

NEWSLETTER

Second Edition Vol. 2 2024



ABOUT THE NEWSLETTER

Welcome to our 2nd Edition of 2024 newsletter! Here, we provide updates on our ongoing projects, key achievements, challenges of the Social Employment Fund (SEF) and the Community Work Programme (CWP).

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DEAR THEMBALETHU DEVELOPMENT FOLLOWERS

Welcome to our 2nd Edition, 2024 newsletter. We are pleased to share the journey of Thembaletu Development for the past few months. Over these months, we have witnessed significant advancements across our programmes, driven by our unwavering commitment to community empowerment and sustainable development. From bolstering educational support through reading clubs and sports coaching to expanding our waste management initiatives, each endeavour has contributed to the holistic growth of the communities we serve.

Despite encountering challenges, such as resource constraints and logistical hurdles, we have persevered, guided by our dedication to our mission. Notably, our efforts in the healthcare sector have led to the acquisition of essential skills development packages for community health workers, enhancing the quality of health services within marginalised populations. Additionally, our focus on micro-enterprise development has empowered participants to gain valuable skills and generate income.

Looking ahead, we remain steadfast in our commitment to creating positive change and fostering sustainable development. By leveraging partnerships, embracing innovation, and prioritizing community needs, we are confident in our ability to continue making meaningful strides toward our shared vision of a brighter future for all. Thank you for your ongoing support and collaboration as we embark on this transformative journey together.





EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Transformative Impact:

Thembaletu Development's Journey in Empowering Minds, Healing Communities, and Nurturing a Greener Future

In the past few months, Thembaletu Development has made significant progress across its programmes, spanning education, healthcare, waste management, micro-enterprise development, and community support. Since the beginning of the year, the organisation has remained steadfast in its commitment to empowering communities and fostering sustainable development.



Highlights include the expansion of educational support through initiatives like reading clubs, sports coaching, and teacher/school assistant placements, benefiting over 177,600 learners and 222 early childhood development (ECD) centers. In healthcare, Thembaletu Development has focused on enhancing the capacity of community health workers through the acquisition of essential skills development packages, leading to improved access to quality health services for marginalised populations.

The organisation's waste management initiatives have also seen significant growth, with participants collecting and recycling waste, contributing to environmental sustainability and income generation.

Moreover, micro-enterprise development programme have empowered participants to gain valuable skills and generate income across various sectors.

Through our collective efforts and unwavering commitment, we are not only transforming lives but also building resilient communities that thrive against all odds. Together, we are laying the foundation for a brighter, more sustainable future for generations to come.

MILESTONES

As we navigate through the first half of 2024, Thembaletu Development remains steadfast in its commitment to fostering sustainable growth and positive change. From January to June, our endeavors have yielded significant achievements across various sectors. Let's explore into the highlights of our quarterly progress together.

Participants Engaged in Cleaning and Maintenance at Ithokomeleng Senior Citizens Home

EDUCATION SUPPORT

- Support schools and Early Childhood Development Centres (ECDs) through activities such as teacher assistance, administrative assistance, reading clubs, sports coaching, and food gardens.

FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION

- Establishing and maintenance of community food gardens
- Assisting local feeding schemes and soup chickens with vegetables
- Create opportunities for income generation through vegetables sales.

COMMUNITY HEALTH AND CARE SUPPORT

- Conducting home-based care visits
- Care for the elderly and vulnerable community members
- Conducting awareness campaigns on TB
- Assisting people to have access to healthcare services

ENVIRONMENT AND WASTE MANAGEMENT

- Cleaning of town and communities through waste collection
- Creating opportunities for income generation through recycling of waste
- Engaged in cleaning and decorating of parks and public areas.

MICRO-ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT

- Empowered participants through comprehensive skills training and income-generating opportunities, fostering economic independence and entrepreneurship.
- Create opportunities for income generation from various micro-enterprises, furthering financial stability and self-sufficiency among programme participants.
- Providing technical support to micro-enterprises.

Highlighting Their Creations at the Tembisa Printing and Knitting Shop

Beauty and Spa Shop in Tembisa: A Customer Enjoying a Spa Session

EDUCATION SECTOR

In the realm of education, Themba lethu Development has been a beacon of hope, striving to empower young minds and foster a culture of learning. Through various initiatives, we've aimed to make a meaningful impact on the educational landscape of our communities.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Supported 22 schools and benefiting over 177,600 learners.
- Provided support to 222 Early Childhood Development (ECD) centres, positively impacting 11,499 young children and their families.
- Engaged participants in afterschool programmes, enhancing literacy levels and promoting holistic development.



CHALLENGES

- Limited resources hinder the expansion of educational support programmes to more schools and ECD centres.



