

# MOLO SONCOLOLO



## Annual Report 2023



### NPO REG. NO. 083 447

Company's Act NPC Reg. No: 1995/007290/08

## Registration

**Company's Act Reg. No: 1995/007290/08**

**DSD: NPO Directorate - NPO No: 083-447**

Designated Child Protection Organisation - C9329

**South African Revenue Services - VAT No: 4950182404**

Public Benefit Organisation – PBO No: 930023237

## Contract Details

### Main Office

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**Tel: 021 448 5421 / Fax: 021 448 2024 / email: [info@molo.org.za](mailto:info@molo.org.za)**

**Website: [www.molosongololo.org](http://www.molosongololo.org)**



### Satellite Offices



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Atlantis Central,  
**071 819 3275**



Thusong Centre  
De Vries Street  
**079 406 1760**



Welwitschia Primary  
School, Welwitschia Rd  
**071 282 4694**

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## Chairperson's comment

Over the last year, we have managed to receive funding from our long-term partner Department of Social Development, Western Cape, The National Lotteries Commission, The Luzar Foundation, and many individual givers to our cause.

With Patric Solomon, our director, at the helm, we have continued to deliver child protection, victim empowerment, advocacy, and education services to children in our communities of Delft and Cape Town, Beaufort West and Atlantis.

Our resilience remains high and new positive perspectives on how we see ourselves keep emerging. We are grooming leaders in our children and conscientizing them on their rights as social human beings who are going to inherit the world of today.

My focus this year has been and remains on board governance. It is about finding the right calibre of an ambassador for the work we do, and the generation of ideas in how we fundraise as an organization. We keep our ear to the ground so that Molo Songololo can keep doing the excellent work it does in our communities of need.

In 2023, we have been led in strategic planning by Mr Donny Jurgens of Dynamic Development Solutions, at times assisted by Ms Thuti Madlingozi. Out of the sessions, we have managed to get on the same page as the board and operational staff about our values, mission, resource mobilisation and governance at Molo Songololo. These are important factors, as most of our staff is based around the Western Cape, coming together on these factors synchronizes our intentions and allows for reflection about the strengthens and challenges of our organisation.

Going forward, we aim to focus on our Human Capital, especially Staff Wellness as the work they do daily is taxing on the psyche. We are grateful and truly appreciate their service to the organisation, province, country, and all people that they reach with their work. I also want to appreciate our long-standing patron Mrs. Mathilda Ventura who has been a guiding light and a hands-on assistant at the Delft Office, Cape Town. She makes herself available at all costs and holds institutional knowledge in how we understand our role as board members and operational staff.

I want to thank our former board members Mr. Maphello Landingwe and Mrs. Thuli Mkhwebane, who have both had challenges with family bereavement and workplace changes. Thank you for your wisdom, service and making Molo Songololo part of your lives.

A special thank you to our Secretary of the Board, Mr. Dale van der Berg who has kept the support flowing, meeting minutes coming and IT support where needed. Lastly thank you to our director for his dedication and thorough management of our beautiful organisation. To the next 44 years, may we grow stronger and better.

#BeMolo



## Director's comments

Three years of anxiety, uncertainty, fear, infections, illness, and death are now all behind us. The reporting year from March 2022 to February 2023 signaled the beginning of the end of the deadly Covid19 pandemic.

We witnessed and welcomed a massive decline in the global infection rates. By the end of the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter, most restrictions on movement, gatherings, mask wearing, and other prevention strategies have been lifted. And the world opened!

Molo Songololo is very grateful for the wonderful support received from our supporters, the children, and young people we work with. Big thank you to all the volunteers and those who mobilise their family, friends, and colleagues to give and contribute to our many calls for cash and kind donations we made.

We are also grateful for the funding received from the Department of Social Development, Western Cape government, The National Lotteries Commission, the Luzar Foundation, and the many individual givers who contributed.

With limited funding, teamwork, and determination of staff, we managed to continue to provide essential services to child victims, those at risk, their parents and families, and local community members in our target areas of Atlantis, Beaufort West and Delft. It is a pleasure to report the following achievements:

- 258 child victims and those at risk of sexual abuse, exploitation and trafficking in children received assessment, counselling, empowerment, and support services.
- 256 parents of child victims and those at risk received assessment, counselling, empowerment, and support services.
- 107 child victims and those at risk took part in various received therapeutic sessions.
- 13 parents of child victims and those at risk took part in various received therapeutic sessions.
- 4489 children took part in public education sessions to prevent child sexual exploitation and trafficking in children.
- 591 parents took part in public education session.
- 5500 children took part in rights and responsibilities and life-skills sessions.
- 10 000 children took part in the summer school holiday programme in Atlantis and Delft.

