



# MOLO SONGOLOLO





## Registration

**DSD: NPO Directorate** - NPO No: 083-447  
**Designated Child Protection Organisation** – Reg. No: C9329

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

**South African Revenue Services** - VAT No: 4950182404  
**Public Benefit Organisation** – PBO No: 930023237  
**Section 18A Certificate:**

## Contract Details: Main Office

**Address:** 46 Trill Road, Observatory 7925 / P.O. Box 43326, Woodstock 7915  
**Telephone:** 021 448 5421 / WhatsApp: 079 524 0621 / Fax: 021 448 2024  
**Email:** info@molo.org.za  
**Website:** www.molosongololo.org

## Contact Details: Satellite Offices



**Atlantis**  
Unit 1, Market Str.  
Atlantis Central,  
**071 819 3275**



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



**Delft**  
Welwitschia Primary  
Sch, Welwitschia Rd  
**071 282 4694**

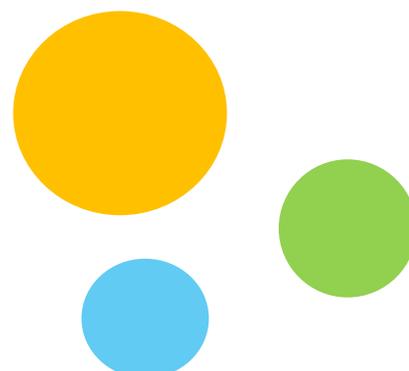
## Contact Details: Management

**Managing Director**  
Patric Solomons  
Tel: 082 333 0849  
Email: Patric@molo.org.za

**Office Manager**  
Melda Davids  
Tel: 079 524 0621  
Email: [Info@molo.org.za](mailto:Info@molo.org.za)



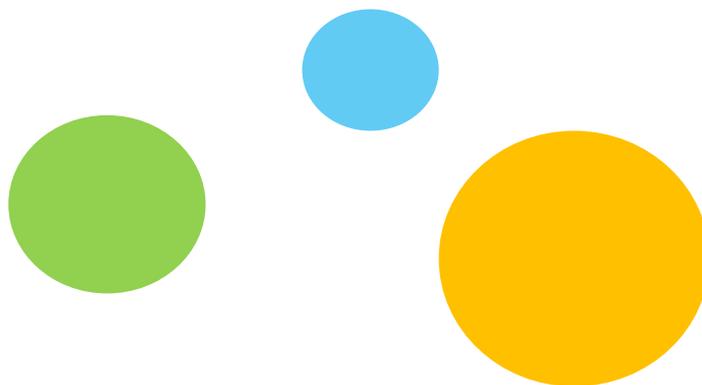
[www.molosongololo.org](http://www.molosongololo.org)



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## Chairperson of Board Comment



A big thank you to my fellow board members, the management and staff members. You once again made it an impactful, rewarding and successful year, despite the many challenges.

A very special thank you to the funders, businesses, and individuals who made financial and non-financial contributions. Your support sustain Molo Songololo's work for and with children.

I am most grateful for this opportunity to serve, be part of the team and make my contribution.

Molo Songololo ended the reporting year finalization a strategic review and planning process with board members and staff. The exercise strengthened our commitment, affirmed our purpose and strengths, clarified our challenges and shortcomings, and highlighted our priorities.

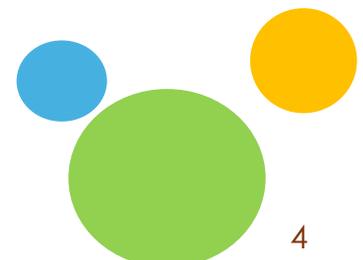
Resource mobilization and sustainability was identified as a major priority. This must be given priority by the board, management and staff to ensure regular sustained streams of income for salaries, operational, administrative and project costs.

Molo Songololo aims to expand its individual giving fundraising strategy to seek regular financial support directly from individuals. The organisation aims to cultivate personal connections and one-to-one engagements. The board and management will strengthen personal relationships with our supporters to encourage their individual philanthropic contributions and fundraising for organisation.

Molo Songololo's work in the communities of Atlantis, Beaufort West and Delft indicates that more and more children are vulnerable and at risk. The causal factors include child abandonment, poor parenting, poverty and unemployment, hunger, poor educational outcomes, school dropouts, early sex, pregnancies, sexual abuse and exploitation, gang and social violence, etc. These negatively impact children, their rights, wellbeing, and safety.

Molo Songololo must mobilise more resources and funding to maintain and expand its programs and activities to meet the growing needs in our targeted communities. For this we need capacity and a strong team working together. Come join our team, be part of the Molo Songololo changemakers to improve the care and protection of children in need.

