

**NARRATIVE FOUNDATION  
ACTIVITIES REPORT: 2014/15**



**The mission of the Narrative Foundation is to strengthen Social Capital in this area and we endeavour this at bonding, bridging and linking levels in all our projects.**

**1. Education support (KZN)**

Continued support of the schooling of Zandile Luthuli (gr 7), Nomsa Mduna (gr 9) and Nkosi Mbatha (gr 11) in KwaZulu Natal by assisting with the payment of school fees.

**Beneficiary benefit:** The respective parents of the 3 girls are not in a financial position to cover the full amount of school fees and other expenses. Through the financial support these girls are receiving a good education. The contribution paid towards their education amounted to R71,476 for the financial year.

**2. Leadership support (KZN)**

Linked with the Firelight coalition programme. We provided organisational and financial support for the KZN participants.

**Beneficiary benefit**

Part of the leadership programme was for the participants to conduct workshops in their own communities. The KZN participants were mentored by the Narrative Foundation where they conducted their workshops. They gained practical experience and passed the home-phase requirements of the programme.

**3. Youth Care Centre - Kleinmond**

Working with the boys from the centre on a weekly basis focussing on informed choices around behaviour and attitude through various creative tools such as writing, skits, rapping and dialogue. We have also started doing Origami and this seems to interest them a lot. It has had a tremendous impact on their behaviour.

**Beneficiary benefit:** These boys come from problem homes and they need a lot of positive enforcement to develop self-esteem and critical thinking. By addressing various behavioural problems through drama, music, dialogue and Origami, they are equipped with skills that enhance positive behaviour, critical thinking and making informed choices.

#### 4. Holiday activities for children in Kleinmond

We presented a 3-day holiday programme for children from the local community.

**Beneficiary benefit:** The programme was a huge success. We expected 50 children and 100 arrived on each of the 3 days. The children participated in various activities such as volley ball, touch rugby, kite making, face painting, dancing, tug-of-war and a sand castle building competition. They did a Flashmob to end the 3-day activities off. By attending the programme children were kept active and away from negative street activities.



#### 5. Music project

We have embarked on a music project that is aimed at strengthening the social cohesion across the different local communities and to support the holistic development of young people giving them a vision, hope and new possibilities for their recreation and future. It creates opportunities for people from different communities to be and work together. The core of the project is the Handevat Marimba team consisting of a group of youths from the two local primary schools.



**Beneficiary benefit:**

These youths not only learned to play the Marimba but are also being tutored in music theory and are given lessons to play instruments such as the recorder, piano and guitar. They acquire skills in group interaction, discipline and they have increased self-esteem, confidence and a positive outlook.

In July the Handevat Marimbas spent a weekend on the farm, Goedvertouw, where they were coached in healthy eating habits, etiquette and good conduct. They also performed in a benefit concert and the funds raised were used to cover most of the costs to attend the International Marimba festival (see attached report) The youths participated in various Eistedfods where they won various prizes and medals They also wrote the UNISA music theory exams and most passed with honours.

#### 6. Senior Club



We have established a club for senior citizens from the coloured community. These seniors have lived in this area for most of their lives and they carry with them narratives of the rich history of Kleinmond. The

aim of this club is to capture these stories and to share them with the greater community.

### **Beneficiary benefit**

There are no activities in our area that aim to include these senior citizens and through this project they have increased self-esteem and they share friendship and a sense of belonging through regular meetings. As an on-going project their stories will be published in book form and captured on video providing each of them with a copy of the book and DVD.

## **7. Firelight coalition leadership development**

The context faced by community leaders in South Africa today is challenging, complex and competitive. In order to mobilise communities to act for change, community leaders need high levels of emotional awareness, deep understanding of relationships in the framework of unequal power, the will and courage to persevere, as well as a sound insight into how people's everyday experiences link to broader, global injustices.

Narrative Foundation formed part of a consortium of education and development agencies who worked together to run a longer-term in depth course aimed at grounding emerging leadership in a values-based approach.

### **Beneficiary benefit**

Participants:

- have improved their critical understanding of how everyday experiences relate to community difficulties and broader social justice
- built grassroots sustained leadership and courage and ability to mobilise collective action for change
- rendered voice, visibility and agency to people who are most vulnerable/marginalised/oppressed
- provided opportunity to practice new skills in preparation for work at community level
- began to break the isolation of activists and groups towards a sense of common purpose and the necessity of working together

## **8. Enneagram training**

We presented two Enneagram workshops aimed at the personal and professional development for interested community members.

### **Beneficiary benefit**

The Enneagram is a tool that can be used to create a better understanding for participants about themselves and others. It helps them discover what motivates them and what their coping strategies tend to be during stressful situations.



It is particularly useful to discover their own blind spots in the way they view the world and to identify what paradoxically drains their energy as they put attention on the very things they try to avoid.

The main idea is to break automatic habitual responses to that may not give the effect they hope to achieve.

#### **9. Establishing a network with organisations working within the Kleinmond area**

Positive networking relationships have been established with almost all the organisations in the area with representation in groups such as women outreach, Child welfare, Youthcare, and Health and welfare.

**Beneficiary benefit:** Through the establishing of these networks we are now in a position to identify issues within the community and collaborate with all stakeholders to avoid duplication and therefore ensuring that valuable resources and scarce funds are optimised.

#### **10. Project Participation Paramaribo Suriname**

The work embraced exploring how community participation can be taken from theory to practice by the *Medische Zending* in Suriname. Through seminars, field visits and exploring case studies a vision was developed for rural Suriname as serviced by the Medische Zending.

##### **Beneficiary outcome**

Declaration: Community Participation in the health sector Suriname. For the complete declaration and background of the Medische Zending please see [www.medischezending.sr](http://www.medischezending.sr)

#### **11. Project Trauma Healing Sudan**

On-going capacity building and training in Sudan to promote collective healing through community participation and Narrative Theatre through Afhad University for Women in Sudan and War Trauma Foundation. The target group is mental health professionals and psychosocial workers.

##### **Beneficiary outcome**

Eighteen local organisations from four different Sudanese states (Gedareef; Khartoum; Blue Nile and Darfour) were involved in the training over a two year period. Please see [www.wartrauma.nl](http://www.wartrauma.nl) under project Trauma Counselling Sudan for more information on this project.

An additional outcome has been a training manual from Individual to Collective Healing co-authored by Wendy Ager, Yvonne Sliet and Reem Ibrahim Ahmed. A glimpse of this work in action can be seen on <http://www.wartrauma.nl/en/carousel/video-soedan>

#### **12. Project Domestic violence Curacao**

Contribution towards development of a National Plan for the Prevention of relational violence towards children and women. The plan was presented to the Minister of Social Development and Welfare in Curacao. Alongside the development of the National Plan training to strengthen psychosocial workers in the area was conducted.

**Beneficiary outcome**

The statistics for domestic violence trebled in the past three years. It is envisioned that a national plan that brings together the Non-Governmental and as well as the governmental sector will reduce relational violence. The first step in this plan is a central registration system that will bring a clearer contextual understanding of domestic violence.