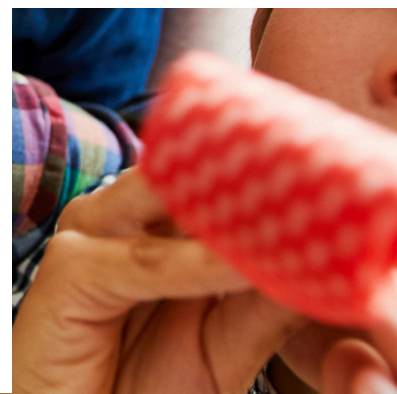


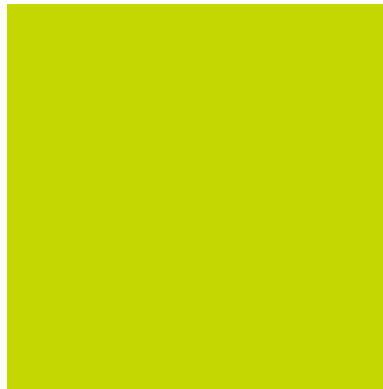


MATLA A BANA
a voice against child abuse

ANNUAL REPORT 2023/24

COMING OF AGE





WHAT WE DID THIS YEAR

4

Child-friendly facilities in two provinces opened or upgraded.

100

Police officers, sexual offences prosecutors, medical practitioners, and trauma counsellors in two provinces trained in essential skills, and debriefed.

4 333

Comfort packs for children who have been raped or sexually assaulted, supplied to police stations in six provinces.

23 000

Children in four provinces reached with our anti-bullying child protection school program.

35 000+

Children impacted with ongoing projects.

LEADING OUR TEAM

BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

Annora Mostert, Pastor Ndaba Mazabane

Monique Strydom, Alice Pretorius, Professor Corné Davis, Esmé Ehlers

Advocate Veerash Srikison, Absa Trust

OPERATING TEAM :

Lizel Van Eeden, Sandra Nieuwenhuizen

BOARD OF TRUSTEES



CEO REPORT

21: COMING OF AGE

Turning 21 is a significant milestone for people and organisations alike.

For a charity, it is a profound moment of reflection and celebration, marking over two decades of commitment to a cause. Just as 21 denotes a transformation from childhood to adolescence to adulthood, a charity organisation's 21st anniversary signifies the maturation of its mission, the increase of its impact, and the evolution of its role in the community.

At this juncture, it is therefore fitting that we should take a moment to reflect and reassess our mission. To refine our goals, and identify new ways to deal with the root causes of the issues Matla A Bana (MAB) seeks to address: responding to a crisis (that of child rape and sexual abuse), and prevention by teaching children to protect themselves. It's an opportunity to learn from our past and chart a course for sustainable, future growth and deeper engagement with those it serves.

Matla A Bana was the response to a calling received while held hostage in the Philippine jungle at the hands of a hostile enemy. It took two years to formulate our mission, and on 27 August 2002, exactly two years after release from captivity, the Callie & Monique Trust was registered - and MAB its only beneficiary. Through its 21 years, Matla A Bana Trust (now so named), successfully navigated immense challenges and transformation. We started off in a small home office focusing on supporting child victims at the nine (then called) Child Protection Units in Gauteng, South Africa. We had no experience, no track record, no infrastructure and no funding. But we had purpose! So we forged ahead and developed projects from scratch while also building trust with a new, very complex and ambiguous network of key stakeholders - including local, provincial and national government, and the South African Police Services.

MAB outlived the tenure of many a general and commissioner. We witnessed the decentralisation of the child protection units and had to rededicate ourselves to the cause and start over by finding and (re)connecting with the child protection detectives now assimilated into local police stations. And who can forget the 2008 economic downturn that saw us relinquishing our offices and retrenching most staff? Afterwards, only the truly dedicated few stayed to work as funding permits.

Today, MAB's national footprint enables it to respond to similar challenges victims and police face in all nine provinces.

A due diligence report commissioned by Old Mutual Staff Volunteer Fund Trust stated that Rand for Rand invested, Matla A Bana has over achieved. This is a testament to our commitment to ensure that funding is going where it is needed.



CEO REPORT (continued)

21: COMING OF AGE

The signing of the third extension of the a 5-year Memorandum of Understanding Agreement with the national office of the South African Police Services in the beginning of 2024, testifies of MAB's value and impact - and distinguishes us as a major role-player in the child protection sector.