**Ncebakazi Mnukwana**  
#BeMolo





## Managing Director's Comment

This report focusses on the work of Molo Songololo, its achievements of the 2023 reporting year. It is important to note that the organisation has now reached its 45<sup>th</sup> year of service to children.

Yes, what a milestone. But we will report more on that in the next annual report. In this report we present the work achieved in the 44<sup>th</sup> year of Molo Songololo's existence.

The Molo Songololo team, the board and staff member, made an impactful contribution to safeguard, promote and empower children during the 2023 reporting year.

Molo Songololo survived many challenges and thrived for more than 40 years. It has a good public image and historical footprint. The organization is recognized as a major child protection organization on various international, national and provincial platforms. Its 2023 footprint includes the following: -

- 5 542 children took part in public education session to prevent child sexual abuse and exploitation
- 1 390 parents / adults took part in public education session to prevent child sexual abuse and exploitation
- 72 child survivors of sexual abuse and exploitation receives support, counselling and empowerment services
- 81 parents received support, counselling and empowerment services
- 69 child survivors of sexual abuse and exploitation received therapeutic services
- 4 500 children took part in public educational sessions and workshops
- 3 800 children took part in school holiday programmes
- 120 children took part in the production of The Molo Show – radio programme
- 158 adult services providers took part in educational workshops

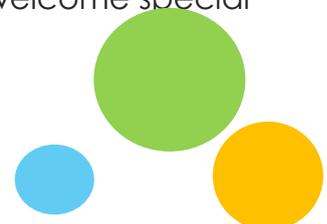
Molo Songololo continues to maintain good financial and operational records, compliance, governance and accountability. We are a reliable funding partner.

Molo Songololo is grateful to all the funders, businesses and individuals who gave funds and goods to support its work. A very special thanx to our regular individual givers and supporters. We appreciate your contributions, and welcome special monetary or kind gifts to celebrate our 45<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

**Patric Solomons**

#Bemolo

Molo Songololo Annual Report



## The Molo Songololo Team

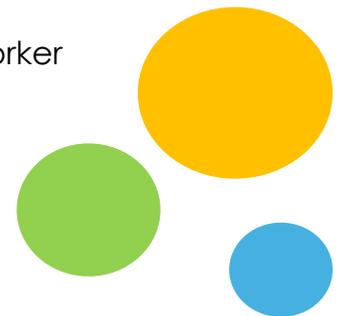
Maintaining an effective board is crucial for good governance and leadership. The Molo Songololo board guided the organisation's strategic review outcomes and developed key priorities aimed at strengthening governance, operations and resource mobilization.

During the 2023 to 2024 reporting period, the board was constituted by: -

- Ncebakazi Mnukwana - Chairperson
- Thuli Mkhwebane – Deputy chairperson (resigned in 2023)
- Nozuku Masiba – Treasurer
- Dale van der Berg - Secretary
- Brad Eckersall – Additional Member
- Mamphello Landingwe – additional Member (resigned in 2023)
- Patric Solomons – Ex-officio Member

The Molo Songololo management and staff members have wonderful teamwork and commitment. The team included the following: -

- Patric Solomons – Managing Director
- Melda Davids – Office Manager
- Nadeema Taliep – Financial Manager
- Fatima Patterson – Victim empowerment Manager / Social Worker
- Marcheline Smith – Social Axillary Worker (Atlantis)
- Chloe Johnson – Child & Youth Facilitator (Atlantis)
- Heilene Lottering - Social Axillary Worker (Beaufort West)
- Monique Dassie – Child & Youth Facilitator (Beaufort West)
- Vatihiswa Sitole - Social Axillary Worker (Delft)
- Yibanathi Ralarala – Child & Youth Facilitator (Delft)



### Child Participation

Molo Songololo involves children and youth in its work and operations. We consult, consider and include their views in decision-making. They are key stakeholders and are included in the annual general meetings to report on how they experience the activities, services, and how it can be improved.

**Volunteers:** We thank all those who volunteer and help support our work.



# Child Protection & Victim Empowerment



This programme provides direct support to child victims / survivors of sexual abuse, sexual exploitation, trafficking in children, those at risk, and their parents. It also includes public education and awareness to prevent and combat these crimes.

Poverty, food insecurity; poor living conditions, substance abuse and lack of parental support, gender-based violence, sexual violence, social crime and peer pressure are factors that negatively impact the children we work with in: -

- Atlantis – including Mamre, Witsand and Pella.
- Beaufort West – including Nelspoort, Leeu-Gamka and Prince-Albert.
- Delft – including Blikkiesdorp, N2 Gateway and Mfuleni.