The 2022-2023 reporting year ended on a very positive note. Funding grant from the National Lotteries Commission was received, a full motivated board was in place, and staff felt relieved that the Covid19 pandemic restriction was lifted. And a very successful 5-week school holiday programme in Atlantis and Delft.

For the new year, the Board and management committed to drive a strategic review and planning process of reflection and planning aimed to strengthening the organisations operations and funding.

## Board and staff.

### **Governance: The Board of Directors**

Four new members were elected to the Board of Directors at the Annual General Meeting held on 3 September 2023. Two members of the previous years' board was re-elected. The Board elect, which meets every quarter, now include the following persons:

- Chairperson – Ncebakazi Nmukwana
- Deputy Chairperson – Thuli Mkhwebane
- Treasurer – Nozuko Masiba
- Secretary – Dale van der Berg
- Ordinary Member – Mamphelo Lindgane
- Ordinary Member - Bradford Eckersall
- Ex-officio Member – Patric Solomons

### **Management: Director, staff, and volunteers**

The Molo Songololo staff consist of full-time and part-time staff, supported by volunteers when needed. During this reporting year all staff salaries were reduced due to lack of funds. Salaries was adjusted in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter with the availability of new funding.

Our management and staff component for this reporting year consisted of the following: -

- Director: Patric Solomons
- Office Manager: Melda Davids
- Finance Manager: Nadeema Taliep
- Communications & IT Support: Nikelo Makae
- Child Protection & VEP Manager: Charlotte Pankhurst / Fatima Patterson
- Social Auxiliary Worker – Atlantis:
- Social Auxiliary Worker – Beaufort West - Annelise
- Social Auxiliary Worker – Delft: Portia Fuku
- Child & Youth Facilitator: Chloe Johnson
- Volunteers – 18 were contracted and paid stipends.

Despite financial challenges, reduction in staff salaries and three resignations; Molo Songololo ended the year on a positive note. By February 2022 the three vacancies were filled. Job security and sustainability of the organisatio are key factors that needs attention.



# Child protection and victim empowerment

The main funder of this programme is the Department of Social Development, Western Cape, the National Lotteries Commission, and individuals that make cash or kind donations. The purpose of this programme is to prevent and combat sexual violence committed against children, i.e.

- Child sexual abuse
- **Child sexual exploitation – the main focus**
- Child trafficking

During the 1<sup>st</sup> half of the reporting year, due to Covid19 pandemic restrictions, the bulk of the work focus on the provision of prevention and early intervention social support services to individual clients (child victims of sexual violence, and their families) through:

- Receiving and making referrals.
- Assessments and follow-up interviews and info gathering.
- Basic counselling, therapeutic and empowerment sessions.
- Regular home visits and monitoring of clients and family.
- General support – reporting, statement giving, court, school, and family.

Despite the many challenges presented by the Covid19 pandemic restrictions and its impact, Molo Songololo staff in this programme was able to provide essential support services in Atlantis, Beaufort West, and Delft to: -

- **258** child victims (survivors) and those at risk of child sexual abuse and exploitation
- **256** parents of child victims and those at risk of sexual abuse and exploitation

With the lifting of Covid19 pandemic restriction, we were able to re-introduce our group work, educational sessions and workshops, and public education activities with clients, community members and service providers. For this reporting year we achieved the following:

| Services / Activities provided |  | Number of beneficiaries |                   |                   |                   |              |
|--------------------------------|--|-------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--------------|
|                                |  | 1 <sup>st</sup> Q       | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Q | 3 <sup>rd</sup> Q | 4 <sup>th</sup> Q | Annual Total |
| <b>1</b>                       | Child victims and those at risk receive support services                     | 71                      | 70                | 61                | 56                | <b>258</b>   |
| <b>2</b>                       | Parents of child victims and those at risk receive support services          | 71                      | 73                | 61                | 51                | <b>256</b>   |
| <b>3</b>                       | Child victims & those at risk take part in therapeutic sessions              | 33                      | 12                | 26                | 36                | <b>107</b>   |
| <b>4</b>                       | Parents of child victims and those at risk take part in therapeutic sessions | 5                       | 3                 | 5                 |                   | <b>13</b>    |
| <b>5</b>                       | Children receive public Education to prevent child sexual exploitation (CSE) | 579                     | 466               | 591               | 2853              | <b>4 489</b> |
| <b>6</b>                       | Parents /adults receive Public Education to prevent CSE                      | 164                     | 218               | 150               | 59                | <b>551</b>   |



# Child sexual exploitation Complexities

Although most people will agree that for adults to have sex with children are illegal and a crime, many turn a blind eye to the sexual abuse and sexual exploitation of children by adults.

