course. There will be an exam soon. I've been stressed but the teacher has assured me that everything will be fine.

”

Vaneshree

trainee from Bonteheuwel

“

In the past couple of days, I started my training at Athlone. As you know, I never used a computer before. So, I decided to do the training. On the first day, our teacher explained everything about the computer. I was asked to log in to my computer. I did what I was asked to do. My hands were shaking, I could not even hold a mouse in the correct way. But I told myself that “if my teacher can do it, I can also do it”. This training helped me a lot. I am now able to send email, search the internet, type and attach documents using the computer.

”

Anelisa

Trainee from Langa, Cape Flats

“

I am excited about the new course that I have just started at WPDI. They offer free computer courses. When I started this course, I knew nothing about computers and how to do the work, but our lecturer Steff is doing an amazing job on this. Now I know how to copy documents from the internet to and paste them where I want them to be, I know how to do research in an accurate and effective way. I am so grateful for this opportunity. It will indeed make a difference in my life as it will now enable me to type my own CV and look for a job so I can earn money, instead of sitting at home and doing nothing now I have something to do. It is indeed an opportunity to be shared as it changes many people's lives, I would definitely share this in my community and change someone's life. Instead of people committing crime they must take this opportunity and WPDI offers so many more courses and activities.

”

Esethu

trainee from Nyanga, Cape Flats



Success Story

Name of the Business

T & R Carwash

A Car Wash based in Community Beachfront Parking Bay

Context

Tristan Roberts, a young man from Retreat in the Lavender Hill Area grew up with all the challenges faced by those living in the Cape Flats where violence and substance abuse are part of life. Young men in these areas often join gangs out of fear. Tristan chose to find ways to not be drawn into illegal activity by helping his family's living a better life.

How did they hear about the program

Tristan heard of our program through our ongoing Social Development Youth Sector and City of Cape Town. He attended Conflict Resolution Education training and when he finished his training, he jumped at the next opportunity to attend the Business and Entrepreneurship Training. During Training sessions he was always asking questions, even during intervals he would ask for extra advice. His eagerness kept him motivated.

Timeline

This was one of the winning businesses of the last Business Plan Competition of 2021. The first installment of funds and backstopping support began in 2022.

Observations

T&R Carwash business is viable. It responds to a need in the community and its opening was welcomed by community members.

This business is a great example of the initiatives WPDI is proud to support. Indeed, through its success, it has also provided job opportunities for many youths in the community.

Hearing from the business owner

"I want to express my gratitude towards WPDI for investing in me because WPDI helped me accomplish my dream of owning my own car wash. I am now working towards opening a second branch."



Peacebuilding Programs

Mediation Among Community Members

Community Dialogues

Aiming to foster long-term transformative change at the grassroots, WPDI facilitated ten community dialogues in communities of the Cape Flats. The dialogues focused on various topics specific to the respective community. They allowed communities to come together and share ideas on how to address issues that affect them daily. WPDI continues to create these platforms for communities to positively discuss and share their challenges and find possible solutions. This is the first step in achieving sustainable peace. Dialogues were held in the following places:



To find sustainable solutions to break the intergenerational **gender-based violence (GBV)**



To encourage men to be instruments of **peace in households and the community**



This dialogue was a follow-up from the dialogue that took place at the CLC in February 2022. To understand GBV and the role of **men in ending GBV, values of peace, respect of basic human rights and reconciliation** that can be achieved through a participative manner to enhance conditions for peacebuilding and sustainable development.

Athlone



To facilitate the dialogue on **community concerns** of the communities of Manenberg and Gugulethu



Effort to create inclusive **leadership to empower youths** of the Community of Steenberg

Steenberg

Imizamo Yethu



To facilitate the dialogue on **Human Rights and coexistence** between foreigners and local South Africans

Manenberg

Scottsdene



The dialogue was on the **increase of violence** in the community

Langa



To raise awareness of the **existence, extent and modus operandi of kidnapping** within the Cape Flats including Langa Township



To raise awareness on **substance abuse** of youth in the Cape Flats.