During this reporting year we strengthen our relationships with community stakeholders which resulted in improved referral pathways, resulting in: -

- 72 child victims/survivors of sexual abuse and exploitation received support, counselling and empowerment services
- 81 parents of child victims/survivors received support, counselling and empowerment services
- 69 child survivors of sexual abuse and exploitation received therapeutic services
- 5 542 children took part in public education session to prevent child sexual abuse and exploitation
- 1 390 parents / adults took part in public education session to prevent child sexual abuse and exploitation
- 38 took part in a therapeutic and healing camp
- 27 took part in healing activities.

Children in our target communities continue to be exposed to high levels of abuse, violence and crime that increase their vulnerability and put them at risk. The nature of childhood sexual abuse trauma presented amongst our clients during the March 2023 to Feb 2024 period are: -

- Child sexual exploitation: 22% of cases
- Statutory rape: 14 % cases
- Rape: 40% of cases
- Sexual assault: 18 % of cases
- Other (children at risk): 6% of cases



# Healing and recovery

Childhood sexual abuse trauma has life-long consequences for survivors. The child victims and survivors of sexual abuse and exploitation Molo Songololo work with experience multiple levels of trauma. Their daily lives are filled with stress, fear, anxiety, loss and grief. Besides the counselling and therapeutic services, Molo Songololo also provided other opportunities for healing and recovery.

**History appreciation and healing** – This fieldtrip exposed 12 participants to the history of Langa township and the community's struggle for freedom from Apartheid. Visiting historical sites and engaging with community members developed and appreciation for their own family and community histories and backgrounds.

**Heritage for healing** - This was an intergenerational heritage for healing excursion and dialogue with 12 girls from Delft and 6 adults (board members and supporters) at the Camissa Museum at the Castle of Good Hope. Participants learn about the history of the peoples of Cape Town and share stories about their family histories and background with the aim of reclaiming their own ancestral heritage. Both children and adults enjoyed the session, and all learnt something new about their own family and community history.

**Crisis trauma counselling** – The children arrived at the venue severely traumatised as they experienced the hijacking at gunpoint the Molo Songololo vehicle at their pick-up point. A group trauma counselling session was held before we continued the programme. Molo Songololo also organised, in collaboration with the Trauma Centre in Delft, several counselling sessions for the children the following week.

**Schools group grief counseling for learners** – Molo Songololo conducted group grief counselling sessions with 3 schools with over 110 learners who were exposed to gang violence, fatal shootings, and were traumatized. These sessions allowed learners to express their feelings, share their thoughts, and learn about loss, grief and mourning.

The participants also explored remedies on how to deal with what happened and what to do to prevent and combat violence. Learners were also taught therapeutic exercises to help them cope with fear, anxiety, anger, loss and grief.



## Dignity for Girls

Poverty and poverty related conditions often deny girl their rights to dignity. Many of the girl children Molo Songololo work with do not have easy access to basic reproductive health products and basic toiletries to secure their human dignity. Our intervention in this regard focuses on the following.

- Reproductive health and rights education with girls and boys
- Personal hygiene and grooming education for girls and boys
- Donations drive to collect and make up Dignity Gift Bags
- Distribution of Dignity Gift Bags to those in need

### Period dignity

Girls report that they continue to be teased, laughed at, being name-called, pestered, harassed and shamed by boys and girls when they have their period. They also report that some educators often make them feel that their period is a bad thing and be kept quiet.

The reason why are some parents, adults, educators, and girls and women are shy to talk about menstruation include: -

- Menstruation is linked to a girl and woman's sexuality and her reproductive development and maturity.
- Some cultural norms, believes and superstitions sees this normal natural process as dirty, shameful and private matter not to be discuss in open.
- Many who are shy to talk about sexual matters, find it uncomfortable to talk about menstruation.
- Believe in wrong myth that a girl or woman is 'dirty' when she has her period.

### Dignity Gift Bags

The Molo Songololo's donation drive resulted in 500 dignity gift bags distributed to girls in need. We were also able to supply 60 boys. Each dignity gift bag includes: -

- A 3-month supply of sanitary pads
- Basic toiletries – facecloth, body soap, toothpaste, toothbrush, shampoo, conditioner, underarm deodorant, body spray, body lotion, vaseline, etc.

### Regular supply

Participants in the victim empowerment programme can also access sanitary pads from our satellite offices.