ECD Classroom in the Western Cape: Children Engaged in Learning

FOOD AND NUTRITION SECTOR

Recognizing the critical importance of food security and nutrition, Themba lethu Development prioritizes initiatives aimed at improving access to nutritious food and promoting healthy eating habits.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Distributed food parcels to over 1,500 vulnerable households, ensuring access to essential nutrition during times of need.
- Conducted nutrition education sessions, reaching 450 individuals and promoting healthy eating habits and balanced diets.
- Established community gardens, providing fresh produce to 120 families and enhancing food security at the grassroots level.



CHALLENGES

- Limited resources and funding constrain the scale and impact of food distribution and nutrition education programmes.
- Addressing cultural and socioeconomic barriers to adopting healthier eating habits requires tailored interventions and community engagement.



COMMUNITY HEALTH CARE AND SUPPORT SECTOR

In the community health care and support, Themba lethu Development has been at the forefront of providing essential services and support to vulnerable individuals and families. Our goal has been to promote holistic well-being and assist in improving the health conditions for members of our communities.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Conducted over 40,000 home-based care visits
- Over 14,000 elderly and vulnerable community members cared for.
- Conducted awareness campaigns on TB, reaching 301 individuals.
- An average of 2,331 people assisted to have access to healthcare services per month



CHALLENGES

- Limited funding constrains the scale-up of healthcare initiatives and outreach efforts.
- Addressing the diverse healthcare needs of marginalised populations poses logistical and resource challenges.

ITLHOKOMELENG
SENIOR CITIZENS HOME



**PROVIDED WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF
THE ROTARY CLUB OF SANDTON**

SIGNCO

Our Recent Visit to Alexandra's
Ithlalomeleng Senior Citizens Home:
Observing the Daily Impact of Our
Participants

ENVIRONMENT AND WASTE MANAGEMENT SECTOR

In the domain of environment and waste management, Themba lethu Development has been at the forefront of promoting sustainable practices and cleaner communities. Our initiatives focus on fostering environmental stewardship and enhancing the quality of public spaces for all members of our communities. We are dedicated to creating a culture of sustainability through activities that reduce waste, encourage recycling, and beautify public areas.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Participants collected and recycled over 159.57 tons of waste, contributing to cleaner communities.
- An amount of R134,745.46 was generated from recycling of waste
- Engaged in cleaning and enhancing of 262 parks and public areas .



CHALLENGES

- Securing consistent funding for waste management projects
- Addressing logistical challenges in waste collection and recycling efforts
- Ensuring sustained community participation and engagement



MICRO-ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT SECTOR

In our efforts to stimulate economic growth and empower local entrepreneurs, Themba lethu Development remains dedicated to providing training, mentorship, and resources for sustainable livelihoods.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Empowered 317 participants through comprehensive skills, training and income-generating opportunities, fostering economic independence and entrepreneurship.
- Generated over R676,624 in revenue from various micro-enterprises, furthering financial stability and self-sufficiency among programme participants.



CHALLENGES

- Limited access to capital and market opportunities impedes the growth and sustainability of micro-enterprises.
- Providing ongoing support and mentorship to entrepreneurs amidst resource constraints requires innovative solutions.
- Limited resources and low levels of entrepreneurship and management skills

A Participant in Alexandra Demonstrating Her Masterful Sewing Skills



Nail Art in Action: A Micro-Enterprise Serving a Client



EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES: SUPPORT TO LOCAL COMMUNITY BASED ORGANISATION



Nail Art in Action: A Micro-Enterprise
Serving a Client

In May 2024, we hosted a significant technical support workshop in Tembisa Gauteng, bringing together local community-based organizations from both Alexandra and Tembisa. This event focused on enhancing their services and guiding them through the complexities of governance, funding applications, grant management, reporting and compliance. By sharing best practices, we equipped local leaders with the knowledge needed to improve their operations and better serve their communities.

The positive feedback from attendees underscored the significance of such initiatives, demonstrating the power of collaboration and knowledge-sharing.

A shining example of our broader commitment to community development is our collaboration with the Joseph Gerard Foundation. Our youth development programme has significantly enhanced the services provided at their Home for senior citizens. In a heartfelt letter to our Programmes Manager, the Foundation expressed profound gratitude for our invaluable support, which has enriched the lives of the residents and created a nurturing environment that fosters well-being and happiness.

Through these focused initiatives, we are fostering positive change and creating opportunities for growth. Our recent session in Tembisa, along with our ongoing partnerships like the one with the Joseph Gerard Foundation, highlights our dedication to community upliftment. Together, we are transforming lives, building a stronger, more resilient community, and paving the way for a brighter future for generations to come.

