

UYINENE MRWETYANA FOUNDATION

THE YEAR OF DEVELOPING YOUNG BOYS TO BE RESPONSIBLE MEN

"Towards a society free of GBVF"

ANNUAL REPORT 2023

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1. MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

As we strive for a society free from Gender-Based Violence and Femicide (GBVF) in South Africa, during the year 2023the Foundation stood by its commitment to ensuring a society that is free of GBVF. The Foundation continued implementing programmes that challenged harmful norms, promoting education and prevention of GBVF in our society. As we reflect on 2023, the year dedicated to developing young boys into responsible men, let's celebrate our strides towards a society free from GBVF. Our commitment to instilling values of respect and empathy in these young minds is a powerful step toward breaking the cycle. Let's continue shaping a future where our efforts today blossom into a safer, more compassionate tomorrow. In the face of rising crime statistics in South Africa, our annual report highlights our unwavering commitment to combating this perilous crime of GBVF.

As we conclude the year 2023 and the 16 Days of Activism, the Uyinene Mrwetyana Foundation remains committed to combating Gender-Based Violence & Femicide (GBVF) and fostering a culture of respect and equality. While we celebrate the recent culmination of the 16 Days campaign, we now extend a challenge to South Africa: let us not confine our activism to specific dates but view every day as an essential part of the ongoing fight against GBVF. There is a pressing need for sustained efforts and a shift in mindset. We urge individuals and communities to engage in ongoing conversations about attitudes, culture, and the root causes of GBVF. We should not restrict our fight against GBVF to just 16 days; rather, we



must be intentional about addressing these issues every single day. Culture, patriarchy, and misogyny play significant roles in perpetuating GBVF, and it is imperative that we proactively challenge these norms regularly. The Foundation calls for a paradigm shift, advocating for monthly themes to maintain focus on GBVF prevention and education throughout the year. We aim to encourage individuals to be part of the solution, fostering change through sustained efforts. While we operate with a dedicated group of voluntary young professionals, we acknowledge the need for increased capacity and funding to expand our impact. The Uyinene Mrwetyana Foundation aspires to reach more communities, particularly in rural areas, and welcomes any collaboration and support to amplify our reach. Together, let us embrace the challenge to rethink activism beyond 16 days, committing ourselves to a continuous and unwavering fight against gender-based violence and femicide.

Nomangwane Mrwetyana

2 INTRODUCTION

This overview report illuminates the strides made in the past year, the challenges and the collective impact of our relentless pursuit to eradicate Gender-Based Violence and Femicide (GBVF). In 2023, the Uyinene Mrwetyane Foundation's (UMF) focus on developing young boys into responsible men centred on character building, leadership skills and emotional intelligence. Through tailored programmes, we aimed to instil values and empathy and to create a generation of young people ready to navigate challenges with honour and compassion. The Foundation continued to provide interventions that are aligned to its strategic goals, Prevention & Awareness, Support and Youth Development. Below is an outline of the programmes the Foundation embarked on to continue with its mandate of combating the scourge of GBVF whilst keeping the legacy of Uyinene Mrwetyana.





3. UYINENE MRWETYANA ANNUAL LECTURE

The Uyinene Mrwetyana Foundation (UMF) 3rd Uyinene Mrwetyana's parents, accompanied by Annual Lecture was held on 3 April 2023 at Kingswood College. The purpose of the lecture was to commemorate the life of Uyinene Mrwetyana. It was also aimed at amplifying the 2023 theme of the Foundation that sought to develop young boys into responsible citizens. Kingswood College and the UMF once again affirmed their commitment to continue to partner together and, where possible, work collaboratively to educate pupils and the broader community on gender-based violence and how to challenge the status quo in such a way that helps bring meaningful change to society. In keeping with the Foundation's theme for 2023, the lecture mainly focused on boys' mental health. Mr Siswana, a Clinical Psychologist, delivered the keynote address. He psycho-educated the boys on their mental health and well-being. He spoke about what reimagining socialisation could mean for our society. This included challenging the cultural norms that seek to perpetuate misogyny and patriarchy in our society. The UMF Board and Advisory Board Members were present at the lecture. The Rhodes University Student Representative Council, led by their President, Ms Avuxeni Dyala also represented the Rhodes University students.

family members, also graced the lecture with their presence. Uyinene's uncle Mr Thembelani Mrwetyana shared heart-warming words of gratitude on behalf of the family to everyone for the continued support and for keeping Uyinene's legacy alive.