In this reporting year we have observed and worked with cases that indicate,

- Children and adults have daily access to sexual content and sexual abuse images via their cell phones.
- Men target teenagers for sex have easy access to them via cell phones.
- Men give girls cell phones to stay in contact and groom them.
- Older teen boys and young men offer girls stuff in exchange for sex.
- Men give girls and boys things in exchange for sex or to organise others for sex.
- Men in position of power, like teachers, police, and others, give girls stuff and have sex with them.
- Some parents receive stuff and condone their child's "sexual relationship" with an adult man.
- Girls, boys, and men take and send sexual images of themselves or others via their cell phones.
- Children and adults post sexual images on social media as revenge when couples break-up.
- Teen boys and men blackmail girls with exposure and force them to have sex with them.

Awareness of the nature of child sexual exploitation and the criminal offences that are committed are lacking. Thus, identifying and reporting cases are most difficult.

Molo Songololo uses every opportunity to prevent and combat these crimes against children through public education.

Please support the Molo Songololo Spring Raffle. It will help maintain the work I do with children in Delft.

## What is child sexual exploitation (CSE)?

It is a **type of sexual abuse**. It is when a child (person under 18-years) is taken advantage of, manipulated, groomed and used for sexual purposes in exchange for a reward or benefit to child or anyone.

The reward or benefit can be for favour, food, gifts, airtime, cell phones, alcohol, drugs; or money, shelter, fear, affection, status, etc. in exchange for performing sexual activities or the exploitation of child sexual abuse images and content.

**MOLO SONGOLOLO**



Poria Fuku works with children who are victims of sexual assault, rape and sexual exploitation!

## What are sexual offences?

Sexual offences are any exposure to, grooming for, forced, unwanted, unlawful sexual content, conduct, acts or purposes achieved with consent, or without consent in relation to a child or disabled person

### Sexual offences include:

- Exposure to sexual content or behaviour
- Grooming someone for sexual purposes
- Sexual assault – any non-penetrative sexual assault
- Compelled sexual assault – forcing someone to commit a sexual assault
- Rape – any forced and unlawful penetrative sexual acts
- Compelled Rape – forcing someone to commit rape
- Statutory rape – rape of child of a certain age by adult or older child
- Incest – sexual acts with a family relation with or without consent
- Child pornography – any content or images that reflect a child in a sexual way or the sexual abuse, assault, or rape of a child.
- Sexual exploitation – any reward or benefit derived from committing a sexual offence
- Trafficking for sexual exploitation – to procure, move, hold captive and sexually exploit someone.

**MOLO SONGOLOLO**

Buy a raffle ticket or more, and help support my work with children!



Moira Patrick works with child victims of sexual offences, and those at risk in Atlantis, Mamre, and Witstand.

Buying a raffle ticket will help my work with the children in the Karoo!

**MOLO SONGOLOLO**

## Who is a child at risk?

It is a child who is experiencing or is at risk of experiencing neglect, abuse, violence, exploitation or any other harm or conditions that threaten his/her safety and wellbeing.

### A child at risk is also a child who:

- is in need of care, support, shelter and protection.
- is abandoned by parents or who have no parental support and fend for themselves or siblings
- use and abuse alcohol and drugs
- drop out of school and forced to work
- Involved with gangsters or hang out with adults
- Is sexual active and have sexual relations with adults
- Ran away from home and live on the street
- Poverty and hunger



Anneliese van Rensburg works with child victims of sexual offences, and those at risk in Beaufort West

Please support our raffle fundraiser and support our work with children.

**MOLO SONGOLOLO**

## Our VEP services for children

- Respond to enquiries and provide advice
- Receive and make referrals
- Intake interviews and follow-ups
- House visits and risk evaluations
- Basic counselling - individual
- Therapeutic sessions – group
- Empowerment sessions – group
- Progress assessments & Development Plans
- Family integration and parent support
- Ongoing support and monitoring
- Awareness and education to prevent child sexual exploitation and trafficking in children



Charlotte Pankhurst manage our social support services for child victims of sexual offences and those at risk.



# DIGNITY FOR GIRLS, every day, everywhere!

Most of the children (beneficiaries) Molo Songololo work with are from poor families and lack food security and regular access to basic personal products that can maintain their self-respect and DIGNITY.

Period Dignity is a major challenge for MOST of the girls we work with. Every year Molo Songololo conduct two donation drives for sanitary pads and toiletries, or cash donations for a DIGNITY GIRFT BAG.

