



HOKOMELA

ANNUAL REPORT 2022

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

AFSA	AIDS Foundation South Africa
AIDS	Acquired Immunodeficiency Virus
ART	Anti-Retroviral Therapy
AVI	Australian Volunteers International
COVID-19	Corona virus disease, 2019 novel coronavirus
DABLAPmeds	Central Chronic Medication Dispensing and Distribution
CPR	Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation
GL	Gracious Living Retirement Haven
HTS	HIV Testing Services
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
HRA	Human Rights & Advocacy Programme
MUAC	Mid-upper arm circumference
NGO	Non-governmental organisation
NPO	Non-profit organisation
NIMArt	Nurse Initiated Management of Antiretroviral therapy
PEPFAR	President's Emergency Plan For AIDS Relief
PrEP	Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis
PPS	Partial Payment System
SACLC	South African Certified Lactation Consultant
STIs	Sexually Transmitted Infections
SyNCH	Synchronised National Communication in Health
TRE	Tension & Trauma Releasing Exercises
TB	Tuberculosis



FROM THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE TRUST

On behalf of Hlokomela, it is my privilege to present our Annual Report for the year 2022. The report reflects our organisation's ongoing commitment to make a meaningful impact on the lives of people and communities in Maruleng sub-district.

Over the past year, Hlokomela continued to work tirelessly to address the pressing health and social challenges faced by people. Our dedicated team of healthcare professionals, volunteers, and partners have collaborated to provide essential medical services, education, and support to those who need it most.

Our Annual Report provides an overview of what we did and what we achieved. We have strived to uphold our vision—to create a culture of caring that empowers all—which has been the driving force behind our successful endeavours. In the face of extraordinary challenges, such as the ongoing pandemic and socio-economic inequalities, Hlokomela has remained resilient and able to grow. We have continued to prioritise the welfare of people even in the toughest of times. Our partnerships with local communities, government departments, other NGOs, and funders have been instrumental in expanding our reach and effectiveness. Together, we have implemented sustainable solutions, strengthened our own and government systems, and helped people to take charge of their own and their families' health and welfare.

It is with gratitude that we acknowledge the steadfast support of our donors, volunteers, and staff. Without their dedication, generosity, and expertise, none of our accomplishments would have been possible. We



are indebted to all those who contributed their time, resources, and knowledge to further our work.

Looking ahead, we remain committed to our mission to provide quality, all-inclusive health care to everyone in the Kruger2Canyons Biosphere Region. We will continue to adapt, innovate, and collaborate to address emerging health and social challenges and meet the evolving needs of the communities we serve.

Thank you for your continued support and belief in what we do. Together, we can make a lasting difference, and build a healthier, more resilient future for all.

DR MARIETTE SLABBERT

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

- Chairperson: Dr Mariette Slabbert
- Deputy Chair: Prof John Gear
- Secretary: Vicky-Lohanzi Jansen van Vuuren
- Board member: Doris Malepe
- Board member: Dr Lindie Botha
- Board member: Tebogo Mametja
- Executive official: Christine du Preez

FROM THE MANAGING DIRECTOR

For me the colourful words of George Bernard Shaw best explains what this organisation, colleagues, funders, community, clients and farm workers mean to me:

“This is the true joy in life, being used for a purpose recognized by yourself as a mighty one. Being a force of nature instead of a feverish, selfish little clod of ailments and grievances, complaining that the world will not devote itself to making you happy. I am of the opinion that my life belongs to the whole community and as long as I live, it is my privilege to do for it what I can. I want to be thoroughly used up when I die, for the harder I work, the more I live. I rejoice in life for its own sake. Life is no brief candle to me. It is a sort of splendid torch which I have got hold of for the moment and I want to make it burn as brightly as possible before handing it on to future generations.”

With the passion of my staff and management I am preparing to hand it on to the future generations.

COVID-19 is behind us in 2022 but we started the Booster Vaccination Project to do our part to prevent another outbreak. The team worked hard and vaccinated 9897 people. MJ du Preez, Communications Manager, did a great job managing this programme.

There are pleas from other farming communities to start a Hlokomela service in their area. With the help of Discovery Fund, we are investigating the possibility to expand our services to other sub districts in Mopani.