UYINENE MRWETYANA ANNUAL COMMEMORATIVE LECTURE

MONDAY 3 APRIL 2023 | TIME : 07H30

Speaker: Mr Anele Siswana (M.A. Clin. Psych)

Theme: "Developing the boy child to be a responsible man: Your mental health matters"



Mr Siswana delivering the keynote speech at the annual commemoration lecture



The UMF team and the Rhodes University SRC



ensure a society that is safe and free of GBVF.

Induction of Sakhikamva High School GBV Ambassadors 4.1 & Consent Dialogue

The Foundation approached Sakhikamva High School based at Nompumelelo Township, East London to be part of the youth development programme. Twenty Grade 10 learners volunteered to be part of the programme. On the 1st of June 2023, the Foundation hosted an induction session with the learners. The purpose of the session was to orientate the learners about the Foundation and what the Youth Development Programme is all about. They were also educated on what consent entails, where Ms Gwambe from the University of Fort Hare (UFH) facilitated the sexual consent dialogue with the learners. The learners showed eagerness and expressed their commitment to play a leading role in combating GBVF in their school and community at large. The Foundation finished the session by presenting dignity packs to these learners. The Head of the school expressed his appreciation for this partnership.



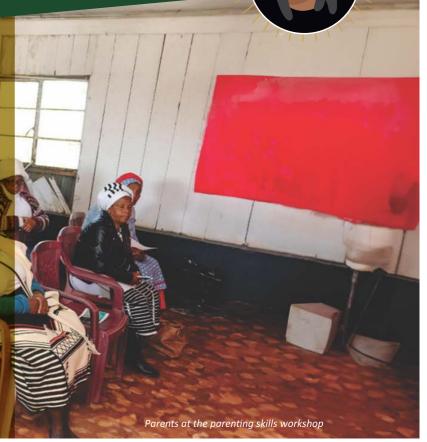
4.2 Launch of the Uyinene Mrwetyana Football Club

In line with the theme of developing the boy child into a responsible man, the Foundation established the Uyinene Mrwetyana Sports & Development Programme. In its initial phase, the Foundation aims to start by focusing on soccer and later expand by including more sporting codes like netball. The soccer club seeks to build a sustainable programme to develop young boys into responsible, ethical, compassionate men. The main objective is to use sport as a vehicle to promote social change, build physical wellness, develop life skills and ethical values like teamwork, communication, leadership skills, respect and empathy, and Career Development. The programme targets young boys between the ages of eight and sixteen. A total of 48 young boys were recruited from Qina Location by word of mouth and by partnering and collaborating with the local traditional authorities and parents. The Uyinene Mrwetyana Football Club was launched on the 10th of June 2023 at Qina Location, Centane. In the quest to capacitate the boys' parents on how to socialize with the boy child in the 21st century, a parenting skills workshop was also held on the day of the club's launch.



4.2.1 Parenting Skills Workshop

A Parenting Skills Workshop was held with the parents of the young men who signed up to be part of the Football Club. The workshop was held on the morning of the day of the launch. The aim of the workshop was to capacitate the parents with parenting skills in the 21st century. Ms Thobeka Msengana, a board member of the foundation and counselling psychologist, facilitated the workshop. Approximately forty parents braved the chilly weather and filled the Qina Methodist Church to attend the workshop. The workshop was a great success; parents engaged with the topic and participated fully and the parents recommended a follow-up session.





4.2.2 TheCeremony of the launch of the Uyinene Mrwetyana Football Club

Approximately four hundred community members filled the Qina Sports Field marquee to celebrate the Football Club's launch. In attendance were UMF Advisory Board Members, the Mrwetyana family, Heads of the neighbouring schools, Mnquma Municipality representatives, Local Traditional Authority, parents, and teachers. The purpose of the team and what it seeks to achieve was outlined by Ms Nomoyi, a Foundation's Advisory Board member. She emphasized the importance of developing young men holistically by providing them with life skills that will assist them in becoming responsible men. All parties present pledged their support for this initiative.