A Dignity Gift Bag consist of a 3-month supply of personal products that girls can use to maintain Period Dignity,

Sanitary pads

Face cloth, soap, body lotion

Toothpaste and toothbrush

underarm deodorant, body spry

shampoo, conditioner,

Vaseline and other small feminine products

Treats, etc.

The Nelson Mandela Day Challenge donation drive is conducted during June and July. The gift bags are distributed in August to girls in Atlantis, Beaufort West, and Delft,

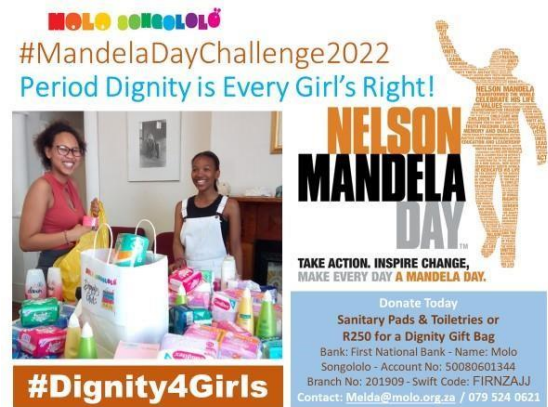
- 300 Dignity Gift Bags
- 300 Mandela Day Lunch Packs & 300 Meals

The Xmas Giving Challenge donation drive takes place during November and December and the gift bags are distributed during month of December in Atlantis, Beaufort West, and Delft to girls in need.

- 250 Dignity Gift Bags

All the satellite offices stock sanitary pads and basic toiletries so that children can have access to products when they need them.

**#Dignity4Girls** is also an awareness raising campaign to promote respect for girls and their natural sexual reproductive health, rights and reduce period stigma and discrimination.



## DIGNITY FOR GIRLS



# Mandela Day Meals

As part of the annual Nelson Mandela Challenge, Molo Songololo provides an opportunity for our supporters and members of the public to join the annual campaign to give 67 minutes and make a difference.

Many children and youth in Molo Songololo's target areas of Atlantis, Beaufort West, and Delft lacks food security. The negative impact of Covid19 further stressed poor households and children have less nutritious food to eat. In some cases, they only have one meal a day.

We appeal to our supporters and members of the public to,

- Donate R100 for a meal or products we can use to make up Nelson Mandela Day Lunch Packs for children.
- Join our local office, who mobilise children, and help clean up, with the children their community.

Each year, Molo Songololo staff mobilise children in Atlantis, Beaufort West and Delft to give back and join the campaign. Children in our IT'S YOUR MOVE programme identify a public space that children use that they can clean up. This year the Nelson Mandela Day Clean Your Hood campaign cleaned up: -

- An open playing field in Atlantis
- A park in Beaufort West
- A few streets in Delft where children play.

Molo Songololo's ITS YOUR MOVE MEMBERS also help with distributing the Mandela Day Lunch Packs and meals. This year we made and distributed,

- 300 Mandela Day Lunch Packs
- 300 Meals

Those who donate are mainly individual Molo Songololo supporters and givers. The Mandela Day Lunch Packs included.

- A portion of akhni
- Fruit – apple and banana
- Juice & Chips

**MOLO SONGOLOLO**  
#MandelaDayChallenge2022

**Donate & Volunteer**

Donate R100 for a meal or donate a pot of chicken akni or biryani, or fruit, juice, biscuits, cupcakes, for 200+ Mandela Day Lunch Packs

Donate R250 for a Mandela Day Dignity Gift Bags (3+ month supply of feminine products) or donate sanitary pads and toiletries for 200+ bags

Volunteer and support our Hood Clean-up with Kids in Atlantis, Delft & Beaufort West on Monday 18 July  
Contact: Melda@molo.org.za or WhatsApp: 079 524 0621

**NELSON MANDELA DAY**  
TAKE ACTION. INSPIRE CHANGE. MAKE EVERY DAY A MANDELA DAY.

**Banking details**  
Bank Name: First National Bank  
Account Name: Molo Songololo  
Account No: 50080601344  
Branch No: 201909  
Swift Code: FIRNZAJJ  
Thank You for Your Support  
Contact: Melda@molo.org.za / 079 524 0621





# IT'S YOUR MOVE - Child and youth empowerment

The name of the Molo Songololo Child & Youth Empowerment Programme is called ITS YOUR MOVE (IYM). The programme includes several focal activities targeting child and youth from

- 12 to 14 years Primary School learners
- 15 to 17 years High School learners.

Like the CP&VEP this programme is mainly located in the target communities of Atlantis, Beaufort West and Delft and include the following activities.