# Public education

Public education to prevent and combat child sexual abuse, exploitation and trafficking forms part of the Child Protection and Victim Empowerment Programme. Molo Songololo conducted a series of public education sessions and workshops targeting children, parents and adult community members.

These sessions were held in Atlantis, Beaufort West and Delft at various public facilities like schools, clinics, day hospitals, community centers, service points, and open spaces where people usually gather. Most of the people are women, and their young children.



At the Day Hospital waiting rooms we also manage to engage men in the presentations. The main objective is to create awareness about child sexual abuse, exploitation and trafficking in children, what it is, how to identify it, how to report it and where to go to for help. These sessions give practical advice and information based on the child protection services in the local community.



In Beaufort West several sessions were held outside service points with mothers and their babies and young children. Information on birth registration, birth certificates and social grants for children, and support services are also shared. We also encourage the enrollment of children into ECD centers and primary schools. Information leaflets are handed out during these sessions.



# Child & Youth Empowerment

**It's Your Move (IYM)** – is the name of the child and youth empowerment programme. Molo Songololo conducts various awareness and educational sessions, workshops and activities targeting children from age 12 to 17-years focusing on: -

- Rights and Responsibilities education – know and understand their rights
- Life-skills education – addressing personal and social issues impacting children
- Motivation and leadership education – act for social good.

The overall objective is to empower children, motivate and support them to express themselves, make positive life choices, and play a positive role to prevent and combat abuse and exploitation. Molo Songololo also promotes and facilitate children's participation in community social action campaigns and law reform processes.

Over 2500 children took part in various It's Your Move activities in Atlantis, Beaufort West and Delft during this reporting year. Children are recruited via the local schools and gain the following benefits for learners: -

- Awareness of the rights and responsibilities of children
- Grasp of social issues impacting them and other children
- Know how to access various childcare and protection services
- Improved self-esteem, confidence, mindfulness and self-expression
- Improved attitudes, behaviour, and school attendance and performance
- Commit to stay in school and complete matric successfully
- Increased confidence and able to express own views.

Molo Songololo appreciates and is thankful for the support we get from the schools, their principals and educators who allow us access to the learners and provide venue for us to conduct the activities. **Its Your Move** encourage participant to engage in social action campaigns, and to be pro-active at home, school and in their community to be changemakers.



## It's Your Move projects

All the child and youth empowerment activities take place under the banner of It's Your Move. Participants are invited to take part in various opportunities and activities Molo Songololo engages in.

### **IYM Children's Forums – 57 participants**

2 Children's Forums were held, one in Atlantis and one in Delft. 47 children engage in dialogue on current issues that affect them in their homes, schools and community. They also make suggestions to inform the Molo Songololo programme design and content – 57 children took part.

### **IYM Mandela Day Challenge**

Members in Atlantis, Delft and Beaufort West conduct a community clean up campaign. They clean up a park, school or open space as part of their 67 minutes for Mandela. After the cleanup they help to distribute Mandela Day Meals to children. – over 60 children took part and over 300 meals were distributed.

### **#MoloagainstCatcalling**

This is an annual 16 Days of Action to Stop Child Abuse campaign conducted in Atlantis, Beaufort West and Delft by IYM members. This weekly friday SILENT PROTEST, aim to bring attention to public sexual harassment of girls to members of the local communities. – about 60 children take part.

### **The Molo Show – over 10 000 listeners a week**

This is a weekly 2-hour talk radio show for children by children run by Chloe Johnson on Atlantis Community Radio. Children contribute to the production process. The radio show focus on current affairs, community news, events and happening and issues affecting children and youth. It also creates awareness to prevent and combat child sexual abuse, exploitation and trafficking.

### **IYM Children's Solidarity**

In partnership with the Plantation & Lansdown Football Club IYM members hosted a soccer club from Zimbabwe. The South Africa and Zimbabwean players were provided with a lunch pack. Members also created awareness on the role of boys to make a difference and prevent violence against girls and women.

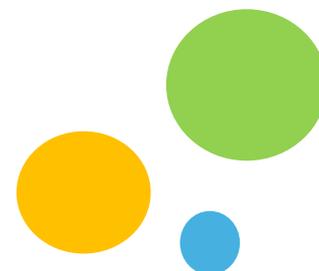


# It's Your Move Leadership Camps



Every year Molo Songololo conducts leadership camps for IYM members and children in the victim empowerment programme. These camps are designed to bring children together to work together, share information and experiences, learn from each other, do things together and have fun. The intent is to

- Build self-confidence.
- Raise self-esteem and improve self-image.
- Become self-aware, mindful of self and others
- Learn about rights and responsibilities
- Improve communication skills.
- Learn and develop individual leadership qualities.
- Engage and develop team working skills.
- Be motivated and optimistic
- Set life goals and commit to self-empowerment



Molo Songololo managed to host 3 Adventure and Leadership Camps for boys and girls, and 1 Therapeutic and Empowerment Camp for girls.