Admittedly, it is difficult to measure our projects' impact. However, MAB has established itself as a respected, award-winning organisation. Winning the Old Mutual Partnership Awards in 2020 (NGO Division), the Unashamedly Ethical Award, as well as numerous other recognitions. Additionally, individual team members were recognised by Rotary International (Paul Harris Award), Lions (Hero of the year Award) and Gauteng Givers Award (Gauteng Social Development). Our project partnership with the University of Johannesburg saw our students winning an AMASA award, and three of our trustees were recognised for their service in their respective fields. Monique Strydom was nominated as a finalist in the Santam Women of the Future (Social Entrepreneur), Professor Davis was the winner of the 2023 Woman of Stature Award (South Africa) for her work in addressing gender-based violence (GBV), and Advocate Srikison won the WONE Global Award for outstanding achievement in the field of law. (Her company, Fair Practice, also won the category of Best Mediation Firm of the Year in the South African Prestige Awards 2022/2023.)

Matla A Bana opened more than 45 child-friendly reporting facilities across South Africa where thousands of victims were - and still are - being helped. We trained thousands of police officers, sexual offences prosecutors, and medical practitioners in the essential skills needed to work with GBV victims. We reached close to a 100 000 children with our school education project, and mobilised thousands of volunteers and companies to pack emergency comfort packs. Many of our volunteers also hosted successful fundraising and award-winning awareness projects - including the Xtreme for Kids Cycle Tour (of which the 10th tour will take place in 2025).

The secret of our success? Our continued connection with the communities we serve. We know their challenges and understand their needs - making it possible to be relevant and effective. There is a MAB presence at police stations throughout South Africa where the highest incidences of rape are reported. We created child-friendly facilities at the SAPS FCS units at Kraaifontein, Delft, Khayelitsha and Tembisa, supplied comfort packs to these units, and trained many detectives as well as forensic workers, based at these units. We trained officers in KwaZulu Natal (Inanda, Umlazi and Empangeni), the Eastern Cape (Lusikisiki and Mthatha) and Limpopo (Thohoyandou), as well as supplied Survival Guides (therapy guides for children) and comfort packs to all of these stations.

Even before the Covid-19 Pandemic lockdown in South Africa was officially enforced, our volunteers were making and distributing masks to officers of the law. Our anti-bullying program has been an effective response to the reported increase of bullying after lockdown was lifted. We also done once-off projects like the implementation of a separate container wing at Vredendal Hospital for rape and abuse victims to have a safe space when visiting the hospital. Our Victim Support project, where we assist child victims and families, is not listed under our official projects. It is a free service where we have helped and guided many families throughout the year to report crimes.



CEO REPORT (continued)

21: COMING OF AGE

The celebration of our 21st anniversary signals an expansion of our influence. Matla A Bana managed to develop sustainable strategic partnerships (with government, civil society, community groups and other NGOs). We have indeed become the voice for many abused children by establishing a voice in the public sphere and doing groundbreaking work.

We garnered a loyal base of supporters (volunteers, donors, and partners) whose continued investment and trust enable the organisation to extend its reach. With a stable foundation in place, we are able to not only implement our projects nationally but also work closely with international partners in Mauritius. These partnerships and collaborations have broadened our impact and helped to secure a place as a key player in the non-profit sector.

Just as a young person faces challenges on their coming-of-age journey, Matla A Bana at 21, also had to face setbacks and difficulties. The greatest challenge being the funding shortfall that renders us unable to respond to the ever growing greater need. During the last few years we have increasingly seen companies develop internal CSI projects or departments, channeling funding away from existing, impactful projects. And then there is the demoralising failure of criminal and judicial systems that leave the public, officers of the law and our staff with shouldering an almost insurmountable burden. However, these setbacks have made us resilient and has become a testament to our strength, adaptability, and determination to fulfil our mission.

Over the years, Matla A Bana has learned valuable lessons about sustainability - both in terms of financial health and in terms of the organisational structure. The decision in 2008 to have no full time staff but rather to contract staff per project, was criticised by many in the NGO sector as a model that is not sustainable. However, it ensured that we could weather the economic difficulty we faced - and still face today - with a decrease of funds for the NGO sector in South Africa. A strong and very supportive Board of Trustees, loyal contractors and the ability to mobilise volunteers has resulted in the creation of a network of caring individuals committed to advancing MAB's goals and ensuring its longevity.

Our organisation's ability to overcome challenges and emerge stronger is a key part of its coming-of-age narrative. It demonstrates a commitment to its cause and the recognition that while obstacles are inevitable, they do not define us. Instead, it is our capacity to adapt, innovate, and remain focused on its mission that shapes our legacy. This 21st anniversary is an opportunity to celebrate not only the progress Matla A Bana made but also the work that remains and the impact we will have on the lives of many. We will continue to engage with the community and reflect on the ways who we can continue to meet the needs of the most vulnerable.

We will stay true to our calling of NEVER, NEVER, NEVER GIVING UP and bringing hope to many children who are abused and raped.