While we were still finding our feet this year with the Partial Payment System, we started offering a new service to the mothers and children of our community at the Hlokomela Baby Clinic, led by Sr Carissa Stoltz. Hlokomela's Clinic Manager, Sr Laverne Stebbing, saw the need for more support to our chronic patients and started the Lifestyle Disease Support Group.





After some of our staff were involved in serious vehicle accidents, we introduced group medical insurance for the entire Hlokomela team. Paying more attention to our employees' physical wellbeing went hand in hand with the team's mental wellbeing. With the help of Australian Volunteers International and the Human Resource Manager Desiré Wright, we started a programme to help staff better manage their mental health.

The Sex Work Programme under leadership of Antoinette Ngwenya is growing and aims to empower sex workers with skills that will enhance their capacity to speak for themselves.

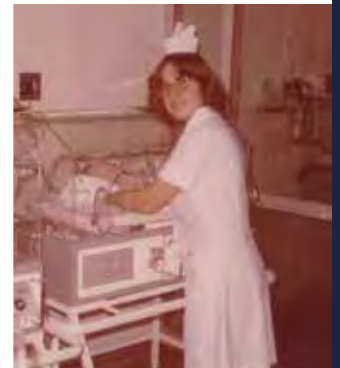
Our Finance Department under the competent management of Albert Matumbu is the heart of the organisation and works hard to ensure clean audits every year.

Fortunate Khumalo, our IT and Systems Manager has her work cut out for her to maintain and improve all systems on -site and ensure the safety of the organisation's data.

Project Manager Candy Nkgogo champions the farm workers' peer education health programme. Farm workers are trained as community health workers to address health and social issues on farms. These health workers are known as "Nompilos" (Zulu for "Mothers of Life") and their core duty is to provide primary health care support to fellow farm workers.

CHRISTINE DU PREEZ

"I am of the opinion that my life belongs to the whole community and as long as I live, it is my privilege to do for it what I can."





WHO WE WERE

Hlokomela was established in 2005 in response to research that highlighted a critical need for health care among farm workers and other vulnerable populations in the greater Hoedspruit area. Since then, Hlokomela has been a prominent and respected role player in the health and well-being of the local community, serving about 30 000 people annually (direct and indirect beneficiaries).

WHO WE BECAME

In 2022 Hlokomela continued to lead the way after 17 years of caring. In July our COVID-19 vaccination efforts became more formalised when Ndlovu Care Group contracted Hlokomela to roll out 20 000 COVID-19 vaccinations to hard-to-reach populations in Maruleng Sub-District. We started implementing the Human Rights & Advocacy Programme across the entire Mopani District and included Gracious Living Retirement Haven in our range of services offered to the community. All these factors, including expansion in the Sex Worker Programme, grew our staff complement to over a 100 people!



OUR VISION

A culture of caring that empowers all.

OUR MISSION

To provide quality, all-inclusive health care to everyone in the Kruger2Canyons Biosphere Region.

OUR VALUES

A strong organisational culture is what makes Hlokomela work and we hold each other to our core values every day:

- Integrity and honesty
- Sense of belonging
- Respect
- Trust
- Love
- Sense of ownership
- Passion for taking care of others
- Taking pride and giving praise





* SEX WORKER PROJECT RUNS ACROSS THE WHOLE OF THE MOPANI DISTRICT



WHERE WE WORK

We do most of our work in the greater Hoedspruit area, the administrative centre of the Maruleng Municipality, which is situated in the Mopani District, Limpopo Province. Hlokomela implements the Sex Worker Programme and Human Rights & Advocacy Programme across the entire Mopani District.

Tourism, government services and farming are key economic activities in these areas. The farming sector offers employment to a large portion of the local population of seasonal and migrant workers.

- MAIN TOWNS
- MAIN HLOKOMELA CLINIC
- SATELITE HLOKOMELA CLINICS
- MOBILE HLOKOMELA CLINICS
- NOMPILO PROJECT AREA
- HLOKOMELA HERB GARDEN & SPEKBOOM MAZE
- LOCAL AIRPORT
- PROVINCIAL BORDER
- PLATEAU
- GENERAL AGRICULTURE STRIP
- WILDLIFE STRIP
- MAIN ROAD

WHO WE SERVE

- Farm workers, including seasonal workers, in the Kruger to Canyons Biosphere Region.
- Farm owners and managers in the Kruger to Canyons Biosphere Region.
- Employees of local game lodges notably in the Greater Timbavati.
- Migrants from Mozambique, Zimbabwe and other provinces in South Africa.
- Sex workers in the entire Mopani District of Limpopo Province.
- Mothers and babies.
- The elderly.
- Community members.
- Our government partners in the Maruleng Municipality, Mopani District, Limpopo Department of Health.
- Our donors and funders.
- Our staff and Board of Trustees.