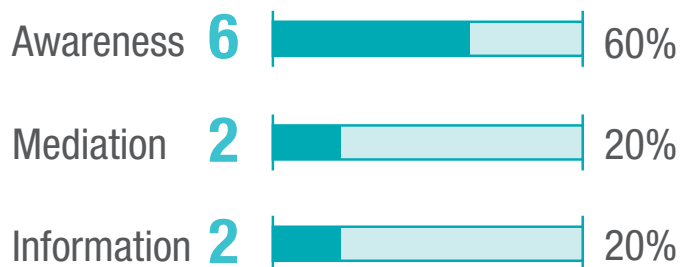
Lavender-hill

Number of Dialogues

Cape Flats

10

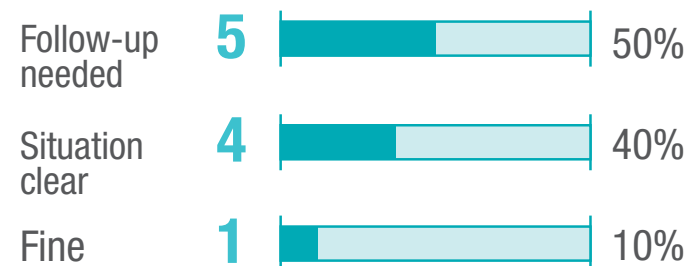
Purpose



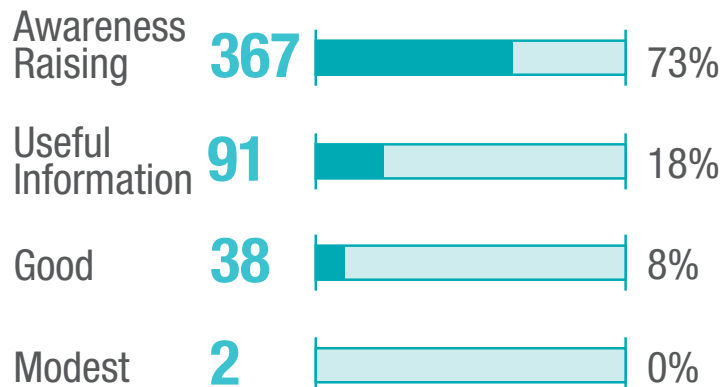
Stakeholders /NGO



Outcomes



Feedback from Participants





Success Story

A Successful Series of Dialogue Meetings on Gender-Based Violence

Context

Gender Based Violence (GBV) has been increasing in South Africa recently, despite various interventions from the national government and civil society. As a result, communities are taking matters into their own hands and trying to find ways to tackle this issue productively. Community leaders have noticed a pattern in many cases of GBV. It was noted that the cycle of abuse runs from one generation to the next, in many families. The leaders therefore felt it was important to discuss Intergenerational Gender Based Violence in Cape Flats Communities. Mitchells Plain was historically a coloured, middle-class neighborhood. However, with the 'Township' urban reorganization, the area deteriorated into an urban ghetto.

Location

Our Community Learning Center in Athlone Cape Flats

Timeline

The first community dialogue was held in February and the follow-up was held in November.

Participants

30 participants for the first dialogue and 50 for the follow-up. For the first community dialogue on this issue, WPDl hosted community members and leaders from four sub-areas within the Mitchells Plain community:

- Eastridge,
- Beacon Valley,
- Lentegour and
- Parkwood.

Summary of Discussions

Following the positive outcome of the first community dialogue, community leaders saw the need to continue this discussion and opened the platform to members from neighboring sub-areas. Hereby further zooming into the issue of Intergenerational Gender Based Violence.

The opening discussions allowed all attendees to share their opinion on the impact of GBV. These contributions showed that both males and females were impacted by GBV and most had at some point in their lives been victims or witnesses of domestic violence.

Women attendees shared that their partners often felt entitled to dictate who they should interact with, where they should and shouldn't go, what they should wear, etc. This was, for many, the starting point of the abuse. A number of attendees pointed out that historically, unfair societal norms had deemed women inferior to men and this shaped today's relationships.

In group discussions they highlighted the experiences of many victims who had tried to report their cases of GBV only to be turned away by their local police or denied protection orders. It was also shared that many perpetrators of violence did not fear the justice system and many disregarded protection orders, this resulting in victims living in constant fear.

Agreed Next Steps

- Community members in attendance discussed what the way forward would be. It was agreed that they would reach out to existing organizations and structures to discuss a collaborative plan of action. This would include awareness campaigns, victim empowerment workshops, building on existing community forums, strengthening existing and starting new support structures for victims of GBV.

- WPDI agreed to deliver Conflict Resolution Education training directly to community members.

Outcomes

Since then, men who had attended the community dialogues created a group with young boys, to implement programs, activities and discussions to eliminate gender stereotypes and toxic masculinity. They aim to enable them to adopt safe and responsible behavior and to take an active role in challenging these social norms and attitudes that perpetuate violence.

Observations

The outcome of these community dialogues highlighted that communities are eager and committed to fight Gender Based Violence. The various stakeholders were clear that communities need assistance and guidance from relevant stakeholders as they cannot do this alone. GBV is a deep-rooted issue that requires all members of society to play their role in fighting it and ensuring that the basic human rights of all people are protected. They are hopeful that with the help of organizations like WPDI they will be better equipped to face the issue of GBV.

Testimonials from Community Dialogue Participants from Mitchells Plain

"I would like to see more training and dialogues happening in Beacon Valley (Mitchells Plain) because our community can really benefit from this kind of positive discussions. We need to get more people involved in the discussion on Gender-based violence especially the youth."

Patricia Moses

"The outcome of this dialogue was very positive. Thank you WPDI for allowing us this space and platform to openly discuss such important issues."

Devonetay Isaacs

"Today's discussions highlighted how important it is for all of us to play our role in the fight against gender-based violence. It helped to hear views from males and females of different age groups. These discussions and solutions need to be taken seriously and all of us need to deliver on what we set out to do."

Gavin Valtyn

"As a young male, I learned a lot of valuable information today and will try my best to spread this knowledge amongst my peers. I hope that WPDI will continue with the good work in our communities and continue to spread the message of peace."

Keagan Wilson

Testimonials from a Community leader

"Many thanks to WPDI for creating these platforms to speak out. As leaders of this community, we feel compelled to move beyond our individual mandates and go out of our way to restore peace in our communities. There are too many murders of women and young girls in our communities. Thank you WPDI for involving men to open and speak up about pressures they face to display what is considered normal masculine behavior and most importantly to hear about the long-term psychological trauma women are going through because of their abusive behaviors."

Feedback from a Youth Peacemaker who coordinated the community dialogues

"I feel hopeful because it is through these integrated approaches that bring men to the table, that make men feel engaged rather than silenced. I am convinced that these conversations with men will make them less likely to abuse their partners and I thank WPDI for organizing these great platforms."

Mediation Training for Community Leaders



Community leaders in the Cape Flats play a critical role in resolving community challenges and to create peaceful spaces within their communities. WPDl supports them by strengthening their capacity for addressing tensions and conflicts in a nonviolent and constructive manner. Under our curriculum, leaders are trained in topics including:

- What is Peace?;
- Human Rights;
- Diversity;

- Ways of Finding Inner Peace;
- What is Conflict & Types of Conflict;
- Diversity;
- Positions, Interests and Needs;
- Mediation;
- Negotiation;
- Active Listening
- Problem-Solving;
- Communication and leadership.