Monique Strydom

Founder



TESTIMONY



NELSON MANDELA FOUNDATION

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

We got to know Monique Strydom (together with her husband Callie), in 2000 as one of the 21 hostages who were kidnapped from a holiday resort in Malaysia and held hostage for 4 months by Muslim extremists.

During their time in captivity, Callie and Monique displayed incredible courage under the most testing circumstances. They made all of us as South Africans proud for the manner in which they conducted themselves. One outstanding feature of that episode that will remain in our memory is the way in which South Africans rallied around this couple. Their story was followed with an intense interest and concern by the whole nation as if they were relatives of all of us. It took this moment of personal suffering and danger to starkly remind us again that we are one people with a common destiny and common responsibility to care for and about each other. The national mood of a common patriotism was vividly captured in the pictures of the Minister of Foreign Affairs chaperoning the couple back and the President officially receiving and welcoming them.

The national mood of a common patriotism was vividly captured in the pictures of the Minister of Foreign Affairs chaperoning the couple back and the President officially receiving and welcoming them.

Monique did not regard this ordeal as a major setback, but instead she used this life changing experience as a tool to motivate and inspire fellow South Africans. After her release she dedicated one year of her life to helping fellow South Africans in need and the Callie and Monique Charity Trust was founded. The "year" is now in its fourth year and charity involvement has subsequently changed into a full time calling for which she has sacrificed her very profitable own business.

The support given to many charities, individuals and good causes and the successful completion of many projects is a testimony of her courage, her sheer determination, her leadership and her passion for people.

She is highly respected in the business world and in the last four years more than 20 000 people has attended her motivational talks and she has touched the lives of millions of South Africans with her inspirational messages through her TV Programmes, "Footprints" and "Monique".

I would like to commend her for wanting to change the lives of others for the better and for being a true ambassador not only for South Africa, but also for humankind.

Yours sincerely


N R Mandela

PROJECTS 2023/4

VISION

To give a voice to abused children.

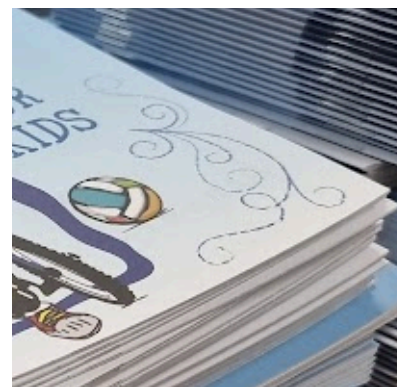
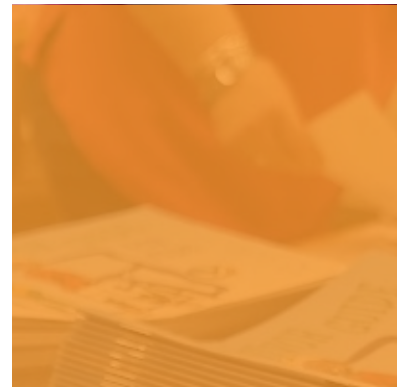
MISSION

PRIMARY

To minimise the secondary abuse children suffer when they report abuse against them, by addressing the unsympathetic reporting system in South Africa. With the main focus on victim support and training.

SECONDARY

To educate communities on what child abuse is, signs and symptoms and how to report it.



Child-Friendly Reporting Facilities

To implement standardised victim friendly reporting facilities at all SAPS FCS units, courts and hospitals in high child sexual abuse and rape reporting areas.



BACKGROUND

Visiting a police station to report a crime can be traumatic for any person, especially children. Seventeen years ago, Matla A Bana identified the need to create child friendly environments for children at police units, courts and hospitals. Together with SAPS, Family Violence, Child protection and Sexual Offences Unit, Matla A Bana developed a blueprint for a reporting facility at police units. This facility includes: a child-friendly assessment room for interview and assessment of the child (including murals designed for assessments) linked to a monitoring room fitted with audio-visual recording facilities in order to record interviews with children. Where there is no office accommodation at the SAPS FCS Unit and if the site allows it, a container facility will be implemented. As a last resort, a child-friendly room (assessment room) will be implemented.

Child-Friendly Reporting Facilities

During this financial year, thirty seven of our victim-friendly facilities implemented in the Western Cape (18), Gauteng (13), Northern Cape (3), Eastern Cape (1), North West Province (1) and Limpopo (1) were utilised. These facilities are at SAPS FCS units, police stations, hospitals and courts. Two existing facilities were upgraded and two new facilities were implemented. The MOU with SAPS National Office states that Matla A Bana will be responsible for the upkeep of existing facilities, and funding for this is currently our greatest challenge.

These facilities assist more than 15 000 victims a year.