WHAT WE DO

THE WORK WE DO IS GROUPED UNDER THREE MAIN HEADINGS:



HEALTH AND SOCIAL PROGRAMMES

1. Health Care Services
2. DABLAP Meds
3. HIV
4. TB
5. STIs
6. Hypertension
7. Diabetes
8. COVID-19 testing and vaccination
9. Lifestyle Disease Support Groups
10. Pre-exposure prophylaxis
11. Condom distribution
12. Outreach on farms
13. Sex worker programme
14. Human Rights & Advocacy Programme
15. Gracious Living
16. Hlokomela Women's Clinic
17. Breast Cancer Awareness
18. Baby Clinic

SUSTAINABILITY PROGRAMMES

19. The partial payment system
20. Hlokomela Herb Garden
21. Hlokomela Bush Party

OPERATIONS

22. Strategic partnerships
23. Research
24. Funding and fundraising
25. Employee Wellness Programme



1 HEALTH AND SOCIAL PROGRAMMES

Our health and social care programmes offer biomedical, social and structural interventions to reduce the transmission of HIV, TB and STIs. Our services cover the continuum of care, ranging from combination prevention to treatment and retention, as well as sexual and reproductive health. Social programmes include psychosocial support and programmes to reduce gender based violence and human rights violations.

Specific activities:

- Working with farm management to create a healthier work environment, supported by workplace HIV policies and workplace wellness programmes;
- Providing peer education on farms (Nompilos) and in the sex worker programme (peer educators);
- Training and mentoring of caregivers recruited from the community;
- Training, and mentoring male role models to address gender based violence, transactional sex, and poor health-seeking behaviour in men;
- Promoting safer sexual behavioural through an integrated social behaviour change communication programme, using outreach, billboards and pamphlets;
- Sensitising health care workers, the police and the community towards sex workers and migrant populations;
- Promoting human rights awareness, legal literacy, and documentation of human rights violations amongst key and vulnerable populations;
- Provide a safe and secure environment for the elderly of the Hoedspruit area to reside at and interact with others;

- Providing services to babies and children up until the age of 14 which includes immunisations, infant growth and development screening (milestones, MUAC), assisting the mother to start solids with the baby, vitamin A supplementation and deworming.
- Providing support to clients' suffering from lifestyle diseases such as hypertension and diabetes in a group setting;
- Offering recreational programmes to increase social participation and improve the quality of life of farm workers and their families;
- Promoting healthy lifestyles, condoms, and primary health care services and referrals at fixed clinics and during mobile outreach;
- External pick up point for patients registered on DABLAPmeds.
- Monitoring nutritional status and providing malnourished clients with food donated by farmers;
- Running a dedicated women's clinic for cervical and breast cancer awareness, prevention, screening and treatment.
- Offering pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) to people at risk of acquiring or transmitting HIV, including sex workers and their clients.
- Addressing gender based violence through the Hlokomela Ambassadors project.
- COVID-19 testing and vaccination.
- Offer trauma debriefing to staff and patients through Trauma & Tension Releasing Exercises (TRE), offered at Hlokomela and in the communities by certified TRE providers.



2 SUSTAINABILITY PROGRAMMES

These projects aim to support Hlokomela to become more sustainable in future:

- The Partial Payment System (PPS) has three legs; the Hlokomela Employers' Health Club (HEHC), walk-in clients and Hlokomela Health Cards.
- Growing and selling fresh herbs, herb products, vegetables and dried fruit in the Hoedspruit and Ba-Phalaborwa area.
- Our annual fundraising event - Hlokomela Bush Party.



3 OPERATIONS

Good administration is the backbone of the organisation. The operations department supports the health, social and sustainability projects to run smoothly by ensuring that the administration, maintenance on buildings, procurement and finances are all in order. An organisation is nothing without its staff and Hlokomela supports its employees through the Employee Wellness Programme.