- **IYM Children's Forum** – consult with children on issues that affect them.
- **IYM Empowerment** – empower children on rights & Responsibilities, Life-skills & Leadership skills.
- **IYM Young Women's Forum** – gender specific peer dialogue and empowerment.
- **IYM Young Men's Forum** - gender specific peer dialogue and empowerment.
- **IYM Child Participation & Advocacy** – children take part, express their views on decisions that affect them, and social action campaigns.

About 5000 children took part in the activities of this programme. We highlight some of the activities on the next pages.

THE MOLO SHOW – is a weekly radio programme produced by Molo Songololo's Chloe Johnson and broadcasted weekly on Radio Atlantis. The show target and involve children and youth from 12 to 17 years.

It focus on current affairs and create dialogue and public awareness on

- Challenges and difficulties of children
- Children's safety and protection issues
- Children's activities and achievements
- Peer learning and support
- Children interests, needs and rights



A radio talk show for youth from 12 to 17-years of age  
Tune-in, text or voice messages to express your views and concerns about issues affecting you.  
WhatsApp – 079 524 0621



## HELP KIDS GET JABBED!

Parents, care-givers, schools, children's organisation, clubs and groups must help children to register to get the Covid19 jab. Children 12years and older can decide on their own to get the Covid19 vaccine for free at a public or private facility.



## 1 June International Children's Day

- 1 June 1925 – declared at The World Conference for the Well-being of Children in Geneva, Switzerland,
- 1 June 1954 - Also declared as The International Day for Protection of Children - to protect children's rights, end child labour and guarantee access to education.



## Child Protection Week 29 May to 4 June 2022

Taking, accessing, keeping or sending sexual content to children, or sexual abuse images of children is a crime.





## IYM - Children's forums

Molo Songololo adopts a child participation approach to its work to promote children's participation rights. The ITS YOUR MOVE (IYM) Children's Forums are consultation platforms with and for children.

This year Molo Songololo had several consultative forums to

- inform children about various activities
  - and processes that affect them Empower children with information.
  - relevant to the issues to be discussed
  - Give children opportunity to express their views and engage with peers
  - Canvas, opinions and suggestions. consider and include children
  - Report back to children on how their contribution was included.
- 
- During this repohad three consultations with children. They rting year Molo Songololo included:
  - Assessment of the work, programmes and activities of Molo Songololo.
  - CanvasPROJECT about Molo Songololoing children's ideas for a . FILM
  - Review of the Western Cape
  - Commissioner for Children's Annual Report.
  - These consultations is very valuable for Molo
  - Songololo. It provides the organisation,
  - Insight into the issues children and youth are dealing with.
  - Overview of with programmes and activexperiences children have ities.
  - Awareness of what children like and don't like about the programmes and
  - activities.
  - Understanding of the impact of the programmes and activities on children
  - Value of the work of Molo Songololo
  - Ideas and suggestion on how to improve and be relevant.
  - Improve the child participation policies and practice.



## IYM- Child participation and advocacy

"It was amazing to speak to children and youth from other parts of the world. They were from Europe, Africa, and Asia. I was nervous. Our preparations helped me to be confident and represent the views of our It's Your Move members, 15 year old *Aleah Johnson*.

Molo Songololo had the wonderful opportunity to empower and facilitate for 20 members from Atlantis an Delt to take part in a United Nations Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (UNESCR) Commission's Global Consultation with Children.

The UNESCR Commissioners want to know from children all over the world what their views and experiences are of how their government are respecting and implementing economic, social and cultural rights of people and children. The three themes focussed on;

- Equality and Non-discrimination
- Climate and environmental harm
- Sustainable Development and Natural Resources.

The UNESCR commissioners will use the views and opinions of the children in their global report to governments and include children's experiences, views and opinions on the three main issues.

"Oh wow, how amazing. We chatted to children from all over the world. It is great to hear their views and ideas. Many are the same for all of us'. – Nhlanhla Bans, 15 years old.

Molo Songololo hopes to facilitate more of these opportunities for children to take part and contribute in local, national, and global decision-making platforms regarding matters concerning children.



**Global Consultation** **HAVE YOUR SAY**

The Molo Songololo Children's Forum – **IT'S YOUR MOVE** members will join children from all over the world, to discuss how their governments respect and protect economic, social and cultural rights.

**IT'S YOUR MOVE** members will elect 3 reps who will meet with the United Nations Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (UNESCR) to express their views and proposals on these rights related to:

- Equality and non-discrimination
- Climate change and environmental harm
- Sustainable Development and Natural Resources

Meeting with the UNESCR is on the 5th or 6th April 2022.