COMMUNITY WORK PROGRAMME



Supporting Education: Participants Engaged in Classroom Assistance Activities

Continuing Impactful Initiatives

In April 2024, Thembaletu Development reaffirms its dedication to empowering communities in the Western Cape Province. After successfully concluding the Community Work Programme (CWP) in March 2023, we embarked once again on this transformative journey, appointed by the Department of Corporate Governance and Traditional Affairs (COGTA) to implement the programme. The past year has been a testament to our resilience and adaptability, underscoring the importance of sustainable socio-economic development in the region.



Skill Sharing and Creativity: Sewing Session in the Western Cape

As we embarked on this journey of implementing the CWP, we recognise its pivotal role in providing sustainable employment opportunities across the province. Building on the foundations laid during our previous implementation, our commitment remains steadfast: to harness the CWP as a catalyst for change, driving socio-economic progress and fostering community resilience. With a strong focus on inclusivity and empowerment, our goal is to enable participants to actively contribute to and uplift their local communities, thereby creating lasting positive change.

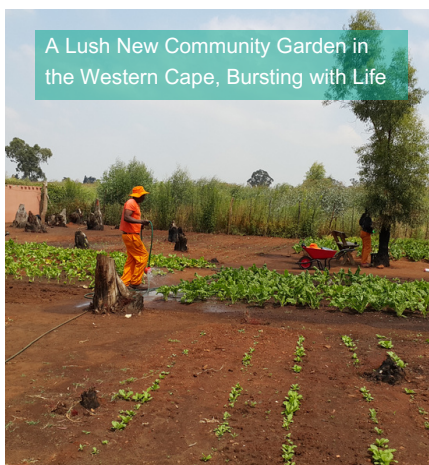
COMMUNITY WORK PROGRAMME (CWP)

Nurturing Growth Through Collaborative Action

In our renewed implementation of the CWP, Themba lethu Development emphasises a collaborative approach, harnessing the strength of participants, site managers, and stakeholders across the Western Cape. Through district-level engagement and community-driven initiatives, we lay a foundation for sustainable development.

Central to our strategy is forging partnerships with district authorities, local organisations, and stakeholders from various sectors to address unemployment challenges effectively and promote social cohesion within communities. By leveraging local knowledge and expertise, we tailor our interventions to meet the specific needs of each locality, ensuring that our efforts are impactful and sustainable.

As we navigate the complexities of post-pandemic recovery, our commitment to driving positive change remains steadfast. We are dedicated to creating opportunities for meaningful employment and economic empowerment, contributing to the overall socio-economic stability of the region. Through collaborative efforts and inclusive decision-making processes, we strive to build resilient communities where every individual can thrive and contribute to a prosperous future.



Driving Innovation and Adaptability

As we navigate the post-pandemic landscape, innovation and adaptability are key to our success. Drawing on lessons learned from previous implementations, we embrace new technologies and methodologies to enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of the CWP. From digital platforms for remote monitoring to tailored training programmes designed to equip participants with relevant skills, we leverage innovation to maximize the impact of our interventions. By staying agile and responsive to evolving needs, we remain committed to driving positive change and unlocking the full potential of the CWP.

Investing in People, Building Futures

At the heart of the CWP are the individuals whose lives are transformed through meaningful work and economic empowerment. By investing in people and providing opportunities for personal and professional growth, we lay the foundation for brighter futures and sustainable livelihoods. Through skills development initiatives, financial literacy training, and mentorship programs, we empower participants to take ownership of their destinies and pursue their aspirations. As we embark on this journey of empowerment and transformation, we remain steadfast in our commitment to building a more inclusive and prosperous future for all.

Achievements

- Actual work opportunities created: 15,360 (87.8%)
- Accumulated work opportunities created: 18,531 (105.9%)
- Actual workdays expended (March 2024): 1,708,854 (89.9%)





Nurturing Life and Sustainability: A Vibrant Community Garden in the Western Cape

RECOGNITION AND GRATITUDE

Thembaletu Development extends heartfelt gratitude to the Industrial Development Corporation (IDC), the Social Employment Fund (SEF), and the Department of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs (COGTA) for their unwavering support, which has been pivotal to our community initiatives. Through our collaborative efforts with these esteemed organisations, we have significantly expanded our reach and enhanced the impact of our programs, positively impacting the communities we serve. We deeply appreciate the continued dedication and partnership of IDC, SEF, and COGTA, whose support has been instrumental in driving positive change and fostering community development.

In addition to our esteemed partners, we acknowledge the invaluable contributions of our local partners, whose commitment and collaboration have been essential to the success of our initiatives. Together, we have formed a strong network of support, working tirelessly to address the needs of our communities and creating opportunities for growth and empowerment. As we look to the future, we remain committed to fostering collaboration and partnership, guided by the belief that together, we can continue to make a meaningful and lasting impact in the lives of individuals and communities alike.



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