The Community Leadership Training took place in various communities of the Cape Flats. A total of 549 community leaders were trained.

Testimonials

from Trained Community Leaders

“

This training has played a significant role in boosting our confidence as a group, restoring optimism and hope towards the future. As we are the face of the community, we sometimes get overwhelmed with the challenges our people are facing, we feel better equipped to mediate and build Peace.

”

Shanndrae Hastings
Manenberg

“

I have often been called to mediate violent incidents, but I am now confident that I can adequately analyze and mediate conflict. Thank WPDl for this empowering and life changing training. As leaders we will now go back to our community and share this knowledge hoping it will have the same impact it has had on us.

”

Maria Mouton
Manenberg

Peace Activities

The CLC has also confirmed its role as a safe space for peace by hosting a series of peacebuilding activities led and implemented by the WPDl youths peacemakers, with the objective of sensitizing community members on values of peace and nonviolence. Noting that over 1,000 beneficiaries participated in these activities, it must be stressed that these activities will probably have a ripple effect since they were designed to ensure that participants would in turn make an effort to disseminate the lessons taken from our activities into their communities.



19 August, 2022

Tackling the Stigma around Menstruation



420 Attendees

Lack of sanitary pads remains a prevalent issue in a number of schools in the townships. This results in higher absenteeism of girls during menstruation which carries a stigma and a taboo.

Sinoxolo, one of our Youth Peacemakers, invited health care workers to educate girls on ending the stigma and to give tips around menstrual hygiene management. We concluded this day by donating sanitary pads to the girls in attendance.



16 June, 2022

Peace through soccer in Mitchells Plain



80 Attendees

The objective is to steer at-risk youths away from delinquent activity and to provide a space to learn how to work collectively and better manage emotions. Keeping these youths busy with activities that develop their skills, has played a significant role in transforming their minds and empowering them with necessary tools to thrive in a hostile environment and become agents of hope, change and responsible active citizens.



8 July, 2022

Peace Garden



20 Attendees

The entire school benefited from the produce.

One of the ten winners of the 2022 WPDl Peace Activities started a Peace Garden that has brought new hope into the gang-ridden community.

The Peace Garden has helped individuals put their differences aside and work together to better their community.

The garden is located at a school that is near a notorious “gang battlefield” in the heart of Lavender Hill, where countless innocent lives have been lost due to violence.

Children in this community have been through a lot at home and are carrying a lot of trauma, either from broken homes, drug abuse, or gang activity.

Since the start of the garden learners come during class intervals and school holidays, to help take care of plants. The produce that grows is made available to make meals for school students. This therefore benefits the entire school in addition to the students involved in caring for the plants.



11 August, 2022

Anti-bullying Campaign



52 Attendees

There is an increase in the number of bullying cases in Athlone and other parts of Cape Flats. This has motivated Khadija, one of our Youth Peacemaker and CRE trainer, to organize an advocacy campaign to tackle this issue. The roll-out of the campaign themed, "Peace lives within me bullying is not a solution" aimed at mobilizing learners, parents, teachers and key stakeholders in promoting a safe learning environment. Bullying, which often leads to depression, anxiety, low self-esteem, suicide, low academic performance, absenteeism and school dropout, can have a direct impact on educational outcomes.

The campaign had a positive impact as it created a respectful environment that will continue to exist well beyond this campaign.

03 Oct, 2022

Raising awareness on Disability



148 Attendees

As a way of promoting peace, respect and dignity. One of our local youths identified one of the Home for the Disabled in Langa township, to offer cleaning services. The facility provides a variety of services for adults and children with severe permanent disabilities. They provided services such as yard work, window washing, laundry and general cleaning as a way of raising awareness that everyone has a right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment.

06 August, 2022

Peace Through Netball



210 Attendees

Netball tournament was organized to bring together women and young girls from different areas in Delft. The aim of the tournament was to bridge the differences through sports, as gangs have massively created animosity, hatred and division through gang territories to an extent that people in the same community do not see eye to eye. This tournament helped people to continue promoting peace, tolerance, understanding, solidarity and social cohesion.



28 Sept, 2022

Peace through soccer Game in Manenberg



50 Attendees

The aim on this day was dedicated to elevating the importance of youth involvement in sports and to display to the community that the youth have the potential to be role models of change if they receive the right support from the community.

05 Sept, 2022

Co-existence Between Foreign Nationals and Local South Africans



42 Attendees

The campaign was to assist in the integration process and co-existence between refugees, foreigners and South Africans in Dunoon and Hout Bay.

This has recorded cases of violence between foreigners and South Africans. With the help of the International Association of Migrants (IAMs), foreign nationals, refugees and South Africans came together to discuss challenges and opportunities of co-existence. The campaign included CRE training. We further conducted a dialogue session with local people to develop sustainable and peaceful communities that respect the rights and dignity of refugees and asylum seekers.



06 July, 2022

Peace Walk Against Violence



30 Attendees

The aim of the Peace activity under the theme, “light up for safety” was to support the Bridgetown Community Neighbourhood watch by giving them reflective uniforms to be visible during their late-night patrols and to lower the rate of night-time collisions by motor vehicles. They patrol in areas without streetlights and they risk their lives in keeping their communities safe.

The uniforms provided during this day will keep them warm and visible. Their role in communities is to work closely with the police to prevent and combat crime day and night. The CLC also benefits from their service as they always pass by the CLC at night until morning hours.