For more info check child rights connect website



**Children have a right to take part in decisions that affect them!**







# UNCESCR Global Consultation



## MOLO SONGOLOLO

### It's Your Move - Representatives



#### Nhlanhla Bans

Hi everyone. Greetings to you all. I hope you are all doing well. I am from a township called Delft in Cape Town. I am 16-years of age. Well, I am a very friendly person, very talkative and outspoken. I am not a sports person. I am so excited to be part of this Global Children's Consultation and look forward to interacting with the United Nations committee members on economic, social, and cultural rights. I can't wait to hear the views of children from all over the world, on these matters and learn about the concerns and challenges children face. I am so grateful of the opportunity.



#### Jaden Sanger

Greetings! I am from Atlantis which is an area that is part of greater Cape Town. I am 16-years old. I love to take part in different sports like athletics and dancing to express myself. I like to communicate with people I don't know and make new friends. I am so very excited. I am happy I was elected and look forward to being part of the Global Children's Consultation on sustainable development, and economic, social, and cultural rights. I am excited and nervous but will do my best to represent the from It's Your Move, and children from my community and country.



#### Aleah van der Berg

Hello! I am 16-years old, and I live in a community called Atlantis, located about 55km from Cape Town centre. Atlantis is part of the greater Cape Town metropolitan area. I am artistic and somewhat of an introverted, and free-spirited. I have been part of the Molo Songololo Children's Forum – It's Your Move for about 5-years, and it's been amazing having my voice heard and helping other children. It's a privilege to be part of the Global Consultation and meet kids from all over the world. I can't wait for the history that we are about to make and help improve rights for all children.

**It's Your Move** members registered for the **Europe and Africa** session of The Global Consultation with the UN Committee of experts on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, that take place on: **6th April 2022 from 10 AM to 12 PM (Central European Time).**

They will express their views on the following issues related to economic, social, and cultural rights:

- Social progress (which is about having fair and equal communities).
- Economic Development (which is about having access to jobs and social security).
- Climate and environment (good living conditions on our planet and the natural world around us).

[info@molo.org.za](mailto:info@molo.org.za) / [www.molosongololo.org](http://www.molosongololo.org)



# IYM- Child participation and advocacy

Molo Songololo Children's Forum from Atlantis, Witsand and Delft met and discuss the Children's Amendment Bill and made recommendations which they presented to the Provincial Parliament.

The Bill is to make changes to the Children's Act. They said "children have a right to take part in decisions affecting them. We are excited to be here. But we are also very nervous ". It was their first-time taking part in a public participation process and visiting the Provincial Parliament.

Some of our older members, those who are now 18 -years old and over, did take part in previous public participation processes on the Children's Act and the Sexual Offences Act. Unfortunately most children are not aware that they can take part.

The Children's Act promotes the rights, care, and protection of children. It is a guideline of how children must be treated when they need help, assistance, and support.

In our local communities of Atlantis, Witsands, Delft, Mfuleni and Blikkiesdorp, children experience many problems. Many do not enjoy the rights set out in the Constitution or in the Children's Act.

Many children are suffering, don't get enough food to eat. They are abused and hurt by adults and their parents. They are exposed to violence and crime, and many are killed. We feel unsafe and fear for our lives every day.

We agree with the changes and make further suggestions in our document to improve protection for children in the Children's Act: said Mbali Botha, 13 years from Delft and Shirnay May, 17- years, from Atlantis.



# IYM - Young Women's Forum / Young Men's Forum

The It's Your Move - Child and Youth Empowerment Programme includes two gender specific platforms aimed to:-

- Inform and empower children on gender related issues.
- Facilitate peer dialogue on gender specific issues and challenges.
- Identify gender related experiences, concerns, challenge, and violence.
- Develop strategies and take action to prevent and combat gender related abuse, violence and exploitation.

## IYM – Young Women's Forum (YWF)

This platform is for girl children and female members of IYM from 12 to 17 years in Atlantis, Delft and Beaufort West. The YWFs allow teenage girls to engage their views, experiences, and opinions openly and freely with the female peers.

