



ANNUAL REPORT

2023/24

**AMANDLA COMMUNITY EDUCATION
DEVELOPMENT NPC**



MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



2023–2024 was an exciting period for Amandla in many ways. We strengthened our cradle-to-career support structures through key partnerships, as well as began initiatives to improve our sustainability. Of course, because partnerships and ensuring our youth are cared for every step along the way are in our DNA, and so all of these activities are linked.

Not only did Amandla increase the number of youth we worked with, we were able to increase the number and quality of health services provided directly through our Safe Spaces. We also expanded our entry points into our programmes from 12 schools and our five spaces to include an additional 36 schools and much wider community outreach. This increase in the ways in which youth can find us and link to the breadth of supports we and our partners offer is absolutely crucial in meeting the needs of the most vulnerable.

Those young people not in education, employment, or training (NEETs) are widely acknowledged to be those most at risk of never meeting their full potential. Our expanded community outreach is a critical means of finding them and letting them know that they're cared for by linking them to practical resources to complete their education, find work, and access other services they may need.



MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Amandla itself also grew. We saw our staff compliment increase to over 200. As we work towards scaling our impact on the youth we serve, Amandla is also providing jobs for many people from the community where we work, also building the economic security of local families and increasing the investment individuals have in the success of their home.

Then we also forged partnerships in South Africa and abroad as we partnered with the Dutch Foreign Ministry and local green energy companies to develop the concept of a solar maintenance and installation training academy. This is an especially exciting development for several reasons. Firstly, the youth unemployment rate has been so high for so long, and this academy is a means of creating jobs. Second, these jobs are in a growth sector of the economy whose impact will be felt across the country as we aim to accelerate the green energy transition.

It has been really gratifying to see Amandla's ethos of co-creation play out in a way that creates financial sustainability for us through this business model, and that also contributes even more to the career end of our cradle-to-career model. It hasn't all been perfect, though.

We continue to fight persistent problems like gender-based violence, which sees so many young women and queer people victimised by misogynistic attitudes that demand subservience to dangerously limited expectations about gender roles.

This is a fight that affects everything we do, because it limits the opportunities of so many of the youth we work with. But it's not a fight we're giving up on any time soon. I'm really proud of the work of the Amandla team and the resilience and focus of the youth we serve. These young people face trials every day that would make many of us give up, and yet they don't.

That keeps us motivated to stick with them all the way on their journey. We're further grateful to our supporters around the world who make possible our work with these youth who are leaders of South Africa today and tomorrow. This report outlines some of the key ways in which our work has grown, and we're excited to share it with you.

Best,

Scott Clarke



BOARD MEMBERS

AMANDLA
DEVELOPMENT

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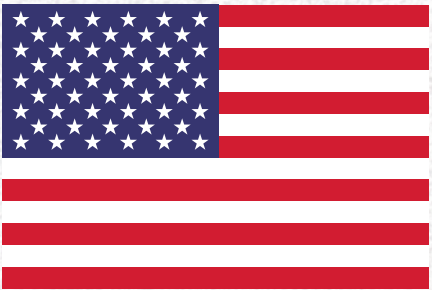


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2023 TO 2024 IN NUMBERS



60,000+
Young people accessed HIV testing services



92%
of Adolescent and Young Persons (AYP) and 52% of Male Sexual Partners (MSPs) diagnosed HIV+ were initiated on Anti-retroviral Therapy (ART)



1,020
AYPs initiated on Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP)



532
young people accessed psychosocial support, sexual health education, and Gender-Based Violence referrals.



FROM CRADLE TO CAREER



At the heart of Amandla's mission is ending the crisis of school dropout. While improving the quality of instruction is important, it's not enough. The reasons learners drop out are complex—ranging from HIV and gender-based violence to poverty, poor mental health, and low literacy and numeracy levels. Addressing this crisis means addressing the full range of barriers that prevent a child from staying in school.

That's why Amandla exists—to ensure cradle-to-career support by coordinating a network of community organisations, government departments, and schools. Though our activities differ we are united by a shared responsibility: to see every young person in Philippi and Mitchells Plain thrive and complete their education journey.



In 2023 and 2024, this approach showed its strength.

Through our Cradle-to-Career support network, Amandla worked with schools and early learning centres to improve literacy, also launching reading clubs and parent workshops that helped younger learners build strong foundations in reading.

Across our sites, we saw promising improvements in literacy and school engagement.

Our community report cards showed an improvement in grade three literacy and numeracy levels from 47.9% to 52% and 60.6% to 63.3% between 2019 and 2024.



We also deepened our health interventions, recognising how physical and mental health are closely tied to educational success. Over 60,000 young people accessed HIV testing services through our Safe Spaces and community teams. Those who were diagnosed HIV+ were linked to **antiretroviral therapy (ART)**, and those diagnosed HIV- were recommended **pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP)**.

A total of 92% of **adolescent and young persons (AYPs)** and 52% **male sexual partners (MSPs)** newly diagnosed for HIV+ were initiated on ART. Further, a total of 1 020 AYPs were initiated on PrEP as part of ensuring that prevention against HIV is key in our interventions.

