

MOLO SONOLOLO



Annual Report 2017



Children have the right to participate!



Established in 1979

Registration

Company's Act - Reg. No: 1995/007290/08
DSD: NPO Directorate - NPO No: 083 447
South African Revenue Services - VAT No: 4950182404
Designated Child Protection Organisation - C9329

Our Vision

Children to enjoy their rights, and for their rights to be respected in a free, safe and caring environment

Our Mission

Advance the rights, care, protection and participation of children through awareness, education, training, advocacy and lobbying, and the provision of support services.



Board and staff members, volunteers and interns

The Board

Board members are elected annually at the Annual General Meeting and are required to serve at least 2 terms (one term equals 3-years). The 2016-2017 Board members were;

- Matilda Gene Vantura - Chairperson
- Mongezi Nyathela – Deputy-Chairperson
- Zeenith Ebrahim - Treasurer
- Madoda Mabuto - Secretary
- Vernon Rose - Director
- Asanda Mahlukani - Director
- Patric Solomons – Managing Director



The staff

All staff received their police clearance certificates this year. They remain focussed and committed to provide the best possible service to children. They are;

- Patric Solomons - Director
- Chantal Chandler – VEP Manager
- Nadeema Taliep – Book-keeper (part-time)
- Melda Berry – Office administration
- Ronnie Ngalo – Child & Youth Facilitator
- Nikelo Makae – Media and communications
- Lindiwe Lengs – Child support worker
- Melissa Platjies – Social Worker
- Lebogang Winnie – Social Worker
- Nicoline Marais – Social Auxiliary Worker
- Lorna Gertse – Social Auxiliary Worker
- Millicent Siswana – Office maintenance



Interns and volunteers

- 3 interns – was deployed with the Child Protection VEP
- 9 Volunteers supported our work
- 24 Young people from our programmes also volunteered

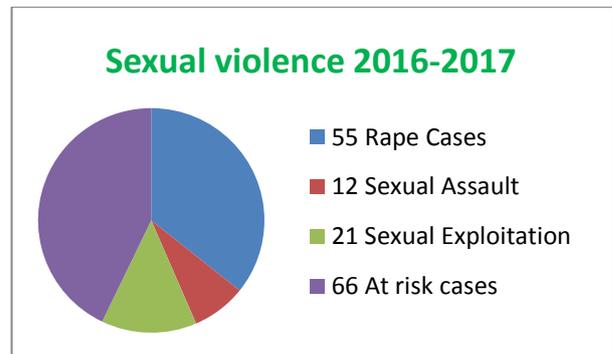
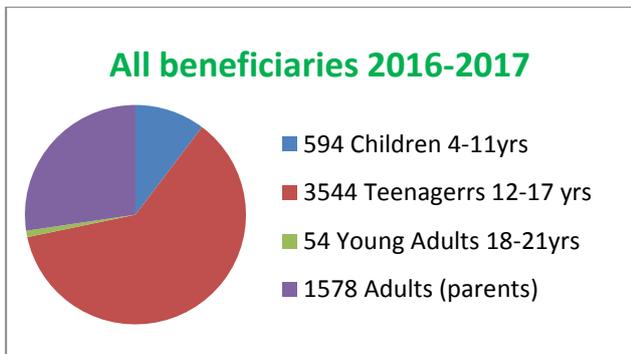
Child Protection & Victim Empowerment Programme

We provide direct support, assistance and empowerment to child victims of sexual abuse, exploitation and trafficking in children, those at risk and their families in;