1 HEALTH AND SOCIAL PROGRAMMES

Health Care Services

In 2022, Hlokomela continued to develop and implement HIV workplace policies for local farms and businesses. By the end of 2022, we assisted 72 enterprises with improving their employment policies, supported by a peer education programme. We facilitate access to health services, programmes and medical products. Activities include signing a memorandum of co-operation, setting up HIV&AIDS committees, HIV testing services and social communication initiatives to reduce HIV infections.

Hlokomela runs wellness clinics at Richmond Farm, Hlokomela, Bavaria Fruit Estate, Klaserie Private Nature Reserve, Phelwana, Singita Lebombo, Thornybush, Elephants Alive, Ngala Safari Lodge and the South African Wildlife College. Doctors and professional nurses provide health care services and referrals, information and condoms at these wellness clinics.



72

ENTERPRISES ASSISTED

DABLAP Meds

(previously Central Chronic Medication Dispensing and Distribution - CCMD)

By December 2022, 983 clients were enrolled on DABLAP Meds of which 842 were active.



983

CLIENTS ENROLLED ON DABLAP

HIV

- 97.4% of clients who visited Hlokomela know their status
- 100% of patients who tested HIV positive were initiated on treatment
- 91.3% of patients on ART had a suppressed viral load after 6 months on treatment.

*Hlokomela is working towards achieving "95-95-95", an ambitious treatment target that was set by UNAIDS to help end the AIDS epidemic by 2030.



9582

PATIENTS TESTED



+ 200

PATIENTS HIV POSITIVE

TB

Hlokomela screened 97.4% of 13 349 patients who visited our clinics for TB. Only 5 of the 210 sputum samples collected, tested positive for TB and all newly diagnosed TB clients were initiated on treatment with a 100% TB cure rate.



13 002
PATIENTS SCREENED

STIs

Out of 12 501 patients (15 years and above) screened for STIs, 301 tested positive and were treated for STIs.



12 501
PATIENTS SCREENED

Hypertension

Between the ages of 18 and 44, we screened 7 255 clients for hypertension. We also screened 3 037 clients who are 45 years and older. This year, 90 clients were newly diagnosed with hypertension and initiated on treatment, and 1 179 collected treatment.



10 292
PATIENTS SCREENED

Diabetes

Between the ages of 18 and 44, we screened 7 499 clients for diabetes. We also screened 3 671 clients who are 45 years and older. This year, 25 clients were diagnosed with diabetes and initiated on treatment, and 354 collecting treatment.



11 170
PATIENTS SCREENED

COVID-19 testing and vaccination

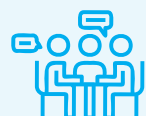
Of the 17 447 people screened for COVID-19 this year, we tested 634 between January and December 2022 of which 148 were positive. We did a total number of 9897 COVID-19 vaccinations between 15 July 2022 (when the Vaccination Project started) and 31 December 2022.



17 447
PATIENTS SCREENED

Lifestyle Disease Support Groups

The support groups were initiated in September 2022 and are hosted every three months at Hlokomela Blyde Clinic. Here doctors and nurses share information on hypertension and diabetes, causes, diet and lifestyle changes, the advantages and disadvantages of taking treatment and what complications patients may face when not taking treatment. Patients participate freely in the discussions, asking a lot of questions.



2
SUPPORT GROUPS
HOSTED

Pre-exposure prophylaxis

Hlokomela offers pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) to people at high risk of HIV. During 2022, of the 5109 sex workers reached, 2146 (131% of target) were tested for HIV and 594 of these clients that tested negative for HIV were initiated on PrEP and 744 retained on PrEP. Out of those who were tested, 55 clients tested positive of which 37 were initiated on ART and 18 referred to their home clinics and linked to care.



744
PATIENTS RETAINED
ON PrEP

Condom distribution

Hlokomela maintains condom dispensers at 152 locations, mostly high HIV transmission areas such as truck stops, shebeens, taxi ranks, hawker markets, hotels and lodges. During the year, we distributed 762 000 male and 40 500 female condoms.



762 000
MALE CONDOMS
DISTRIBUTED

Outreach on farms

Community Health Workers, also known as Nompilos at Hlokomela, attend to clients on farms. During the year, 81 Nompilos rendered home based care services to 151 clients who are on chronic medication. Interventions ranged from primary health care to distributing health and social educational information.