Improving Access to Peacebuilding skills for All Ages

Conflict Resolution Education (CRE)

As the presence of WPDI grows stronger, so does the visibility of the training program that the CLC offers in CRE. With 508 registered trainees compared to 336 in 2021, this is the course that has experienced the highest growth. In the survey that we circulated among former CRE trainees, 100% of the respondents declared that the course had had a transformative impact on their lives and had recommended it to other people.



Testimonials from Trainees

"This has been a great learning experience because I never knew that Peace was such an important aspect of our daily lives. I have learnt so many new concepts as well and I am grateful that I had the opportunity to attend this training. I am looking forward to sharing this knowledge with my family."

Amelia Baths
Mitchells Pain

"I am grateful for everything that I have learnt during this training. I will use these skills to resolve conflict in my home and my community. It is very important for us to ensure that our homes are peaceful spaces and from there we can try and influence others by spreading the message of peace."

Montoana Nchupetsang
Philippi

"This training has already made a difference in my life. Yesterday when leaving the training we had a conflict amongst the team and we managed to resolve it in a constructive way and ensure that we understood the needs of all team members. This shows how important this training has been and the impact it is starting to have in our lives. I'm grateful that I had the opportunity to be here and empower myself".

Meagan Williams
Lavender Hill

"The most valuable thing this training has taught me is the importance of peace. On the first day of the training, I was confronted with a conflict, and as I sat in the training taking in this information, I made a conscious decision of how I would react to this conflict, and I reacted in a peaceful way. This training is much needed in our communities and I sincerely hope WPDI will reach many more young people in the Cape Flats. Thank you".

Oscar Claasen
Steenberg



Success Story

A More Peaceful School in Bridgetown

The School's Context

Cypress Primary School is based in Bridgetown, Athlone. WPDI started the Peace Education program at the school in 2019. Learners there come from various areas in the Cape Flats, such as the broader Athlone, Langa, Manenberg, Philippi and Delft. These are some of the most violent and disadvantaged communities within the Cape Flats. The learners experience challenges as many have been impacted by violence in their homes or in their communities.

The Identified Issue

The school has seen a significant increase in the amount of bullying especially among Grade 4 learners. The school requested WPDI to deploy an additional Youth Peacemaker to ensure more learners had access to the training. The issue of bullying became so severe that the CRE Trainer was approached by the Deputy Principal of the school to work with specifically the Grade 4 (78 learners) to find ways to address the issue as well as educating learners on the negative impact of bullying on their peers.

The Training

The CRE team designed training activities that focused on bullying, focusing on the universality of Human Rights and why it is essential for each child to feel safe in their school environment.

Outcome

As the sessions continued teachers started seeing changes in the behaviors of learners, especially those who had been involved in incidents of bullying others.

Testimonials

"Since WPDI has started their interventions to address the bullying, in my class most specifically. I have gradually started to see visible changes in the behaviors of my learners. They are calmer and more engaged during lessons. The violence, especially bullying, has decreased. They constantly remind each other of the lessons they are being taught in the Peace Education sessions. I have monitored all their sessions and I am proud to see the progress they have made. I am extremely grateful for the work WPDI is doing at our school and the Cape Flats community at large."

Ms Ursula Morris
Grade 4 teacher at Cypress
Primary School, Bridgetown

"I had an amazing experience interacting with the learners at Cypress Primary. Initially there was a serious issue of bullying taking place in the classroom and some learners had stayed absent for days at a time for fear of being bullied. I worked closely with the teachers in coming up with sustainable solutions. Throughout the sessions I started seeing changes in how the learners conducted themselves and they were excited and engaged during the lessons. It was great to see an improvement and to witness the impact of the Peace Education program."

Khadija Mayman
Youth Peacemaker

Peace Education in Schools

The Conflict Resolution Education in schools program aims at giving learners the information and tools needed to resolve conflict in a way that promotes peace and tolerance. It is important that young people are taught the values of peace from both primary and secondary school level. This gives learners an opportunity to learn various techniques and skills that will assist them to transform their classrooms into peaceful spaces that are conducive for their learning. Pupils among others take home information, attitudes, values, and behavioral competencies needed to resolve conflicts without resorting to violence and to build and maintain mutually beneficial, harmonious relationships. This is in line with the Sustainable Development Goal 4 (SDG) which is about ensuring inclusive and equitable quality education and promoting lifelong learning opportunities for all and to promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable, and inclusive institutions at all levels.

Peace Education in Primary Schools

WPDI is working in 20 primary schools (4,100 pupils) within the Cape Flats. Through the Peace Education training in Primary schools, WPDI can reach young children and educate them on the values of peace. This is critical as young children are most vulnerable at this stage where gangs start recruiting them. This allows learners to unlearn the negative patterns of violence they know and allows them to understand the dangers and negative impact of violence. The training empowers and enables them to become change makers within their schools and communities. Ensuring that we are creating a future generation of youth that are actively involved in spreading the message of peace.

“

I just want to thank the organization for bringing the Peace Building program. Our learners are economically and socially challenged. So, we thank you for coming to our school and teaching our learners these important tools. Thank you for being a different voice for them. The learners are always excited for the sessions and as teachers we have seen the results of your work. We would notice when learners become rowdy, one or two learners would do the peace sign and the class settles. Your work at our school is much appreciated.

”

Mrs Pam

Grade 5 teacher at Levana Primary School, Lavender Hill

“

I would like to thank WPDI for sending their facilitators to our school. They went the extra mile in empowering our learners. Through their work we could see a change in our learners, especially the Grade 7 learners who had previously been a group we struggled with but since the program started, we had seen a significant change in their behavior. Well done to the team at WPDI for their good work.