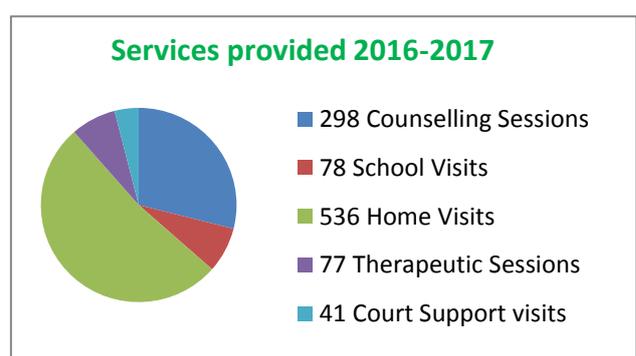
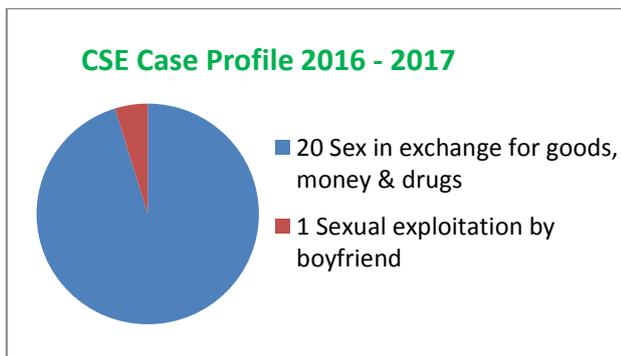
- Atlantis – includes Mamre, Witsands, Pella and Blouberg
- Beaufort West – includes Leeu Gamka, Prince albert, Murrysburg, Nelspoort
- Delft – includes Blikkiesdorp, Mfuleni and surrounding areas
- Other Areas – as needed; including Eastern Cape.

The primary target group and beneficiaries

The Child Protection and Victim Empowerment Programme (CP&VEP) is funded by the Department of Social Development, National Lotteries Commission, Australian Support Group, HCI Foundation, Korbitec & Alexis Nexis and donations from public. Below see those who benefitted and the sexual violence case profile.



Child sexual exploitation (CSE) is complex and difficult to understand and respond to. During this reporting period we provided support to 21 child victims of sexual exploitation. See breakdown below and the services they were provided with.

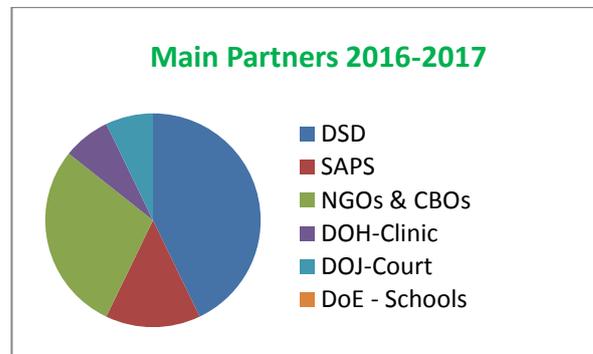


All children have experience one or other form of sexual violence before being sexually exploited. In most cases the recruiters and exploiters are known to the victims. In some cases it is 'boyfriends; and

- Sexual exploitation provide the only source of income for child or family
- Sex for something is "accepted" as a means of survival or getting things like cell-phones, airtime, clothes, money, alcohol, drugs, etc.

Working with partners

We collaborate and work with other stakeholders and role-players for the successful implication of the project activities; increase impact and sustainability of the work. Below see those who benefitted from our public education workshops and the main partners we work with in the CP&VEP.



Overall impact of CP & VEP for 2016-2017

The following was extracted from activity evaluations and feedback from clients, partners and role-players during the reporting year.

- Children are referred to and from Molo Songololo and have been assessed and had individual development plans (IDPs) developed and implemented.
- Children received individual support, counselling and therapeutic services.
- Parents received support, counselling and therapeutic services
- Improved child and parent relationships and support for child victims
- Improved witnessed statements for investigation and prosecutorial processes
- Increased convictions and sentencing of offenders
- Children return to or remain in school and improve in school performance
- Children exit exploitative relationships and begin to make positive decisions
- Improved awareness of the service Molo Songololo offer and access

Key challenges

- Neglect, vulnerability; poor parenting, supervision, support and protection systems increases risk factors for children to be sexually abuses and exploited.
- Lack of funding, skilled and qualified staff limits Molo Songololo's ability to increase its services for children.



Art therapy workshops

The creative therapeutic art sessions takes place over a 5-week period. A small group of 12 children from the CP&VEP are identified by the staff and invited to take part. Workshops are conducted on Saturday mornings. Sessions focus on self-awareness, development and empowerment. We had 2 workshops this year.



For many, it is the first time that they in an art session and working with brush and paints. Working in a small group, working alone and working quietly is a big adjustments. Many have difficulty to concentrate and focus for long periods of time.



All invited participants must commit to attend all the sessions with parents' consent. No one is forced to attend. It is voluntary. By the second and third session participants are familiar and trusting of the process. They are encourage to reflect on their feelings, thoughts and artworks. Individual attention is given to each one.