Many of these clients are on ARV and TB treatment; Nompilos referred 420 individuals to clinics for further health care services.




420
PATIENTS REFERRED

Sex worker programme

The programme aims to empower sex workers with skills that will enhance their capacity to speak for themselves, to address human rights violations, to access psychosocial support, to make informed choices and to provide opportunities for them to test for HIV. Sex workers also have an opportunity to be screened for COVID-19, non-communicable diseases, sexual reproductive health and mental health issues.

Hlokomela implements the sex worker programme across the entire Mopani District. Each of the five sub-districts have 4 peer educators, plus 2 roving adolescent peer educators and 2 HTS & linkage officers. Three site coordinators manage the peer educators,

3 professional nurses and an enrolled nurse manage the linkage to care through the HTS & linkage officers and attend to sex workers in the field. The clinical specialist oversees all clinical activities. When needed, sex workers are referred to a doctor in the clinic.

This year, outreaches to sex workers in the field were greatly improved with the addition of another vehicle to the programme. The programme's social worker and social auxiliary worker offer psychosocial support to sex workers while an advocacy officer advocates for their rights by sensitising stakeholders about the programme.

During the year, peer educators reached the targeted 2958 sex workers per quarter, at 103 hotspots in the District. The team distributed 1006 dignity packs to sex workers during the year.

On 3 March 2023 the Sex Worker Programme hosted a march in celebration of International Sex Worker's Rights Day. Sex workers, stakeholders and Sonke Gender Justice marched through the streets of Tzaneen calling for the decriminalisation of sex work. The objective of the event was to create awareness for the human rights of sex workers.







2 958
SEX WORKERS REACHED

Human Rights & Advocacy Programme

In October 2023, Hlokomela implemented the Human Rights & Advocacy Programme. The purpose of the programme, which supports National Strategic Plan Goal 5 (Ground the response to HIV, TB and STIs in human rights principles and approaches), is to lower violations among the key and vulnerable populations. The programme promotes human rights awareness, legal literacy, and documentation of human rights violations amongst key and vulnerable populations in the Mopani District.

The programme is implemented by a Project Officer, Monitoring & Evaluation Officer, Paralegal and 5 Reactors (Human Rights Defenders).

Below is the programme performance for the first quarter of implementation:

INDICATORS 	TARGET 	ACTUAL 
Number of human rights violations reported	317	320
Number of human rights violation cases referred	222	189
Number of cases successfully resolved	200	72
Number of referrals for human rights violation cases that requires legal support	33	38
Number of people using legal support services	33	38
Number of information, education and sensitisation sessions held on human rights	1	1
Number of interventions conducted on stigma and discrimination	1	2

Gracious Living Retirement Haven

Registered as a non-profit organisation in 2015, Gracious Living Retirement Haven comprises of two adjacent properties in Hoedspruit that provide a safe and secure environment for the elderly of the Hoedspruit area to reside at and interact with their peers.

Hlokomela is very proud of this project where we employ one live-in nurse and a coordinator for the 16 elderly residents.

We are in the process of registering Gracious Living Retirement Haven as a Community Based Centre where residents and other community members can participate in daily social and physical activities.




16
ELDERLY RESIDENTS

Hlokomela Women's Clinic

Hlokomela Women's Clinic has reached thousands of women through campaigns, trained and educated, screened and treated many more in the clinic.

During the year, 74 clients were screened for breast cancer. Of these, 10 were referred to the hospital for further management; 4 of these women were positively diagnosed and treated for breast cancer. Other scans done at the Women's Clinic include 46 abdominal scans, 86 pelvic scans, 134 pregnancy scans, and seven 4D scans.

During 2022, 315 patients were screened for cervical cancer. The clinic performed 21 visual inspections with acetic acid (VIA) of which 1 was positive for cervical cancer. 10 clients were referred for biopsies.

1 409 Clients were assisted with family planning (contraception).

101 donated bras were handed out to women in need who come to Hlokomela Women's Clinic as clients. In addition, 143 packets of sanitary pads and reusable sanitary pads were handed out to clients and young girls during clinic campaigns. Hlokomela Women's Clinic further supported vulnerable mothers by giving them baby clothes, nappies and baby formula that was donated to the clinic throughout the year.