Child-Friendly Reporting Facilities

FACILITIES REFURBISHED:

MILNERTON SAPS FCS (November 2022 to March 2023)

Matla A Bana implemented the first child-friendly facility at Milnerton SAPS FCS in 2012. The unit was then stationed inside Milnerton Police station. The unit was later moved to a house on the grounds of the police station. A partnership between Matla A Bana and the Child Trauma Centre saw the implementation of a full child-friendly reporting park-home facility in 2019. This facility was unfortunately broken into and the audio-visual equipment stolen. In November 2022 Matla A Bana started with the upgrade of the facility. This included the replacement of the roofing sheets, ceiling, repainting, new audio-visual equipment and furniture. A courtyard play area was also created and a veranda was built to create a waiting area for the parents. The upgrade happened over a few months as we did not secure one sponsor for all the expenses and had to roll out the project as sponsorship was secured. The opening of this newly refurbished facility took place in March 2023 and was made possible by the sponsorship of **Old Mutual Staff Volunteer Fund Trust, Garth Briggs and Len Steele**.

ROODEPOORT SEXUAL OFFENCES COURT

Throughout the years Matla A Bana has been instrumental in implementing child-friendly areas at this court. Various partnerships saw the upgrading of waiting rooms, offices and the court room itself. This year the Red Day project of **Keller Williams Reality** made it possible to upgrade the waiting area and offices in the container at the court, as well as the offices of the court preparation officers. Sixty volunteers assisted with the painting of walls and murals, as well as packing comfort packs.

NEW FACILITIES LAUNCHED:

CARLETONVILLE SAPS FCS

Matla A Bana earmarked this unit several years ago but there was never sufficient accommodation or funding. This changed in 2023 when Matla A Bana was approached by a **Sterstatus** beauty contestant, **Karin Muller**, offering to assist with a project. During the same time funding was secured from **DRD Gold** and a large office was earmarked at the unit for the implementation. Construction to divide the room into an assessment and a monitoring rooms started in April. A group of more than 25 beauty contestants took part in the painting of the facility, painting of murals and assembling of furniture. This event had to be coordinated and implemented in one day to accommodate the filming of the activation for the TV show (screened in August 2023). The audio-visual equipment was installed at a later stage and the facility was officially launched in June 2023. The launch was attended by the management of DRD Gold as well as Brigadier Zulu (Provincial Head SAPS FCS Gauteng) and Brigadier Xaba from the SAPS West Rand District. As a result of this launch, DRD Gold also donated cell phones to the unit.

TEMBISA SOUTH SAPS FCS

Matla A Bana implemented the first facility in at the Tembisa SAPS FCS during 2005. This facility was located in a container. With the restructuring of the SAPS units, this facility was closed down and Matla A Bana had to remove all our equipment. The opening of the new police station at Tembisa South offered the opportunity to open a new facility at the Tembisa South SAPS FCS unit. This unit is a high priority unit and has the high crime and abuse stats. The sponsorship of **Business Leadership South Africa** and **Business Against Crime** made the implementation of a full child-friendly container reporting facility possible. This container is located on the grounds of the police station and consists of an assessment room and a monitoring room with full audio-visual recording facilities. The facility was opened in June 2023 and was attended by the senior management and CEO of Business Leadership South Africa, seniors SAPS management as well as local community groups.

Comfort Pack Project

Supplying emergency packs in the hour of need to child abuse victims.

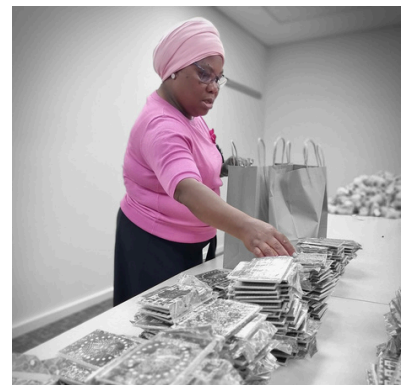


BACKGROUND

In some cases it can take up to 12 hours for a child victim of rape to be processed, from statement taking to the completion of the medical examination. During this time the child often does not eat, drink or has other support. Matla A Bana has been supplying comfort packs to the SAPS Family Violence, Child Protection and Sexual Offences units (FCS) and courts. These packs contain small and medium girl emergency goods and is handed over to children when they report the crime. The packs include comfort items (teddy, colouring book and crayons), food items (energy bar, cold drink, soup) and emergency goods (panties, sanitary towels, soap, facecloth, deodorant, toothpaste and toothbrush). We supply packs for Small Girls (5 to 8 years old) and Medium Girls (9 to 12 years old). Unfortunately, due to lack of funding, we cannot always supply in the much needed demand for boy packs.

Comfort Pack Project

This year we donated comfort packs to SAPS FCS units and Family and Sexual Offences Courts in Gauteng, the North West Province, the Free State, Limpopo, Mpumalanga, the Northern Cape and the Western Cape. The reach into other provinces was made possible by two large packing initiatives during Mandela Day. Unfortunately the lack of funding made it impossible to donate to units in KwaZulu Natal and the Eastern Cape - the two provinces with some of the highest rape cases in South Africa.



