



STAR FOR LIFE
Schools Programme
Folweni High School
Report II 2017

*A report on SFL activities during March to September 2017 to the sponsor of the school
Löf Foundation*

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1. Introduction

This report has been prepared to provide a summary of activities implemented the between March 2017 to September 2017. The report provides information on actual activities that took place during this period.

It is of special importance to notice that Star for Life offers a broad range of activities except for the coach ordinary work. In this report 10 different activities from this period has been listed – all contributing to promote change at this school in Durban.

For this we would like to express our thank to the Lööf Foundation.

Actual Activities Implemented

1. Management Centred Activities

These were some of the key activities implemented for principals

Leadership Development Workshop

The workshop took place on the **14th June 2017 at A New Hotel in Hluhluwe** and was conducted by Landhelani leadership development. It was attended by principals of all SFL schools.



Figure 1: Principals after leadership training

2. School Management Team meetings

Three support meetings were held to support the school management team in the implementation of the programme and strengthening teamwork with the school management teams.

3. Teacher workshops

The joint teachers' teambuilding workshop was successfully organised in **August**. It aimed at supporting the educators to provide effective school leadership and quality education. This



joint workshop with Vukuzakhe (a Volvo funded sister high school) was for creating a cross sharing platform of ideas and best practises towards creating effective team. This session was co-facilitated by Keep Your Dreams Alive and Star For Life and it was hosted in Isipingo Island Hotel.

4. Lay Counselling workshops

This activity is aimed at internal school capacity development on the scarce skills of providing lay counselling to learners when the coach is working on other sites. The teachers identified are those with passion for psychosocial wellbeing of the learners. There are were equipped with the skills by the Childline Sothern Africa trainers.

Learners centred activities

A life skill coach was assigned to this particular school to ensure that learners benefit from the following services:

5. Peer Education training

A peer education camp was held in **May** where 5 learners from each school (including Folweni) attended. A number of topical areas under healthy lifestyle which directly affect young people in schools and their communities were discussed. The aim was to empower them with skills to communicate with other learners and essential knowledge to contribute in educational campaigns.



Figure 2 Peer education camp

6. Inspirational Learner workshops

Learner workshops were held in March and again in **July to August**. The workshops have different themes, although all of them aim at empowering young people. Each grade has a specific theme and topics to cover.

7. One-on-one consultation

As most of the learners have challenges that affect them and end up not focusing on their studies. In cases where the coach face difficulty in assisting the learners, she refers cases to SFL social worker or refers to the Department of Social Department (Government)

8. Classroom Sessions

The sessions revolve around issues of self-esteem, career, life dreams, health and other life skills issues. In Grade 8 classes the Life-skills coach had to prepare special intervention session to address teenagers-delinquent-misconducts such as being ill disciplined, commitment to school work.



Due to a couple of reported incidents where learners got into a fierce fist fighting hence the coach was addressing this anti-social behaviour. The Life-skills coach conducted sessions with Grade 9 learners addressing matters of anger management and leading a life characterised with empathy.

A Grade 12 intervention was conducted responding to an incident of one learner who committed suicide. The Life-skills coach had to conduct a stress management session as the anxiety levels were heightened and a trauma debriefing classroom session.

9. Wellness workshop

The wellness unit visited Folweni on several occasions during this period to ensure that learners with complex cases receive the required attention. A grade 9 parents meeting to address issues of delinquency and proper parenting. Parents were also engaged on the importance of partnering with teachers, monitoring school work and academic performance, instilling positive behaviour change mind-set.

10. A drug awareness talk was held for Grade 8 and 9 due to an alarming number of cases reported to the Life-skills coach. The Department of Correctional Services was also part of the campaign. Skills Unit :

11. The skills unit conducted grade 12 learners workshop on career guidance and grade 9 Skills and Career Path workshops. Parents were invited to be enlightened about considerations when making subject choices that are in line with a career of choice.

Challenges

Learners are mostly affected by the social environment in which their communities exist. A significant high rate of criminal and violent activities spill into the school premises. The element of coming from the poverty stricken households and with no presence of elders. In the main learners are showing a high level of commitment towards their education.

Conclusion

Our activities were generally implemented successfully. We wish to indicate that for many young people, the implementation of Star For Life activities have contributed significantly in their academic performance and attitude to life in general. It is also important to mention that although there are still number challenges facing the school, we are hopeful of a positive

“I have noticed how learners, teachers and parents can put trust in me; to be able to see or hear a positive feedback from these people. I become content that I have made a difference in the life of someone in need”. SFL
Coach-Busisiwe Mbatha



change in the general culture of the school. We anticipate a positive trend will continue to move towards a solid positive direction.

Finally: Thanks Lööf foundation for your 3 years of support. We are forever grateful.

We wish you all a

Merry Christmas