**PATIENTS SCREENED
FOR BREAST CANCER**



Tekkies4Tieties

On 5 November 2022 Hlokomela Women's Clinic hosted Tekkies4Tieties, a fun walk in aid of breast cancer awareness and fund raising to support patients with breast cancer. We hope to make this an annual event on the Hoedspruit calendar.



153

PEOPLE PARTICIPATED



Baby Clinic

'After clean water, immunisation is the most cost effective public health measure' - World Bank.

On 17 August 2022, Hlokomela started its very own baby clinic. Situated in a small town, with limited healthcare facilities, it is the perfect opportunity to provide this very crucial service to our community and children.

The baby clinic provides services from a child's first few weeks up until the age of 14. Services include immunisations, infant growth and development screening (milestones, MUAC), assisting the mother to start solids with the baby, vitamin A supplementation and deworming.

Sr. Carissa Stoltz is in the process of completing her South African Certified Lactation Consultant (SACLC) to assist mothers breastfeeding their little ones.

Did you know that in South-Africa we have two vaccination schedules? One driven by the government and the other is a private schedule which includes a few more vaccinations for example; Onvara/Varilrix (chicken pocks), Menactra (meningitis), Avaxim (hepatitis A), and Priorix (measles, mumps, rubella).

Which schedule to follow can be a daunting decision for first time parents and Hlokomela's baby clinic, which offers both schedules, assists parents in making an informed decision.

From August 2022 to December 2022 we have given 111 doses of vaccines.



111

VACCINE DOSES GIVEN



2 SUSTAINABILITY PROGRAMMES

The partial payment system

The PPS consists of three legs; the Hlokomela Employers' Health Club (HEHC), Hlokomela Health Cards and walk-ins.

The Hlokomela Employers' Health Club (HEHC) offers employers the unique opportunity to access Hlokomela's services at a discounted rate by becoming part of the HEHC through a monthly subscription fee. By means of accurate recordkeeping of their employees who access our services, we are able to offer the employer up to date information on the number of clinic visits per month and generate a monthly invoice to employers in the club. Another benefit of becoming part of this club is that the employee is responsible for 30% of the cost of care, while the employer covers the remaining 70%. By December 2022, 10 employers representing 5000 employees had signed up to and were benefiting from the Hlokomela Employers' Health Club.

The Hlokomela Health Cards have proven to be more popular than were expected. This option is offered to employers as well as individuals. For a once off fee of R500 per year, an individual receives a unique card with his/her information printed on the reverse side of the card. This card allows the owner free access to most Hlokomela services and discounted rates to more specialised services for an entire year. Many employers also preferred to take this option for their employees. By December 2022, we had sold 645 Hlokomela Health Cards.

Clients who are not part of the HEHC or have a Hlokomela Health Card, are still welcome at our clinics and are able to access services at walk-in client rates.



645

HEALTH CARDS SOLD



Hlokomela Herb Garden

In 2022 the Hlokomela Herb Garden remained constant and continued to show improvement as it secured some big local customers. The imminent replacement of critical infrastructure, such as the shade net tunnel and irrigation system, will however require external funding support.



50

**COMMERCIAL AND
HOUSEHOLD CUSTOMERS
SERVED THIS YEAR**



Hlokomela Bush Party

The 10th annual Hlokomela Bush Party on 11 June 2022 was without a doubt the best Bush Party event that Hlokomela has hosted over the years! It was a beautiful night hosted at Pridelands just outside Hoedspruit. The proceeds from the event have been set aside to improve the healthcare facilities at Hlokomela Blyde Clinic.



513

TICKETS SOLD



3 ORGANISATIONAL EFFECTIVENESS

Strategic partnerships

This year Hlokomela partnered with Ndlovu Care Group for the COVID-19 Vaccination Project. We strengthened our relationship with Australian Volunteers International (AVI) by partnering for the Employee Wellness Programme. Discovery Fund inspired us to new heights by funding the first phase of an expansion programme into new geographical areas. We partnered with PEPFAR for the mobile HIV Testing Services Project. AIDS Foundation South Africa (AFSA) took over the reins from NACOSA as the primary recipient for the Sex Work Programme and Hlokomela was overjoyed to continue with them in the implementation of this programme. We also partnered with AFSA for the brand new Human Rights & Advocacy Programme.