## IYM – Young Men's Forum (YMF)

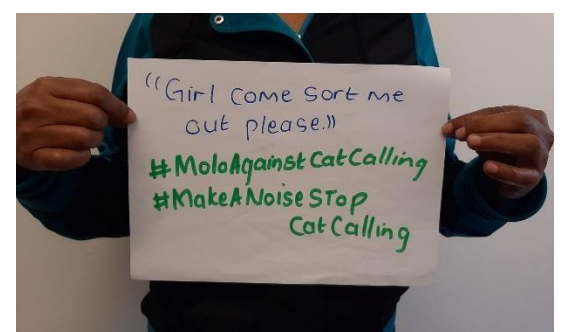
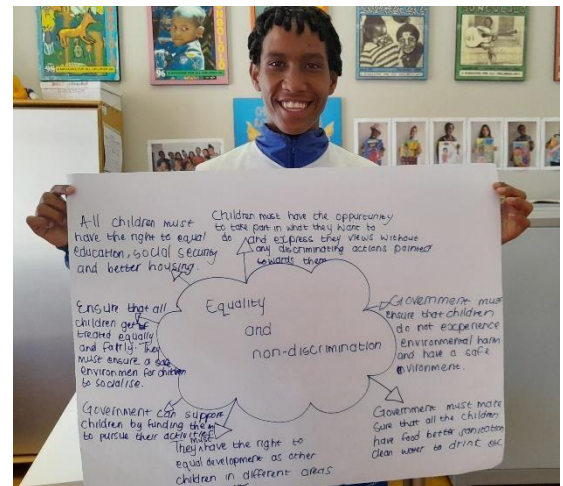
This platform is for boy children from 12 to 17 years in Atlantis, Beaufort West and Delft, and are held separately from the Young Women's Forums. Like the girls, the boys to engage their male peers on gender related issues that affect them openly and freely.

Unfortunately, due to the Covid19 pandemic and financial challenges we were not able to implement all the forums planned for. We managed to have five forums, 3 for girls and 2 for boys: involving 56 girls and 23 boys.

During the annual 16 Days of Action campaign the YWF members conducts a public awareness campaign to prevent and combat PUBLIC SEXUAL HARRASSMENT OF CHILDREN, especially girl children.

Both forums also promote and combat,

- gender equality and non-discrimination.
- gender-based violence.
- child sexual exploitation.





# IYM – Empowerment: School holiday programme

2500 children took part in the December 2022 to January 2023 School Holiday programme.

Molo Songololo was contracted by the Western Cape Department of Arts, Culture and Sport to organise the programme for children in Atlantis and Delft.

Main target age group were children and youth from 12 to 17 years of age. We also had some younger and older children taking part in the programmes.

The programme took place over 25 days, Mondays to Fridays, from 12 Dec 2022 to 13 Jan 2023. Due to the holidays, two workshops were held on Saturdays, 7<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> January.

The time schedule was as follow:

- Daily start time: 10h00 – children was encouraged to arrive early.
- Lunch break: 12h30 – time to have refreshment, rest, and chat to new friends.
- Daily end time: 15h30 – children encourage to help clean up venue at end of day.

Holiday programme thematic topics was developed and engage participants in a fun and interactive way.

- Mondays – Child Rights and Responsibilities
- Tuesdays – Community Awareness and Social Responsibilities
- Wednesdays – Gender Equality
- Thursdays - Child Safety & Protection
- Fridays – Preventing sexual violence.

Volunteers were trained and supervised by Molo Songololo. 12 volunteers received a stipend and was paid weekly.

There is a great need for school holiday programmes for children in the target areas of Atlantis, Beaufort West, and Delft.





## IYM – Western Cape Commissioner for Children

The Western Cape Commissioner for Children, Ms Christina Nomdo, visited the Molo Songololo 's It's Your Move members in Beaufort West.

For many years, Molo Songololo and It's Your Move members campaigned for the establishment of an INDEPENDENT champion and protector of children and their rights.

Christina Nomdo is the first Commissioner appointed on 1 June 2020. She will be the commissioner for 5 years. She now has completed 3 years on 30 May 2023.

It 's Your Move members expressed the following to the commissioner;

- Children in Beaufort West and elsewhere
- do not know the commissioner, Children is not aware of that the commissioner is supposed to do and who the commissioner report to.
- What to know what the commissioner has done for children, and how the commissioner protected children.

The It's Your Move Members also highlighted the many hardships children experience, i.e.

- Poverty and hunger Abuse and neglect by parents
- Substance abuse by parents and children
- Domestic violence and social crime
- Sexual abuse and sexual exploitation
- Boys and men making girls pregnant.
- Children dropping out of school.
- Parents not having jobs and earning low wages.
- Lack of opportunities and services for children

The It's Your Move members in Beaufort West found the engagement useful and was glad to have met the commissioner. They are however very sceptical if the commissioner will be able to be the protector and defender of children and their rights.



# Building capacity of service providers

The year kicked off with a very successful stakeholder Forum in Beaufort West aimed to reduce barriers, strengthen cooperation, improve reporting, and management of GBV, especially child sexual exploitation.

34 services providers from various sectors attended the stakeholder forum which was conducted by Patric Solomons and Charlotte Pankhurst. Participant included representatives from the Police, Social Development,

Education, Health, NPA-Courts, Correctional Services, NGOs and Community groups. A similar capacity building workshop was held in Atlantis for stakeholders from the areas, as well as Mamre, Pella and Witsands. 27 representatives attended the workshop. The outcomes for these capacity building workshops included.