Comfort Pack Project

PACKS SUPPLIED :

APRIL 2023

- 92 Small boys and girls packs - Gauteng SAPS FCS (Sponsored by M Keyter)
- 200 Medium girls packs - Gauteng SAPS FCS (Sponsored by PNA, DRD Gold, Sterstatus)

MAY 2023

- 20 Small boys and girls packs - Krugersdorp Magistrates Court (Sponsored by V Buitenbacht)
- 20 Small boys and girls packs - Roodepoort Children's Court (Sponsored by V Buitenbacht)
- 40 Small boys and girls packs - Moroka SAPS FCS (Sponsored by E Baillie)
- 150 Small boys and girls packs - Gauteng SAPS FCS and Sexual Offences Courts (Sponsored by Keller William Realty)
- 88 Small girls packs - Gauteng SAPS FCS (Sponsored by Ruimsig Gemeente and PNA)

JUNE 2023

- 199 Small girls - Northern Cape SAPS FCS Province (Sponsored by PNA, Omgee Groepie Dutch Reformed Church Blouberg and Retha Maass, Living Network, Execujet, Boland Motors, Remax, Teddy Bear Picnic)
- 100 Small and medium boys and girls packs - Mpumalanga Courts, Gauteng SAPS FCS (Sponsored by DRD Gold)
- 15 Medium girls packs - SAPS FCS Moot (Sponsored by The4Give Initiative)

JULY 2023

- 1 000 Small girls packs - SAPS FCS National Office, Mpumalanga, Limpopo, Gauteng and North West Province (Sponsored by Anglo American, Kumba Mines and PNA)
- 1 500 Medium girls packs - SAPS FCS National Office, Mpumalanga, Limpopo, Gauteng, Northern Cape and North West Province (Sponsored by Absa Trust)
- 120 Small and medium girls packs - Gauteng SAPS FCS (Sponsored by Avantage Group)

AUGUST 2023

- 140 Small and medium packs packs - Ceres and Paarl SAPS FCS (Sponsored by Isuzu Omgee Groepie Dutch Reformed Church Blouberg, Retha Maass and PNA)
- 50 Small and medium girls packs - Roodepoort Sexual Offences Court (Sponsored by Latter Day Saints)

SEPTEMBER 2023

- 58 Small and medium girls packs - Gauteng SAPS FCS (Sponsored QOT Solutions)

NOVEMBER 2023

- 140 Small and medium girl packs - Western Cape SAPS FCS (Sponsored by Isuzu Boland, Omgee Groepie Dutch Reformed Church Blouberg, PMA and Retha Maass)
- 30 Small and medium girls packs - Free State SAPS FCS (Sponsored by Latter Day Saints)

DECEMBER 2023

- 300 Small and medium girls packs - SAPS FCS Northwest, Free State, Mpumalanga and Limpopo Provinces (Sponsored by Omgee Groepie Dutch Reformed Church Blouberg, Retha Maass Absa Trust, PNA and Vroue Landbou Unie)
- 70 Small and medium girls packs - Krugersdorp and Roodepoort Magistrates Court (Sponsored by Latter Day Saints)

Essential Skills Training Projects

Training officers of the law to understand trauma, the impact of trauma and other essential skills to assist victims of abuse.



BACKGROUND

The priority of the police officer and prosecutor is to solve the crime, arrest the perpetrator and secure a conviction. Police members and prosecutors receive training in this regard. There, however, is often a lack in training in the lifeskills needed to deal with the child-victim and the trauma related to the investigation of such cases. The challenge comes when the public expect officers of the law to exhibit these skills when working with children and rape/abuse victims. Through the years of working with officers of the law and victims, we have gotten to understand what skills are needed and developed various unique training modules to address this need. Most of our courses are SETA accredited.

Essential Skills Training

The second Western Cape group of detectives and forensic social workers completed all the Matla a Bana Training modules during this period. This group completed the first module in the previous financial year. The group also joined for the first of our new one day modules. The one-day training modules focus on support, debriefing and reinforcing essential skills specifically for senior management at SAPS FCS units and other leaders in the field. Art Therapy and trauma management was introduced as a pilot project. This was done in conjunction of the National Prosecuting Authority's Karl Bremmer Thuthuzela Centre. We unfortunately could not address the need to train detectives and forensic social workers in KwaZulu Natal and the Eastern Cape.