”

Mrs Thembisa

Quphe Head of Life Skills at Mseki Primary School, Gugulethu

“

I enjoy all the sessions we did on Conflict and Peace. I can now resolve conflict without becoming violent. I now understand the dangers of violence and I hope to encourage other youth in my community to choose a life of peace and not gangsterism.

”

Leonardo James

Grade 5 learner at Prince George Primary School, Lavender Hill

Peace Education in Secondary Schools

WPDI is working in 20 secondary schools (over 4,000 students) in the Cape Flats. Peace Education in Secondary Schools is fundamental in the growth of young adolescents. The training in secondary schools educates learners on how to resolve conflict in a peaceful way as they navigate through an important stage of their growth. The training educates them on other important topics such as Peacebuilding, Human Rights and how to analyze conflicts. These are essential tools that they require in their schools, homes, and communities. In the context of their communities, it is often difficult for learners to unlearn the cycles of violence and adapt to implementing the valuable skills they gain through the Peace education program.

Testimonials from Pupils

“This program changed my life. I started this year out as a young man who was very angry and that gradually changed as I learnt about Peace and being at peace with myself and others. I am grateful that I got to make so many changes in my life due to this program. Thank you WPDI for bringing this program to my school.”

Themba Kele

Grade 9 learner at Sphamandla Secondary School, Khayelitsha

“I come from a community where young people are exposed to so much violence and substance abuse. Completing this program gave me hope that we can bring change to our school and our community. I hope that we can all work together and find ways to bring peace in our community. Thank you WPDI for making this possible.”

Grace Adonis

Grade 10 learner at Crystal High, Hanover Park



Testimonial from School Staff

“We want to thank the WPDI for facilitating this program at our school. Our educators worked closely with the trainer and monitored the progress of the learners, and we are extremely proud of what they have achieved this year. They made strong efforts to implement what they were taught, and we could see the results of this. I hope to see this program grow at our school because it is clear that our learners need this, and we are pleased with the results we have seen. Thank you to all stakeholders for making this possible.”

Mrs Nogude

Life Skills Coordinator at
Ikamvalethu Secondary School, Langa

Teachers Training in CRE



Through the training provided by WPDI, teachers become active agents of peace and social cohesion in classrooms, school and communities. The CRE training equips them with healthy coping mechanisms through practical ways of finding inner peace. It also provides mechanisms to deal with conflict, working in and around conflict. The training also builds their skills to turn destructive conflict into a force of positive change. CRE teachers training includes topics such as:

- Understanding Peace
- Ways of Finding Inner Peace
- Conflict and Types of Conflict
- Conflict Analysis
- Conflict as Opportunity
- Communication
- Sources of Conflict and
- Mediation

In the year of 2022, four Teachers Trainings were successfully completed. The trainings were held in different schools in Cape Flats: Harmony Primary, Lavender Hill High, Sakumlandela Primary and Abedare Primary. To date 224 teachers (144 females and 80 males) were trained. The aim of WPDI is to train and empower teachers and build on their existing skills. The training will allow teachers to gain a better understanding of the training the learners are receiving so that teachers and learners can collectively work towards creating a learning environment that is peaceful and safe for learners and teachers.



The training was interactive as teachers shared their experiences and the challenges they face on a daily basis due to conflicts amongst learners and between learners and teachers. The teachers now understand that they play a fundamental role in Peace building as they have daily interactions with learners and are able to encourage learners to manage conflict constructively. Through educating teachers on the importance of peace and understanding and mediating conflicts, WPDI plays a pivotal role in creating a culture of peace in schools in the Cape Flats



Testimonials from Teachers

"We are grateful to WPDI for this valuable training as we are experiencing high levels of violence in schools across the Cape Flats. This training has equipped us with tools on how to manage conflict and we hope to have more training for our teachers that will help them to make their classes peaceful spaces. Thank you WPDI."

Mr A. Wesso
Principal of Abedare
Primary School, Delft

"This training did not only give me new knowledge, but it has empowered me to encourage even my fellow staff members to work with one another so that the learners can learn from us as teachers how to deal with conflict constructively and share problem solving techniques. I am truly grateful to the WPDI organization and our principal for making this training happen."

Ms Fezile Mkoko
Teacher at Harmony Primary,
Steenberg

"This training has taught me the importance of peace not only in the community but my classroom as well. I wish to thank WPDI for this training that has equipped me to be a better educator who can now teach learners about peace and how to manage conflict in a constructive way."

Ms A. Adams
Teacher at Lavender Hill High,
Lavender Hill



8,200
Students and Pupils



224
Teachers

144
Females
80
Males

were trained in Conflict
Resolution Education across

40
Schools



Fostering Entrepreneurship Through the Business Bootcamp Initiative

Our continuous drive to assist the communities of the Cape Flats in reaching the Sustainable Development Goals set in 2015 remained at the center of our program implementation. We have continued to hold business plan competitions for CLC graduates, and provide successful candidates with funding and backstopping support.

In 2022, 35 candidates competed in two Business Plan Competitions. Six Business Ideas were selected for business development with support from WPDI.

Our Stand Alone Business Plan Winners hail from six areas in the Cape Flats. They count seven women founders and one male

Kota Palace

Thato

📍 Bellville Area

Nails by Linkeys

Nosi

📍 Gugulethu Area

G & G Automotors

Gadija

📍 Hanover Park Area

A Organic

Hanif Tambala & Donay Peters

📍 Mitchells Plain Area

Daffodils of Love

Cecilia Amansure & Melvina De Wet

📍 Strandfontein Area

Let's Cake It

Audrey Jaftha

📍 Bonteheuwel Area

Testimonials

from the Business Plan Competition Review Committee

"I always learn a lot from the trainees whenever they pitch for their business plans. You can see in their eyes that some of them have not slept and others are nervous. Once they have introduced themselves to the panel it comes very clear that they want to be part of the winners. While some trainees come with the same of the businesses to be produced, others come with print outs and flip charts. All these show that they don't want to mess up with their lifetime chance! We wish them the very best both the winners and those that didn't make it, especially because we have limited business prizes and not because their business plan was too bad."