Key Challenges

Due to lack of skills and funds we are unable to expand the programme to all the CP&VEP target areas and run it more regularly; once a quarter in Atlantis, Beaufort West and Delft respectively.

Blikkiesdorp intervention

Molo Songololo involvement with Blikkiesdorp started with reports of child sexual exploitation. Then community leaders approached Molo Songololo to help get their children back to school. We made the following interventions;

- A community meeting to establish the extent of the problem
- A stakeholder consultation to raise the issue and work out a joint response
- A task team to screen children and ensure they eligible to get to school
- Intervention to motivate parents to play their part – workshops and house visits
- Motivation and education to ensure they are motivated to go to schools.
- Organise community events to raise awareness about child rights
- 27 children out of 42 identified were able to returned to school successfully.
- Identify 5 more CSE cases.



On Youth Day – 16 June, we organised activities to raise awareness about child rights; and the role children can play to promote their rights and protection.



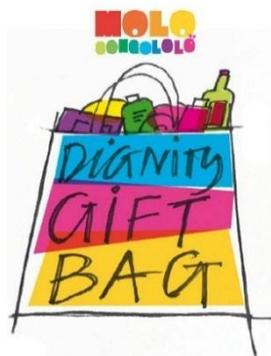
Key challenges

- Poverty, unemployment, substance abuse and parent neglect
- Children are one and two grades behind and have severe learning problems
- We struggle to get children back into schools and keeping children in school.

Dignity for girls... and boys!

Most of the children we work with and those in the CP&VEP are from poor families and communities. They do not have regular access to basic toiletries which help to maintain our human dignity. Girls often stay out of school because they do not have sanitary pads to use when they menstruate.

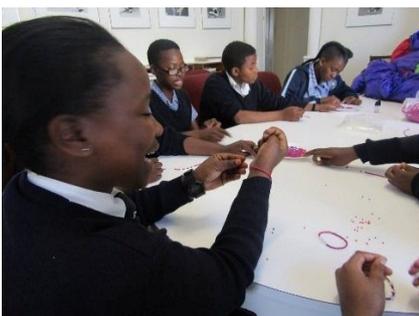
We managed to collect donations from individuals and companies and make up over 400 DIGNITY GIFT BAGS for girls. We also supply boys with Dignity Gift Bags.



Korbitec and Lexis Nexis made a very generous contribution as part of their company's CARESDAY contribution, donating DIGNITY GIRFT PACTS which we distributed to over 250 children in Atlantis, Delft and Beaufort West.



Molo Songololo staff and volunteers helped to make up the DIGNITY GIFT BAGS. Each bag contained a DIGNITY BRACELET which was made up by the employers of Korbitec and Lexis Nexis and members of the Young Women's Forum Members.



Korbitec & Lexis Nexis - CARESDAY – AWARENESS AND EDUCATION

This involved Molo Songololo staff helping with the making of the DIGNITY BRACELETS and putting together of the DIGNITY GIFT BAGS whilst at the same time sharing information about the work we do about child sexual exploitation and trafficking in children. Patric Solomons, Ronnie Ngalo, Lorna Gertse and Lindiwe Lengs facilitated these sessions at Korbitec and Lexis Nexis premises.



Sandwiches, fruit and juice was made up in parcels at Korbitec and Lexis Nexis and then distributed to the children in Blikkiesdorp as part of the CARESDAY activities. The Blikkiesdorp Joint Committee Members were also involved in the making of the parcels and distribution it.



DIGNITY GIFT PACKS was distributed as far afield as Beaufort West. Children generally do not have underarm, toothpaste, tooth brushes, soap, face cloths, body creams or shampoo and conditioners. These items are warmly received.



Challenges

- Children have to share their products with siblings and other family members
- Some parents sell products for money and children shy to report
- Menstruation hygiene education workshops for girls needed

Child & Youth Empowerment Programme

This programme inform, empower and facilitate young people's participation in decision making processes. It complements the CP&VEP work and largely implemented in the same communities of Atlantis, Beaufort West and Delft.