Our Safe Spaces continued to serve as vital hubs for psychosocial support with 532 youths accessing psychosocial support services, sexual health education, and **gender-based violence (GBV)** referrals—ensuring that youth had access to trusted adults and safe, supportive environments.

This report highlights just a few key accomplishments from the past year. But it also makes clear how far we still have to go—and just how urgent this work remains.

Every child deserves the chance to complete their education. And with continued commitment, partnership, and action, we believe we can get there.



RESOURCE ACCESS PROGRAMME



The Resource Access Programme (RAP) continued to be a critical pillar in supporting learners' ability to stay in school, particularly in high-risk communities like Lower Crossroads.

Despite a significant rise in crime in the area—leading to increased fear and disengagement among youth—RAP succeeded in creating safe, consistent support structures within schools through the strategic placement of local 15 Peer Mentors, 48 Care Support Assistants (CSAs) and 6 Champions.

The programme connected learners and families with the help they needed—be it transport, counselling, or referral to social services. These small but critical interventions helped more than 7,000 learners overcome immediate barriers to staying in school.

None of this would be possible without the Community Solutions model, which brought together over 60 organisations in Philippi and Mitchells Plain. Through shared data and coordinated strategies, these partners were able to respond quicker, solve problems together, and ensure that no child fell through the cracks.



These Peer Mentors and Care Support Assistants not only provided a sense of safety and encouragement, but also helped learners navigate daily challenges that often lead to school dropout. As a result, schools involved in the programme saw an increase in school retention with 17 new moms and 32 learners supported to return to school, and no learner dropouts recorded among RAP-supported youth since the start of the year.

Through regular mentoring sessions and school-based support, RAP also contributed to a noticeable reduction in learner pregnancies from 43 in 2023 down to 14 this period reinforcing the programme's broader impact on long-term educational outcomes.

Mentoring sessions increased month by month, as learners grew more engaged and began to view mentors as trusted sources of guidance and support. At the beginning of the year, RAP encountered behavioural resistance from some learners, including aggressive reactions to discipline.

However, as mentors continued to show care and consistency, those same learners responded positively—demonstrating improved behaviour, respect for mentors, and renewed focus on their studies.



Equally significant was the strengthening of partnerships between Amandla and participating schools. School leadership increasingly recognised the value of RAP mentors as an integral part of the learner support ecosystem.

This collaboration ensured that learners not only had access to immediate resources like food, uniforms, and psychosocial support, but also benefited from a stable, responsive presence within their learning environment.

Despite external challenges, RAP's ability to connect youth with the support they need—while reinforcing positive behaviour and encouraging school attendance—has made it a powerful driver of educational resilience in vulnerable communities.



COMMUNITY SOLUTIONS



The Community Solutions (CS) Programme continued to play a vital role in coordinating the **Philippi Collective Network (PCN)**, a collaboration of over 60 community-based organisations, government departments, and schools.

This network ensures that essential services are not only offered, but are also meaningfully accessible, coordinated, and delivered with the consistency and quality that bring meaningful change.

Through this collective effort, Amandla supported the growth and effectiveness of Safe Spaces across Philippi—youth-centred environments that offer holistic, integrated services focused on the real barriers to education and well-being.

These Safe Spaces serve as vital hubs where youth can access Sexual and Reproductive Health services, Gender-Based Violence (GBV) prevention and support, academic support, and Work Readiness programming. In 2024 alone, our Safe Spaces reached 60,000 youth, building on the 45,000 served in 2023.

This scale of reach is made possible through a robust, community-rooted infrastructure that brings support to where youth are.

To address the complex dynamics of GBV, Amandla expanded programming with male sexual partners to understand and shift the behaviours that lead to intimate partner violence.

This focus on transformation has contributed to a significant drop in reported GBV cases—from 778 in 2023 to 321 in 2024. Campaign awareness and dialogues targeting men on toxic masculinity and challenges to communities in general contributed to more men and boys becoming protectors of women and girls and the communities.

Amandla also strengthened its support for Adolescents and Young People (AYP) through biomedical health services in its programming. This includes access to Antiretroviral Therapy (ART), PrEP, birth control, and counselling, delivered through teams that now include nurses, linkage officers, and trained counsellors.

The introduction of these services has helped raise confidence in our services to 87% from 61% in the previous year.

We also increased female financial independence and agency among 27 participants through business support.

On the economic empowerment front, 2024 saw 1,984 young people trained to access job opportunities, affirming the role of Safe Spaces not just in protection and care, but also in equipping youth with the tools for long-term stability.

These achievements reflect the power of collective action. Through the Philippi Collective Network, Amandla ensures that community services are not fragmented or duplicated, but coordinated to deliver maximum impact, with learners and young people at the centre of it all.



FINANCIAL OVERVIEW



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Figures in Rands	2024	2023
Grants and Donations Received	29,498,333.00	14,361,569.00
Other Income	-	-
Operating Expenses	(28,719,191.00)	(14,362,447.00)
Operating Surplus	779,142.00	(878.00)
Investment Income	120,570.00	92,338.00
Surplus for the year	899,712.00	91,460.00
Total Surplus for the year	899,712.00	91,460.00

KEY ORGANISATIONAL DETAILS

AMANDLA
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