Dr Chance Chagunda

Program Manager
South Africa

"I was honored & privileged to have been on the WPDl Business Plan Review Panel. The talent these individuals had & even though they were very nervous they relied on the workshops they did with WPDl. I was blown away with the passion some of them have for wanting to make their business."

Washiella Harris

Ward Councillor
City of Cape Town

"What a journey, my eyes have been opened to so many beautiful ideas, with those thinking out of the box. I have had moments, where I laughed, cried and even sat with an open mouth listening to these entrepreneurs speaking with passion about either their present business or of their business idea. It was indeed an honor to be part of this amazing experience."

Joan Woodman

Ward Councillor
City of Cape Town

Women Livelihood Program

Training 948 Women

WPDl & L'Oreal Women Livelihood Program was introduced just after Lockdown in South Africa was lifted. It was welcomed in all the MURP areas. The need is great and requests were pouring in from various Ward Councillors, NGOs, and Community Organizations, on behalf of their community members.

This program aligns to SDG 5, achieving gender equality and empowering women and girls. This year, we received 1,991 applications from women in Cape Flats. Our outreach efforts were supported by our ongoing partners such as the City of Cape Town, Social Development ECD & Youth Department, Women for Change Program, Community and Religious Organizations.

From the 1,991 applications received. We selected and trained 948 women between February and September, in Basic and Intermediate Level Business and Entrepreneurship Training. 750 women graduated, which is a good conversion from trained to graduated. Graduates were between 18 and 60 years old. Of the 750 graduates who received basic level training certificates, 444 also passed the intermediate level.

All our intermediate level graduates had the opportunity to attend our Business Bootcamp. This year we had 16 Business Bootcamps of which 14 were only for our Women Livelihood Program to ensure we covered our 14 targeted MURP areas in the Cape Flats. Our Business Bootcamps offer extensive training to create a business, starting with a business plan.





Graduation Ceremony

The ceremony, which took place at the Muizenberg Civic Center in Cape Town, was attended by leaders from different horizons. Caroline Descombris, the Executive Director for WPDJ came from France to attend the ceremony and support these women-graduates.

Local authorities, who had always supported the project, were present, including the Deputy Mayor Alderman Eddie Andrews, Counselor Joan Woodman and Area Manager for City of Cape Town Brian Ford.

The L'Oréal Fund for Women, which directly supported the training program, was represented by its Director, Sylviane Balustre-d'Erneville and Country Sustainability Lead for South Africa, Celeste Tema.



Kieran Fahy, Head of Territory for BNP Paribas South Africa, and Balraj Dev, Deputy CEO of RCS, were also in attendance, standing for our long time partnership with their respective companies in Cape Town.

The event started with inspiring speeches from two trainee representatives, Busi Mathe and Adelaide Moore. They highlighted how empowering this training program was for them, and how much hope it gave them. Many women from the poorest communities of Cape Town feel like they lack opportunities, whether in business or in leadership in general, especially for older members of the community.

Testimonials

from Business Trainers on our Women Livelihood Program

“Living in a MURP area myself, it was easy to relate with these ladies. Many challenging factors arose working in these communities due to gangsterism and violence but we made it, not for anything but to uplift the communities in need. Each MURP area has their own challenges, so being flexible into learning and adapting to these challenges was key for me, due to the lack of income and violence, these coming out of most households in the communities but they were still committed to the training. That was Inspirational! A lot of times people look at the negative side of what they cannot do or what they cannot get, due to limitations but this business training has given these ladies the encouragement, skills set and empowerment to start their own business. I love the fact that it was only women trainees, many of the ladies are single mothers and sourcing ways of income to put food on the table. These skills will help them towards a sustainable and inclusive future”

Kayla Isaacs

Business Trainer from Mitchell's Plain

“Working with women and giving them business skills has really changed the way I look at life, knowing that we are giving hope to these women especially those who don't have any educational background to help them get employment, challenges were there but we pushed through, these women attended the training with the hope of better future and we are giving them a second chance in changing their lives, their commitment to make the most out of this opportunity is really amazing In this particular training we are not only giving this women skills and certificates but we give them hope, by far this graduation will be one to remember for years to come because 42 women will leave the graduation with capital to start their own businesses. WPDl has really changed how women of Cape Flats think.”

Thato Monyela

WPDl Business Trainer from Bellville

“For the first time since WPDl started operating in South Africa this is the first graduation in this kind where we will give 42 women-led businesses a start-up capital. We only trained women who are coming from different backgrounds. Some of these ladies are single parents and they are unemployed. The highlight is to see these women starting their businesses. The skills they got are going to help them as they run their businesses”