Mr Sibusiso Zuma, the former Bafana Bafana National and FC Copenhagen player delivered a moving and encouraging keynote address. He spoke about his own humble journey in sport. He said discipline and dedication helped him to reach his dream of becoming a professional soccer player at national and international levels. Exciting traditional dance and songs from the youth and the community also characterized the event. The unveiling of the logo and the kit took place at the end of the event. Advocate Khanyile, an Advisory Board Member led the teams in pledging their commitment to the values of the Foundation.









4.3 Recruitment of 2023 YDP Members The Foundation recruited legrners from four high

learners from four high schools in the Eastern Cape to be Gender Based Violence Ambassadors at their respective schools. A total of fifty Grade 10 learners from Gobe High School, J.J. Njeza High School, Nathaniel Pamla and Sakhikamva High School signed up to be part of the programme













4.4The YDP Imbizo Development Programme



On the 29th July 2023, The Uyinene Mrwetyana Foundation hosted fifty | YDP members from our four Eastern Cape partner schools for the 1st Uyinene Mrwetyana Youth Imbizo. Topics covered included: challenges facing the youth of South Africa, leaderships skills, GBV & Gender Norms and Mental Health. A participatory approach was undertaken to encourage robust dialogue and engagement. After a day-long engagement, the learners drafted intervention strategies they ca implement to mitigate challenges faced by learners in their respective schools. For example, one school developed a reporting system for bullying. The facilitators and the teachers are commended for ensuring the success of this day. More events of this nature are suggested.











In September 2023, the Foundation explored the question of whether inequality and GBVF are part of our heritage. The Youth Development Programme (YDP) members from our four partner schools in the Eastern Cape, were asked to answer the question: How can the continued culture of undermining women be eradicated in our society? Participants were invited to express their answers in various categories (essay, poem, song, dance, etc.) and in the language of their choice. The prize for the best school was R5000. The individual prizes were R2000 for first place, R1500 for 2nd place and R1000 for third place in any category. The results of the competition were as follows:

WINNER (SCHOOL): This award went to Nathaniel Pamla High School

Essay Category: In this category the winners were:

- Position 1: Chumani Mashiqana: Nathaniel Pamla High School
- Position 2: Esinako Mrwetyana: Nathaniel Pamla High School
- **Position 3:** Kantolo Mbali: Gobe Commercial High School





POETRY CATEGORY: All winners were from Nathaniel Pamla High School and were:

-Position 1: Indiphile Ndwayana-Position 2: Mbali-Entle Tungu

-Position 3: Hlumelo Gad

The Cheque Handover Ceremony at Nathaniel Pamla High School





A cheque handover ceremony was held on the 17th of October 2023, at Nathaniel Pamla High School in Peddie. The ceremony used a platform to reveal the results and acknowledge those who won. The learners and teachers were very excited and grateful for the gesture from the Foundation. The Foundation also handed over dignity packs that it received from the Diocesan School for Girls (DSG). Congratulations to Nathaniel Pamla High School and all the winners, we are hoping to see this initiative grow.

5 PREVENTION & AWARENESS CAMPAIGNS



5 .1 Awareness about Human Rights

The Month of March marks the commemoration of Human Rights in South Africa. During the month of March 2023, the Foundation asked the question whether "It is really Happy Human Rights Month". The purpose of this commentary was to raise awareness about human rights. The Foundation sought to answer the question by reflecting on some of the strides made in GBVF and some of the challenges that are still experienced by women, children and the vulnerable. What was saddening was to see how the statistics related to GBVF continue to increase in South Africa. The conclusion was that it cannot be a happy human rights month when the rights of others continue to be violated.



5.2The 2^d Annual Uyinene Mrwetyana GBV Unity Walk

On 19 August 2023, the Foundation hosted the 2nd Annual Uyinene Mrwetyana Foundation Unity Walk in East London at the Beacon Bay Country Club. The event was aimed at raising awareness about GBVF and to remind the community about support services. Over four hundred community members, including various civic organizations, local University students, high school learners, local political parties and members of the public, attended the walk. The keynote speakers included; Mr Petros Majola, who did not mince his words whilst calling out men to stop this perilous crime against women and children. Condemning this scourge, Mr Themba Masango, the co-founder of the Not in My Name Movement, encouraged young boys to be better men. A message to Institutions of Higher Learning and Youth was delivered by Ms Nonhlanhla Moyo, the University of Fort Hare Anti-Harassment Director.