Essential Skills Training

MODULE 1

NEGATIVE RESILIENCE, STRESS & TRAUMA MANAGEMENT (2 days)

A two-day workshop focusing on the management of trauma, stress and PTSD, and was specifically developed for officers of the law exposed to severe trauma. The first day of training was developed by world renowned trauma specialist, Dr Friedman, and focuses on Post Traumatic Stress, Negative Resilience and coping mechanisms and presented by security expert and psychologist, Mike Sears. The second day of the course focuses on trauma and stress management and is presented by hostage survivor Monique Strydom and brain profiler, Leonore Louw (Maselouw). Group size: 30 people.

MODULE 2

SOFT SKILLS: EI, CONFLICT MANAGEMENT & STRESS PRINCIPLES (3 days)

A three-day training course focusing on Emotional Intelligence, Stress Management and Conflict Management and hosted by partner, Maselouw. This course is SETA accredited. Group size: 30 people

MODULE 3

PERCEPTION, CLIENT SERVICE (EI) & VICTIM EXPECTATION (2 days)

The last module of the training course focusses on what the victim experience and how biases and other factors can influence how officers of the law respond. The first two sessions deal personal biases and equipping officer to understand other points of view and factors. The Role Play sessions deals exposes students to trauma responses, victim experiences and creative solutions. The second day of the training focusses on Client Service (EI) and Victim Expectation. This section in SETA accredited.

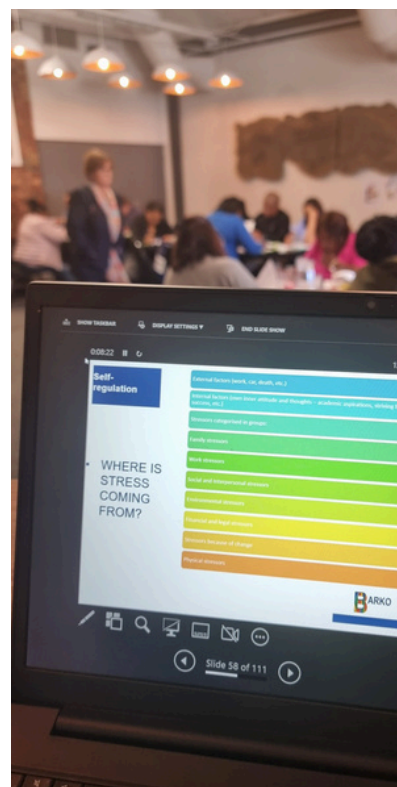
MODULE 4

SKILLS DEVELOPMENT, VICTIM EXPECTATION AND DEBRIEFING (1 day)

One-day training session to further equip existing student groups or debrief groups with high stress levels and workload. These sessions cover a large area of skills including criminal procedures (specific focus on the court process), understanding victim trauma and needs, creative thinking and problem solving and managing trauma. Due to several requests for debriefing and further support for officers of the law and others working in the field, it was decided to host art therapy as a pilot project. Experts in the various fields were contracted to host this training.

MAIN PROJECT SPONSORS:

Old Mutual Staff Volunteer Fund Trust
Ackerman Family Foundation
Neil Pretorius
Vredelust Church
Mosaïek Church
Mobieg



Essential Skills Training

MARCH 2023

MODULE 2 - WESTERN CAPE (Group 2)

- Three Days: 29, 30 and 31 March 2023
- Attendees: 26 SAPS FCS detectives and forensic social workers from units in the Western Cape
- Essential Skills: Stress management, Emotional Intelligence, Conflict Management (Leonore Louw, Maselouw)
- Sponsored by Old Mutual Staff Volunteer Fund Trust and Ackerman Foundation

JUNE 2023

MODULE 3- WESTERN CAPE (Group 2)

- Two Days: 21 and 22 June 2023
- Attendees: 26 SAPS FCS detectives and forensic social workers from units in the Western Cape
- Day 1: Perceptions and Role Play (Monique Strydom, Workhouse Communications)
- Day 2: Client Service and Victim Expectation (Leonore Louw, Maselouw)
- Sponsored by Pick 'n Pay and Ackerman Foundation

NOVEMBER 2023

MODULE 4 - GAUTENG

- One Day: 23 November 2023.
- Attendees: 35 Commanders and senior officers of the Gauteng province FCS units
- Morning Session: Trauma Management (Dr Christo Naudé, Mobieg)
- Afternoon session: Victim Expectation (Luke Lampbrecht, Together in Mind, Psychologist)
- Focus of the training is to assist members with management of own trauma and victim trauma by using case scenarios.
- Sponsored by Mosaïek Church and Neil Pretorius

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- Focus of the training is to assist members with management of own trauma and victim trauma by using case scenarios.
- Sponsored by Mosaïek Church, Dr Christo Naudé (Mobieg) and Neil Pretorius

JANUARY 2024

MODULE 4 - KARL BREMER THUTHUZELA CENTRE

- Two One-Day Sessions: 24 and 31 January 2024
- Attendees: 16 Doctors, forensic nurses, and therapists
- Trainer: Glendine (Artist) and Monique Strydom (TRE Practitioner)
- Art therapy and victim expectation.