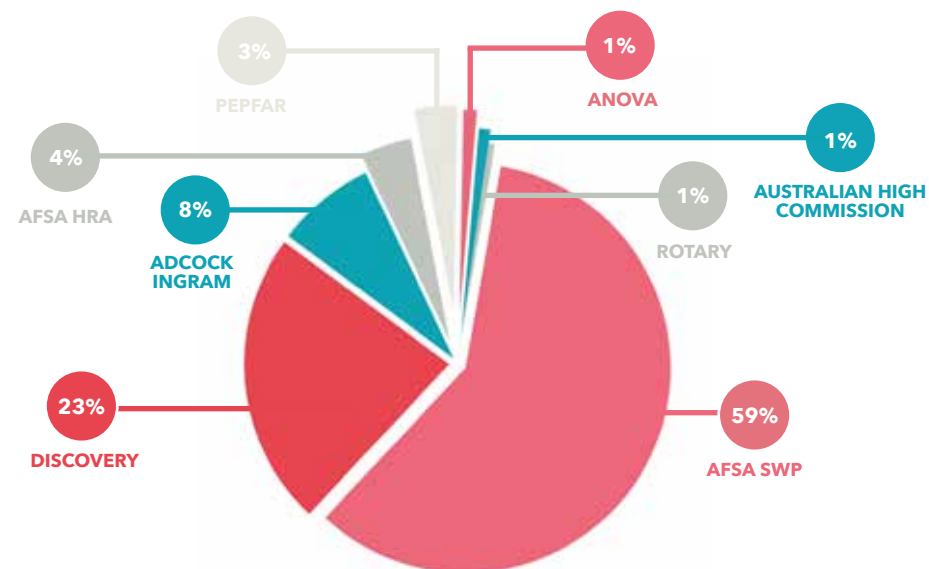
Research

No research was conducted at Hlokomela this year.

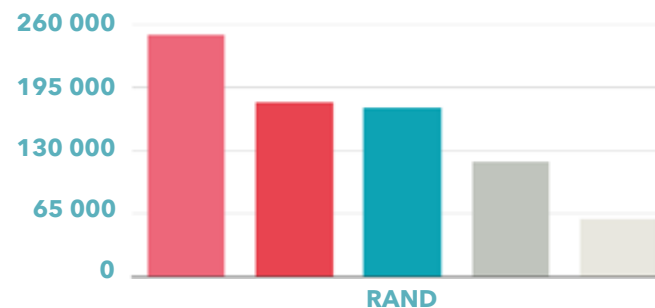
Funding and fundraising

Hlokomela relies mainly on donor funding for its activities. Hlokomela's sustainability activities supplement donor income and government in-kind contributions. Detailed audited financial statements are available upon request.

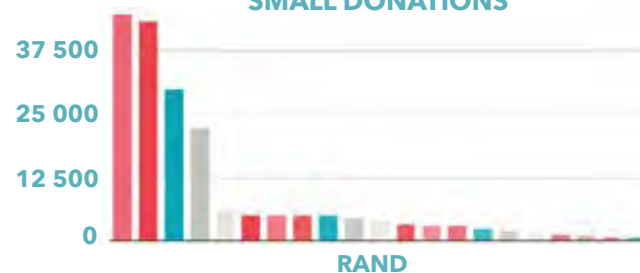
GRANTS RECEIVED



LARGE DONATIONS



SMALL DONATIONS



Employee Wellness Programme

During 2022 with the support of the Discovery Mentorship with Purpose programme and Australian Volunteers International (AVI), the Hlokomela Employee Wellness Programme took shape and started working for its beneficiaries. Discovery staff mentored the human resources department at Hlokomela for the development of a 12-month wellness programme.

With the funding support provided through AVI, HR was able to offer incentives to employees to participate in the programme. Tension & Trauma Releasing Exercises (TRE)[®] sessions were offered to employees regularly throughout the year. For the first time, Hlokomela joined a group medical insurance for all employees with the added benefit of an employee assistance programme that offers counselling and financial advice to members.