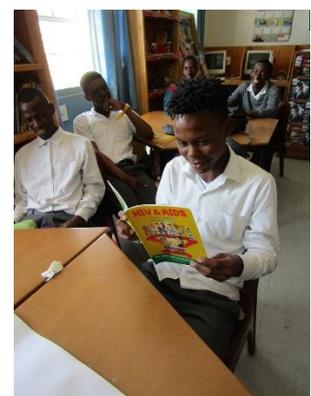
US Ambassadors Fund – PEPFAR

This project aimed to provide Life-skills and Sexual Health & HIV Education on sexuality, sexual and reproductive health, risk, infections, treatment to prevent early sexual debut and STIs and HIV/AIDS amongst young people. The project coordinator was Ronnie Ngalo. The main facilitator for the girls workshops was Lorna Gertse from Molo Songololo Atlantis office and the main facilitator for the Boys workshop was Ronnie Ngalo. They were assisted by 5 other facilitators and volunteers. We achieved the following;

- 9 Education Workshops for 200 girls (12 – 13 years) @ 6 Primary Schools
- 9 Education Workshop for 200 girls (14 – 17 years) @ 6 High Schools
- 9 Education Workshops for 200 boys (12 – 13 years) @ 6 Primary Schools
- 9 Education Workshops for 200 boys (14 – 17years) @ 6 High Schools
- 2 Education Workshops for 100 parents and community service providers
- 2 HIV Awareness & Voluntary Counselling and Testing Roadshows
- 2 Gender Specific Newsletters reaching 10 000 young people



Gender specific workshops allowed the girls and boys to reflect separately on their own special needs, interest concerning sexual health and sexual relations and HIV.



HIV Testing - Public education drive

The programme also provided an opportunity to do public education. This was done in the targeted communities of Atlantis and Delft and at the targeted schools. The Roadshows promoted HIV counselling and testing for young people.



Learners who participated in the workshops all received a copy of the HIV Booklet and a certificate of attendance. These workshops became very popular and both learners and educators have requested more. We must continue with these workshops.



Challenges

- All schools requested more workshops be conducted with all their learners
- All schools requested more copies of the booklet for all teachers and learners
- Lack of funding - unable to effectively respond to the request from schools

Shout-out for Health!

This sexual reproductive health life-skills education programme was sponsored by UNICEF-SA. It complemented the PEPFAR programme and involved a consultative process with children, educational workshops and an advocacy process. More will be reported in the next financial year cycle.



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Capacity Building Programme

Molo Songololo in partnership with Fair Trade Tourism-SA conducted training workshops for the tourism sector on the CODE to prevent child sexual exploitation conducted by Patric Solomons (Molo Songololo) and Netsai Sibanda (Fairtrade).



The workshops was designed for tourism sector, those at front-of-house, house-keeping, reception, client relations, day or night duty, maintenance, security, catering, transport and those in other hospitality relations, etc.



We train over 350 employees in 20 workshops from all over South Africa. The workshops focused on Child Protection and examine the measures hotels and guesthouses have in place to ensure child protection.



Challenges

All establishments do not have child protection policies in place, nor do their in-service training address this. They also have no policy regarding child sexual exploitation. Some hotels don't request identification of children or don't report suspicions. We need more funding to continue training and develop policies.

Empowering parents

As part of the PEPFAR project Molo Songololo was required to conduct community educational workshops on child sexual health and HIV to capacitate parents. These workshops were held in Atlantis and Delft and 38 parents attended.



Empowering girls –dialogue with Ambassador Ruby Marks

Ambassador Ruby Marks visited Molo Songololo and we organised for members of the Young Women’s Forum to engage with her. This was a very useful educational session for the young women. They were able to relate to the Ambassador’s own childhood and young adult life and the choices she made for self-empowerment.



Empowering girls - Young Women’s Forum

An initiative to provide teenage girls from the CP&VEP and other learners from targeted schools to engage, motivate and learn from each other on gender specific issues. Groups operate in Atlantis, Beaufort West and Delft.



ART 4 MOLO – Australian Support Group

Angus Leendertz, leader of the Molo Songololo Australian Support Group met with members of the Young Women's Forum and educated them on the HISTORY OF THE STRUGGLE AGAINST APARTHEID relating to the MEMORIES OF THE STRUGGLE – AUSTRALIANS AGAINST APARTHEID project that he worked on.



Participants also developed a concept framework the DIGNITY FOR GIRLS which Angus Leendertz will present to the Australian Support Group to raise funds. The project also included artworks created by the Molo Songololo Young Women's Forum Members, the Zonnebloem Art Centre and the Monte High School for Girls in Sydney, Australia.