FEBRUARY 2024

MODULE 4 - NORTH WEST PROVINCE

- One Day: 8 February 2024
- Attendees: 20 Commanders and senior officers of the Gauteng province FCS units. Including Provincial Coordinator Brigadier Ngutshani.
- Morning Session: Trauma Management (Dr Christo Naude, Mobieg)
- Afternoon Session: Victim Expectation (Luke Lampbrecht, Together in Mind, Psychologist)
- Focus of the training is to assist members with management of own trauma and victim trauma by using case scenarios.
- Sponsored by Mosaïek Church and Neil Pretorius

Child Safety School Education Program

Educating primary school children on child protection and safety on a national level with the main focus on preventing bullying.



BACKGROUND

In 2015 marketing students from the University of Johannesburg did research on the low reporting statistics by children. The research showed that children were not reporting rape because society do not speak about sexual abuse. They also did not trust the reporting system and did not know where and how to report the crimes. Reaching children in primary schools has been one of our main focus areas and we developed several programs (“Share your Secret” and “Don’t Bully”) reaching more than 20 000 children annually. We have also developed a basic survivor therapy guide specifically for children who do not have access to therapy services or who cannot afford it. This guide is in various languages.

Child Safety School Education Program

Teachers and police reported the increase of bullying after the pandemic. The school education program was adjusted to focus on bullying, types of bullies (including other perpetrators like sexual offences), how to respond and report bullying.

Our national school tour was once again hosted in conjunction with the Xtreme for Kids Cycle Tour, making it possible to reach schools deep in rural areas. Additional funding made it possible to host tours to various Western Cape regions and the Eastern Cape School. Schools in main centres with high incidence areas were identified by the provincial office of SAPS FCS units who also attended the schools with us.



Child Safety School Education Program

NATIONAL SCHOOL TOUR (February to March 2023)

TOWNS:

Johannesburg, Carletonville, Parys, Kroonstad, Welkom, Bloemfontein, Nieu Bethesda, Graaff Reinet, George, Mosselbay, Riversdale, Buffelsjag, Worcester

NUMBER OF CHILDREN REACHED:

7 500 children (15 schools)

CAPE WEST COAST TOUR (MAY 2023)

TOWNS:

Langebaan, Saldanha, Vredenburg, Elandsbay, Lambertsbay

NUMBER OF CHILDREN REACHED:

4 000 children (6 schools)

WITZENBERG REGION (MAY 2023)

TOWNS:

Tulbagh & Ceres

NUMBER OF CHILDREN REACHED:

3 000 children (4 schools)

OVERBERG REGION (MAY 2023)

TOWNS:

Greyton & Genadendal

NUMBER OF CHILDREN REACHED:

1 500 children (2 Schools)

EASTERN CAPE (FEBRUARY 2024)

TOWNS:

Gqeberha, East London, Qonce, Queenstown, Komani, Aliwal-North

NUMBER OF CHILDREN REACHED:

7 000 children (10 Schools)

MAIN SPONSORS:

Autozone

DRD Gold

Avalon Ship Broking

Absa Trust

Business Leadership South Africa

Business Against Crime

Wolf Security

Toyota Ceres



Special projects

This year saw the hosting of various special projects This was implemented by Matla A Bana, or with partners, or by volunteers. Securing funds for projects and administrative costs is always a challenge and we are extremely grateful for the donors and volunteers who made four big fundraising events possible: Xtreme for Kids Cycle Tour 2023, Xtreme for Kids Iron Man Italy, the Black Box competition, and the West Rand Ball.

At Matla A Bana we strongly believe in partnerships and not only of that with the officers of the law but also with other NGOs working in the child protection field. Matla A Bana is a member of Connect Network and our relationship with Connect Network has seen the annual Child Protection Month event hosted in partnership with Connect Network become a highlight on the calendar of civil society in Cape Town.

We also did two awareness activations during this time, Children's Right Art Exhibition at Cape Town International Airport and at the Baxter Theatre, involving well-know citizens and media.



Special Projects

XTREME FOR KIDS CYCLE TOUR 2023/24

Our bi-annual national cycle tour started in Gauteng on 24 February. The tour saw 6 cyclists cycling 1 900 kms over 12 days to not only raise funds for Matla A Bana but also to raise awareness of child protection. This project was hosted in conjunction with the National School Education Program and SAPS FCS units.

CHILD PROTECTION WEEK NETWORK WORKSHOP (31 May 2023)

Matla A Bana partnered with Connect Network and Western Cape Street Children's Forum to host a Human Trafficking workshop to celebrate Child Protection Week. A hundred delegates from various Cape Town NGOs and 10 of our SAPS FCS members attended the workshop.