- Updated database of services providers shared with stakeholders.
- Improved cooperation and referrals of child abuse cases.
- Reduction of barriers that hampered the reporting of cases to the police.
- Awareness of protocols dealing with child sexual exploitation and trafficking in children cases.

Molo Songololo was also contacted various educational presentations at the events of partners focusing on: -

- The Rights of the Child
- Child sexual exploitation – myths & reality
- Trafficking in children – nature and extent
- Online sexual exploitation of children
- Child Rights Practice Standards

Molo Songololo also took part in various webinars on child rights issues, and made presentations on the following,

- The role and function of the Western Cape Commissioner for Children
- The Children's Act Amendment Bill
- Parental Rights & Responsibilities





## Awareness and advocacy

Public education is vital, to inform the public, community members and service providers about the work Molo Songololo do, as well as child rights and protection issues.

During this reporting year we were able to resume these activities in Atlantis, Beaufort West and Delft. We conducted public education activities with

- School learners and educators at schools
- Community members at service points like the local clinics,
- Libraries and community halls
- Shopping malls

The key awareness and advocacy messages that Molo Songololo Promote focus on the following: -

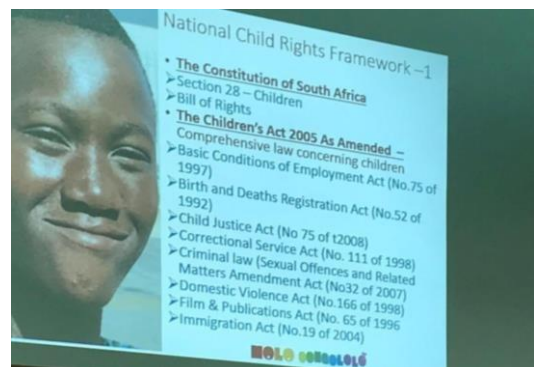
- The rights of the child to safety and protection
- Prevention of public sexual harassment of children, especially girl children.
- Prevention of child sexual exploitation and trafficking in children
- Prevention of online production and distribution of sexual abuse images of children

Molo Songololo also collaborates and partners with various groups to support their work and public initiatives. They include

- Gun Free South Africa
- The Trauma Centre & Safeline
- Thuthuzela Care Centre Atlantis
- DSD Child Protection Forums
- SAPS Crime Prevention

During the 16 Days of Action Against Child and Women Abuse Molo Songololo support members of It's Your Move with their campaign **#MoloAgainstCatcalling** in Atlantis, Delft and Beaufort West.

Over 5000 people attended our public education sessions that aim to inform and advocate for good practice standards for childcare and protection.





# Networking and partnerships

Molo Songololo regularly networks with a wide range of organisations concerned with children's needs, interests and rights on national, provincial, and local level. They include government and non-governmental organisations.

Our main government partners at national, provincial, District and community levels are,

- Department Social Development
- SAPS - FCS
- Department of Education - schools, principals and teachers
- Department of Health – Thutuzela Care
- Centres and clinics
- Municipalities and several other government services for children.

Many of the materials Molo Songololo use in our educational workshops with children and adults we source from national government departments.

Civil Society NGOs Molo Songololo have collaborated with during this reporting year included the,

- National Child Rights Forum
- Provincial NGO Networks and Child Rights Forums
- NGOs like ACVV, Badisa, Safeline, Childline, and Justice Desk
- Community groups, schools and many other child and youth formations.

Molo Songololo's funding partners for this reporting period have been.

- Department Social Development Western Cape
- The National Lotteries Commission
- Luzar Foundations
- Individual contributors

Molo Songololo's partnerships with local stakeholders in our target communities are important. They help us to understand the community dynamics and is a vital support for the work we do with children and families.





## Gratitude and thanks

Molo Songololo is grateful for the wonderful support received from our funders and partners. We are very grateful for their ongoing support of the work of the organisation.

A big thank you to the many individuals who make regular contributions and those who made monthly contributions via our PayPal account. Molo Songololo appreciated every contribution, big or small.

Thank you for supporting our donation drives and helping us to increase our reach to children. The gift of dignity is most precious. With your donations we were able to ensure over 550 girls can enjoy Period Dignity.

A big thank you to all those who volunteered their services to Molo Songololo, our Board members, our patrons, and the many local and foreign volunteers.

And finally, the children and youth we work with, thank you for the patients and trust. Molo Songololo appreciates every effort and contribution you make. Your feedback help to improve our work with children.