Gcobani Mbontsi

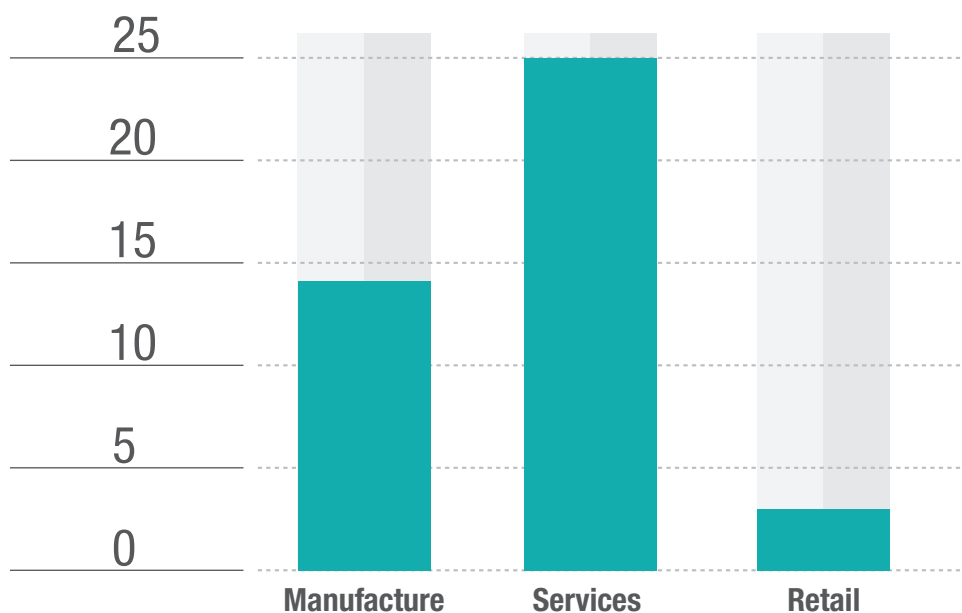
WPDl Business Trainer from Gugulethu

Launching 42 Women-owned Businesses



Those who graduated in Intermediate Level Business and Entrepreneurship Skills Training and who had attended one of the 14 Women Livelihood Program's Business Bootcamps had the opportunity to enter our Business Plan Competition with the aim of winning one of the 42 Grants worth \$4,000 each.

Industries of the 42 New Women-led Business



Our Business Plan Competition aligns with SDG 1 and SDG 8, whereby we believe that poverty can be reduced if more small and medium businesses are developed and by investing in entrepreneurs. Our Women Livelihood Program hosted one major Business Plan Competition where we received 199 Business Plan Submissions of which 42 winners were selected from 14 MURP areas in the Cape Flats. Following the Business Plan Competition, the 42 winners will be part of our business incubator, as part of which each of them will receive a grant that will be gradually disbursed based on their report and demonstrated capacity to respond to our feedback. This backstopping, which lasts for at least one year, is instrumental to ensure that the business plans we have selected can effectively deliver on their promises.

Testimonials

from Women Livelihood Program Graduates

"My experience thus far in the intermediate phase has opened my mind as to how to go about financially with my business. It's taught me about costing, percentages as well as how to draw up my business plan. Being part of this training has impacted my business positively as I use what I've learnt."

Allewisen Frans
Parkwood

"Extend my gratitude to WPDI and L'ORÉAL for this strategic livelihood program that has been made available. With the theoretical business training we had, personally, I am now able and more equipped to understand the fundamental principles of a business. The assistance and thorough training from our facilitators and mentors I can now apply my skills and knowledge to best run the business that me and my partner are launching. I am humbled for being one of the business plan winners, thank you WPDI and L'ORÉAL for bringing change now I can make a change in my community."

Natasha Newman
Hout Bay

"Wow, thank you so much! It hasn't synced in yet as I had prepared myself to come home without the prize. I still can't believe it. Thank you so much for the opportunity. I don't share my struggles or my situation with anyone, but the amount of effort I put in to get my business on its feet when I opened up for the first time this year was beyond what I thought possible. I had lots of sleepless nights before. Coming to the classes was the best decision ever. I followed the advice from the basic and intermediate level books, I'm still busy studying them. I'm implementing this step by step. I have also practiced communication skills taught at WPDI too. Now I'm busy improving my marketing skills."

Louise Filander
Beacon Valley

"I didn't expect a lot from WPDI because they already did as I was offered to study as part of the Livelihood Business Training Program for free. What more can I ask for after I've graduated. I didn't even graduate in my grade 12. I felt very educated when I was on stage. Thank you also for the free lunch. What more can I expect?"

Thandeka Faro
Khayelitsha

"Words are not enough to express how grateful I am to WPDI and L'Oréal Paris with the program they are running in the Cape Flats. As a single mother in the late 50s I had no hope for the future. I thought I would die with my business idea like many other black women. Thank you Forest and Sylviane."

Luleka Zepe
Khayelitsha


We support



62
Businesses

of which **48**
were launched this year
(including 42 women-led businesses)

60% 
of business graduates
who responded to our
post-training questionnaire
created a business

37% 
either found a job,
saw their income increase,
or pursued further studies.

Notable Highlights

Premier Alan Winde
visited Women Livelihood Program



On June 16, the Premier of the Western Cape, Alan Winde and ward Councillor Angus McKenzie visited 25 young women in Bonteheuwel who were part of the 948 women undertaking business and entrepreneurship courses at WPDI. The Premier expressed gratitude to the work of WPDI in partnering with the Western Cape Government to provide training to women and the youth. In the midst of high unemployment rates, such a business training program is critical in providing women and young people with an opportunity to learn key business skills which have the potential to raise their employability or start their own businesses.

Community Outreach

Cinema for Peace

WPDI Cinema for Peace plays a critical role in highlighting some socio-economic challenges as well as offering solutions for a better future. Beyond screening a film that promotes peace, this activity is an opportunity to discuss and educate young participants. The movies screened helped pupils understand and discuss how to live peacefully together, no matter their race or gender. The movie has encouraged pupils to always dream big despite the obstacles they are currently facing in their communities.

Zootopia and Turning Red are the two movies that we screened in schools this year. A total of 1,440 learners (785 females and 655 males) participated in cinema for peace. Some of the questions were designed to create a discussion on what the pupils took-out from each screening and how they could implement what they had learned since some of them deal with conflicts at home or within their communities.