Molo Songololo conducted a series of art sessions with members of the Young Women's Forum. They produced portraits of themselves. They wrote about themselves and their paintings. Their artworks were sent to Sydney Australia and sold at the MEMORIES OF THE STRUGGLE exhibition.



ART 4 MOLO – fundraiser

The MEMORIES OF THE STRUGGLE – AUSTRALIANS AGAINST APARTHEID exhibition was a success. Children's artwork was exhibited and sold to raise funds for Molo Songololo. Funds was used to support our VP&VEP, Young Women's Forum Programme and DIGNITY FOR GIRLS projects.



MOMORIES OF THE STRUGGLE exhibition will travel to Johannesburg and Cape Town. It is hoped that when the exhibition is in Cape Town that we will be able to let the Young Women's Forum members see it.



Molo Songololo hope to organise for learners from the schools we works with to see the exhibition and have workshop discussions on the history of the struggle against Apartheid. This will be linked to their school curriculum as well as their personal family and community histories on the struggle against Apartheid.

Consultation with Young Women's Forum

This educational workshop was conducted to gage the issues teenager girls are facing as well as empowering them on sexual and reproductive health issues; and to promote the DIGNITY FOR GIRLS project.



Similar workshops will be held during the MEMORIES OF THE STRUGGLE exhibition in Cape Town.

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Awareness & Advocacy

Molo Songololo raising awareness about child rights and protection issues at various public spaces, forums and events. These include presentation sessions at local clinics and at libraries.

We also raised awareness about sexual health, HIV and voluntary testing targeting learners and teenagers from primary and high schools in Atlantis, Beaufort West and Delft.



The public awareness and education drives forms part of the PEPFAR and UNICEF project partnership initiatives. Members of the Young Women's Forum and the Young Men's Forum were organised to create awareness and speak to the public. Educational messages was presented through drumming sessions, puppet shows and other forms of entertainment to the public.



The public awareness and education programmes specifically targeted teenagers and young people. The responses were very positive.



Advocating for the rights of children

Open Government Partnership - Africa Meeting

Chloe Johnson represented Molo Songololo and advocated for child participation at the All Africa Parliamentarian Forum 2016 held in Cape Town. She called on governments to ensure that children participate in decision-making and to listen to the views of children and young people.



Ombudsperson for Children.

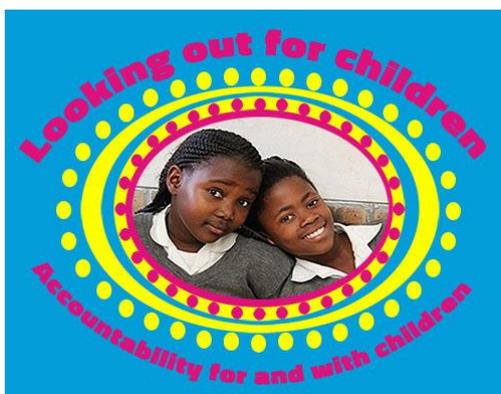
Molo Songololo continue to advocate for a Commissioner for Children. We met the Belgium Commissioner for Children and engaged with key child rights activist to promote the establishment of a national commissioner for Children.



We met the South African Human Rights Commissioners for Children and Education. Molo Songololo director is a member of the SAHRC Sec. 5 Committee on Children and use this to advocate for children's rights to be effectively monitored and reported; and for a Child participation framework for the SAHRC.



Commissioner Angie Makwetla - Children



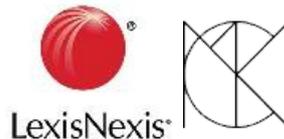
Commissioner Guam - Education



Funders, donors, partners and supporters

Molo Songololo is very grateful for the financial and other support. We are particularly thankful to the Department of Social Development Western Cape who continue to support our Child Protection and Victim Empowerment Programme; and the National Lotteries Commission for the funding to support our overall operations and programmes. The NLC funding provided us the opportunity to continue provide services to children and advocate for their rights and protection; and pay staff.

Thank you to all those who supported us



Angus Leenders & Associates - Australasia SA Alliance - Australian People 4 Health - Korbitec / Lexis Nexis – The Comedy Club