Counsellor Helen Neal May represented the Buffalo City Executive Mayor and spoke about support services in Buffalo City. The Uyinene Mrwetyana Football Club had a friendly soccer game against the Carlos Soccer Youth Development AcademyOn the 26th of August 2023, the Uyinene Mrwetyana Foundation in collaboration with the University of Cape Town (UCT), hosted the Uyinene Mrwetyana Foundation Anti-GBV Unity Walk in Cape Town. The walk commenced from Uyinene's former residence, Roscommon to the Clareinch Post Office. The walk aimed to bring back the GBVF conversation to the table. Over 800 people, including the UCT community, university students from neighbouring institutions, NGOs and the greater community attended the walk. The UCT Deputy Vice Chancellor of Transformation, Professor Elelwani Ramugondo delivered a heartfelt welcome and purpose of the day. The Ward Councillor of ward 51, Langa for Men, UCT students called out men and invited the to be actively involved in the fight against GBVF. Dr Nomafrench Mbombo, Provincial Minister of the Department of Health, the UCT SRC President, Ms Dube, and Ms Kwinana who represented the office of the Deputy Minister of Higher Education also addressed the crowd.





Anti-GBVF Unity Walk





On 26 August 2023, the Uyinene Mrwetyana Foundation in collaboration with the University of Cape Town (UCT) hosted the Uyinene Mrwetyana Foundation Anti-GBV Unity Walk in Cape Town. The walk commenced from Uyinene's former residence Roscommon to the Clareinch Post Office. The aim of the walk was to bring back the GBV agenda to the table. Over 800 people, including the UCT community, University students from neighbouring institutions, NGOs and the greater community attended the walk. The UCT Deputy Vice Chancellor of Transformation, Professor Elelwani Ramugondo delivered a heartfelt welcoming and purpose of the day. THE Ward Councillor of Ward 51, Langa for Men, UCT students called out men to be actively involved in the fight against GBV. Dr. Nomafrench Mbombo, Provincial Minister of Department of Health, the UCT SRC President, Ms. Dube, and Ms. Kwinana who represented the office of the Deputy Minister of Higher Education also addressed the crowd.





The Cape Town Uyinene Mrwetyana Anti- GBVF Unity Walk (cont)





6. PSYCHO-SOCIAL SUPPORT

The Foundation partnered with the UFH Counselling Unit in providing psycho-social support to survivors of GBVF and their families. Ms Gwambe, an Intern Counselling Psychologist was placed at the Foundation's office to provide this service, both face to face and virtual counselling was made available. On the 31th of March 2023, the UMF handed over 300 dignity packs to the UFH first-year students. This initiative was aimed at providing support to first-year students who need such help. Present was the UMF team, Ms Msengana: Manager Student Counselling Unit, the University of Fort Hare SRC President, Ms Mbalo and Dr Oelofsen the former Interim Director GBV Prevention and first-year students. Ms Mbalo thanked the Foundation on behalf of UFH students, shhe expressed her appreciation for this partnership and shared how the passing of Uyinene assisted them to initiate the development of a GBV policy at their University.



The SRC President addressing the UMF Team







The Foundation wishes to express its gratitude to all our partners for their support in 2023.

A special thank you to:

- 1. J.J. Njeza High School
- 2. Nathaniel Pamla High School
- 3. Gobe Commercial High School
- 4. Sakhikamva High School
- 6. MultiChoice
- 7. Masimanyane International Women's' Rights
- 9. Sibusiso Zuma Foundation
- 10. SPAR South Africa
- 11. University of Fort Hare
- 12. Rhodes University
- 13. University of Cape Town
- 14. Keith Ngesi Media
- 15. Not in My Name
- 16. Khula Community Development Project
- 14. All Individuals & Families



TOGETHER IN RESTORING **HUMANITY**



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