“Loved the movie they played for us and I really learnt from the movie not to keep my emotions hidden because they can burst out in a rude or aggressive way. Thank you to WPDI for bringing us the snacks”.

Khanyisile Gaqa

12 years old-Sakumlandela Primary School
Khayelitsha

“The Cinema for Peace was amazing. I loved the movie that was being played too, although I watched Zootopia a lot of times. This time what was different was understanding and identifying some of the types of conflict.”

Kyle Petersen

9 years old-Thembani Primary School
Langa

Testimonials from learners

“Please come again to another cinema for peace. Peace training really helps me to be a better person and to know how to deal with some issues around me or with my friends”.

Sharon Stevens

7-years-old-Hillwood Primary School
Lavender Hill



Media Presence

For the past few years, BNP Paribas and RCS have commissioned a survey on our behalf to understand the level of violence in the communities we serve. We facilitate access to community members, who are interviewed and data is collected in order to paint a detailed picture of the violence affecting the community every year. WPDI then determines the areas of focus for the year to come, depending on the results of this survey. This year, as violent incidents have increased, this survey attracted media attention. Therefore, WPDI was highlighted in the following media platforms:



Cape Argus
588 000
Readers



Engineering News
86 929
Readers



Mail & Guardian
1 000 723
Readers



Social TV
600 000
Viewers



The Citizen
294 000
Readers



Metro FM 93.0
5 200 000
Listeners



Business Report
787 000
Readers



Khwezi FM 90.5
7 500 000
Listeners



Sunday Times
8 300 000
Readers

Total
24,356,652
listeners/readers reached

Peace Engagement Days

International Day of Peace



The issue of racism is present in South Africa, and in the Cape Flats in particular. It is present in schools and translates through acts of violence in all spheres of society. For the International Day of Peace, the aim is for all humanity to commit to peace above all differences - and to contribute to building a culture of peace and tolerance. In 2020, we observed this day under the theme of 'Shaping Peace Together', in 2021 with the dreadful impact of Covid-19, the theme was 'Recovering Better for an Equitable and Sustainable world' and this year we recognize the damaging effects of racism to peace and development. Thus, we are called to end racism and build peace.

Testimonials

"Today is a special day for each and everyone in this room. It is a day to reflect on ourselves and our actions. We all have a role to play in making Lavender hill safe and prosperous. Let us embrace our diversity, let us eliminate all forms of crime and let us make Lavender Hill a better place."

Aisha Davids

Chairman of Women's Group
Lavender Hill

“Building Peace in our community will leave a good example behind for future generations. In order for us to flourish we need peace.”

Mark Nickleson
Community leader

“I am proud to be a Peace ambassador in LavenderHill. I am a true proof that peace is possible and together we can achieve it. Through WPD, I run a Peace Garden. Since we started, it has brought people from different areas to work together despite gang boundaries dividing us. During the school holiday most of the children are kept off the streets because we keep them busy in the garden. I want to take this opportunity to thank everyone for your positive contribution and support in making my dream come true, that is, serving my community. I want this garden to serve as, a place of peace and a place to heal for my people.”

Shandre Davis
Youth Peacemaker

International Women's Day



On March 8, the world commemorates International Women's Day. For WPD South Africa, it was no different. An event was held at the Community Learning Center in Bridgetown and women from various Cape Flats communities were in attendance. The theme for the day was “Break the Bias”. Many of the women in attendance work in Cape Flats communities so they are no strangers to the daily challenges of women in the Cape Flats.

The day focused on celebrating the women for their contribution to society as well as acknowledging that we have a long way to go in terms of seeing equality for women in South Africa. As a country who faces alarmingly high levels of Gender-Based Violence, the day was also used to remember those who had lost their lives to violence. The day brought together many dynamic women who are all in some way making a difference in their communities.

The International Women's Day event has highlighted the pivotal role that women play in society. The critical role they play in creating peaceful and sustainable communities.



It is unfortunate that this is not always recognized, but this event served as a reminder that women will not be deterred from their mission to create a society that is safe for all women and that allows women to be seen as equals.

Testimonials

from Participants

“I am grateful that I got to be part of such a great event. I am inspired by the women who I have interacted with today. Thank you WPDI for this platform for us to engage as women who are leaders.”

Nozipho Bayi

“It is important for us to create spaces like today, that allows women to freely share their views and opinions. This has motivated me to continue fighting for equality for all women. I really enjoyed this and I hope that we will have many more of these interactions that are for women only.”

Tarhira Ely

“Today allowed women from different backgrounds to come together and empower each other to continue breaking the bias and celebrate each other. Thank you WPDI for this opportunity.”

Portia Ngambu





Conclusion

Beyond the individual successes that our beneficiaries and our teams could achieve in 2022, it is notable that the imprint of WPDI has grown significantly across the Cape Flats, as manifest in the various partnerships that we have been able to consolidate and initiate on the ground. The partnership with the City of Cape Town including its Social Development and Early childhood Development and the Government of Western Cape, helped us expand our youth empowerment programs in scope and reach. Throughout the year also, the participation of the community leaders, civic leaders, religious and business leadership has also provided a fertile ground for success in the promotion of peace and sustainable development in South Africa.

After the challenges experienced during the COVID period and in its aftermath, 2022 demonstrates thus that WPDI has nevertheless emerged as a stronger and more effective organization, thanks in large part to the support and the trust we have received from our main partners BNP Paribas, RCS Group and L'Oréal Fund for Women.

Partners



BNP PARIBAS



RCS

BNP PARIBAS GROUP 



**Western Cape
Government**

L'ORÉAL
FUND FOR WOMEN