96

EMPLOYEES REACHED



HLOKOMELA HONOURS

- 2007: Independent study finds farm workers trust confidentiality of services offered.
- 2008: Maruleng Municipality's Best Non-Profit Organisation in Mopani District.
- 2008: Christine du Preez is a finalist in The Southern African Trust and Mail & Guardian Drivers of Change Investing in the Future awards.
- 2008: Poster presentation at the 17th International AIDS Conference in Mexico City.
- 2009: Hlokomela received an award from Mail & Guardian "Investing in the Future" awards selection committee with the 2009 'Investing in Life' award for its holistic innovative approach to medical and social service delivery for farm workers and their families.
- 2010: Hlokomela participated in the 2010 International AIDS Conference in Vienna.
- 2010: Silver Star award from Impumelelo for innovations in government and public sectors.
- 2011: Board member presentation on the Herb Garden at the Peace Corps South Africa Health Symposium.
- 2012: Denmark based television crew films an episode of a cooking series by the winner of Master Chef Denmark, using ingredients from Hlokomela Herb Garden.
- 2012: Poster presentation at the 19th International AIDS Conference in Washington, DC.
- 2013: The Director of Hlokomela received the award and was the winner of the SA's Most Influential Women in Civil Society Organisations and Related Services.
- 2013: Poster at the 6th SA Annual AIDS Conference in Durban.
- 2014: Director accepted as Ashoka Fellow.
- 2014: Herb Garden manager and general assistant awarded Entrepreneur and Female Farm Worker of the Year respectively by the Limpopo Department of Agriculture.
- 2015: Christine du Preez receives a Recognition Award in the category International Community Workers Recognition at the Women4Africa Awards UK 2015.
- 2016: Poster presentation on behalf of the Discovery Fund at the 21st International AIDS Conference in Durban.
- 2017: The Herb Garden entered the Limpopo Province Department of Agriculture Maruleng Municipality 2017 Female Farmer of the Year competition and took second place in Top Entrepreneur Processing at the awards ceremony in August 2017.
- 2018: The Hlokomela Women's Clinic wins Gold at the Community Chest Impumelelo Social Innovations Awards ceremony in Cape Town, November 2018.
- 2020: Christine du Preez and the Hlokomela team were awarded the 2020 Women's Day award by the DA Women's Network (DAWN) <https://limpopo.da.org.za/2020/08/dawn-honours-hlokomela-and-its-founder-in-hoedspruit-to-commemorate-womens-month>
- 2022: Hlokomela featured in Discovery's book, *Changing Tomorrow For Good - The ripple effect of collaboration, compassion and connection*.

The best (informed) decision – for mother and child

By Constance Rahlane and Nkateko Zitha

“As a Social Worker one of the most important parts of my job is to provide hope to the hopeless and give perspective to their overwhelming challenges” says Nkateko Zitha when a long standing client, *Betty Nyalo, requested to see her.

*Betty (36) is a beneficiary of Hlokomela’s Sex Work Programme. Nkateko counselled *Betty, who was 4 months pregnant at the time. *Betty did not want to keep the baby because she is subjected to gender based violence from the father of the baby against whom she has a protection order. During the counselling *Betty received information about abortion and that it can only be done during the first trimester, so Nkateko also informed her about the dangers of backstreet abortion. Betty then realised that it was too

late for her to abort so she opted for adoption. A family member agreed to adopt the child.

What complicated matters for *Betty further, was the fact that she was in a new relationship. Although the boyfriend promised to support her with all her children; she was scared to add her unborn child as well because she already had two older children. To ensure that Betty was emotionally ready for adoption, Nkateko provided more information about parenting and the adoption procedure. The information included the positive and negative side of adoption, in order for her to make an informed decision.

Nkateko asked *Betty neutral questions about her current choices and assisted her to assess how much her choice may affect her life in the short and long-term. After

several face-to-face and telephonic counselling sessions, *Betty decided to keep the baby.

*Betty has reported that she is happy with her choice as she receives great support from her family and her partner. *Betty also got a job as a cleaner, which made her life a bit easier. She has developed a great bond with her baby son; loving every minute of his new life. *Betty says she would have regretted her decision if she had given him away. “I am really happy, knowing that I gave hope to *Betty” says a smiling Nkateko.

Ethical consideration of client self-determination and confidentiality was applied during the process.

*A pseudonym was used to protect the identity of the client.



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CALL US ON +2782 560 0248

MAIL US AT INFO@HLOKOMELA.ORG.ZA

VISIT US ON WWW.HLOKOMELA.ORG.ZA

FIND US AT -24.403735,30.789432