- 24 – 26 March 2023 – Adventure and Leadership Camp Princess Vlei for 30 IYM members from Atlantis & Delft
- 25 – 29 June 2023 – Adventure and Leadership Campe Princess Vlei – for 30 IYM members from Atlantis and Delft
- 10 - 15 July 2023 – Adventure and Leadership Camp Karoo National Park – 40 IYM members from Beaufort West
- 6 – 9 Oct 2023 – Therapeutic and Leadership Camp Princess Vlei – 30 members from the Victim Empowerment Programme Atlantis and Delft



# Girl Power (Against violence) Project



Molo Songololo, after a successful project application, partnered with the **Nelson Mandela Children's Fund**, and others to implement a **GIRL POWER (against violence) PROJECT**. Molo Songololo and other project partners like Assitej-South Africa, ChildLine-Western Cape, Connect Network, Khululeka Grief Support; aim to

- Empower girls to improve their safety at home, school, and community.
- Promote attitudes, perceptions, and practices to protect children and women.
- Increase reporting on violence at home, school, and community.
- Improve access to social and statutory protective services.
- Improve participation of boys and men in safety and protection awareness initiatives
- Support or establish child protection forums to prevent gender-based violence.

Each partner organisation is contracted to make a specific intervention in the Community of Delft. This will be done through consultation and cooperation with the Girl Power Project partners, schools and other key role-players and stakeholders in the community of Delft, concerned with child safety and protection.

During this reporting period, Molo Songololo did the following interventions

- Consulted with local community stakeholders to get their buy-in and support
- Consult with the targeted 10 schools (5 high school and 5 primary school), to get the buy-in and support from principals and educators
- Conduct consultative workshops with learners in the 10 targeted schools
- Attend a national induction workshop with all the implementing partners
- Prepare for the administration of a project base-line survey

Molo Songololo also facilitated the re-activation of the Delft Child Protection Forum. We consulted with role-players and with DSD co-facilitated the first forum meeting and developed the terms of reference to the forum.





## Stakeholder engagement.

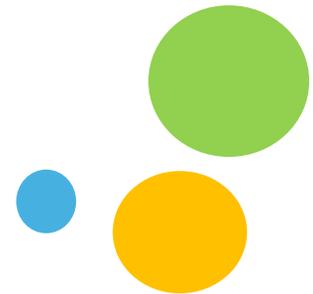
Molo Songololo adopts a consultative approach and collaborates with various stakeholders in our target areas. Key government stakeholders at community level include: -

- Department of Social Development
- SAPS– Community Policing
- SAPS- Child Protection Unit
- Department of Health – Day hospitals & Clinics
- NPA – Thuthizela Centres
- Department of Education – school phycologists
- Department Education - school principals and educators
- Department of Home Affairs
- District Municipalities

In our targets Molo Songololo collaborate and partner with non-governmental organization, community groups and community members. These stakeholders also provide support and are partners in our programmes and activities. Molo Songololo receives and makes referrals to non-governmental child protection organisations.

In each of our Target areas Molo Songololo help to co-facilitate CHILD PROTECTION FORUMS that aim to: -

- Map all childcare and protection service providers
- Meet regularly and share information
- Create strategic intervention to improve service delivery
- Improve referral pathways
- Engage in joint community awareness campaigns



### **Violence & crime**

Violence and crime are a major challenge for all stakeholders in the target communities. In Delft we experienced several disruptions because of taxi violence and gang shootings. Several service providers have had their vehicles stolen or had been threatened.

Building strong partnerships with service providers, the local community groups and members help to reduce the risks.





## Gratitude and thanx

Molo Songololo has survived for 45 years. It has made various contributions to the development of the rights of children in South Africa; and amplifying the voices, needs interests of children. It has also directly impacted children individually for more than 4 decades.

Molo Songololo is committed to continue to work for and with children, to promote their needs, interests, rights, participation and protection.

Mobilising resources and accessing grant funds have become increasingly difficult. The organization must increase its capacity and priority to source appropriate funds to sustain its work.

Molo Songololo thanks all those who made contributions over the last year, especially thjose individual givers. Your contribution help. We are grateful for the trust and the confidence in our ability to manage and use the funds for what it was intended for.

Lately we thank all the children and young people for their trust and cooperation. Without them Molo Songololo will not be the same.

END