WOMEN'S DAY WORKSHOP (August 2023)

The hosting of an art therapy workshop for eight women who are leaders in the child protection NGO sector. Artist, Glendine, donated her time and talents.

WEST RAND BALL AND XTREME FOR KIDS IRON MAN (September and October 2023)

West Rand volunteers, Charl and Madelein Keyter, hosted two special events to raise funds and awareness for Matla A Bana. The West Rand Ball was hosted in September to coincide with the 21st birthday celebrations of Matla A Bana. In October Charl took part in the Iron Man in Italy and used this event to launch his Xtreme Facebook page where he raised nearly R40 000.

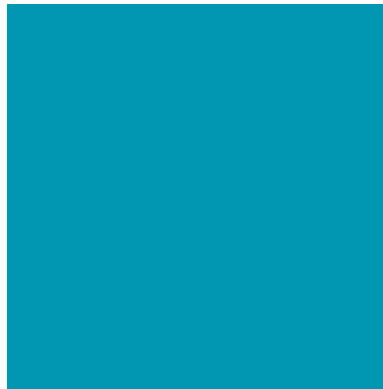
AWARENESS ACTIVATIONS (May 2023 and February 2024)

Children's Rights were featured at the ExecuJet Private Airline waiting area at Cape Town Airport in May 2023. A partnership with Unlikely Productions and the show "The Good Dad" offered Matla A Bana the opportunity to host an awareness campaign for the duration of the show at the Baxter Theatre. Matla A Bana participated in the panel discussions and implemented Breaking The Wall of Silence.

VICTIM SUPPORT SERVICES (On-going)

Our Western Cape and Gauteng offices have been supporting victims and families of child sexual abuse victims with the reporting and follow up of cases. This year 12 families were assisted - including the cases of a father who groomed and raped his daughters, a pastor who raped his 6-year old son, and the reporting and arrest of a serial rapist who groomed and raped teenagers. Some of these cases are still on-going.





MEDIA

Television

Sterstatus (Kyknet) and The Last Word with Shahan Ramkissoo (ETV)



Radio

Radio Algoa, Cape Talk (Pippa Hudson) and Radio Tygerberg (Ingrid Groenewald), Voice of Tembisa FM, Nuuspod

Print

Rapport, Sunday Times, Servamus, Fair Lady, True Love, Krugersdorp Nuus, Roodepoort Rekord, Mosselbay Advertiser, Tygerburger, The Citizen, The Bugle

Social Media



www.facebook.com/matlaabana/

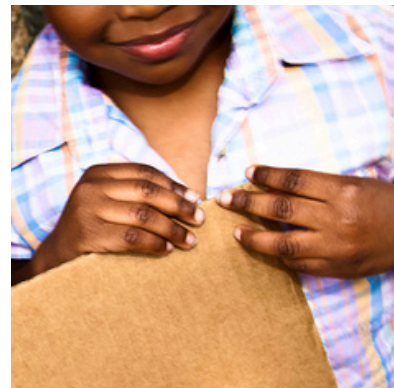
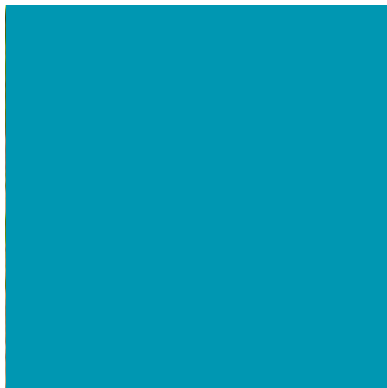
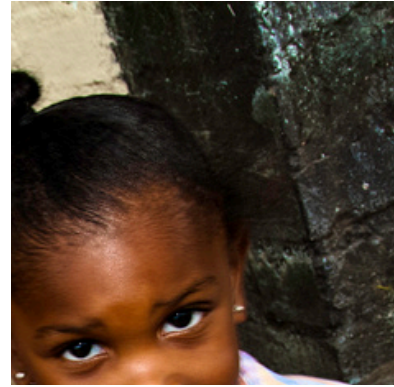


www.matlaabana.co.za




www.youtube.com/@matlaabana





Thank You

Divided we fall. United we stand. Our successes is only because of the continued support of many companies and individuals who believe in what we do, and see the difference that we are making. We are committed to continue to bring hope and be a voice for abused children.

 083 212 9824

 8 Wattle Street, Loevenstein, 7530

THANK YOU

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FINANCIAL STATEMENTS:
Checklist Financial Solutions

AUDITORS:
Jordaan Botha & Partners

To all the police officers, prosecutors and forensic social workers for continuing to fight for our children with great passion and sacrifices.

To all our smaller financial and product donors for donations and products which all added up to make our projects so successful.



To all our volunteers for knitting, painting, cycling, packing comfort packs and donating your talents and time.

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