

## After School Action Programme Learning Brief

April 2023

### EXPLORING COLLABORATION FOR MAXIMUM IMPACT

How can we leverage Community of Practice (CoP) for knowledge co-creation to establish new and impact-driven approaches to address challenges in the After School space? Partners in the four pillar groups — academic support, sports and recreation, arts and culture and psycho-social support— reflected on the strengths, challenges and collective solutions. The four groups identified several solutions highlighting the need to build effective strategic partnerships with external stakeholders.



## THE PILLARS

### ACADEMIC SUPPORT

#### Strengths

- Community reach
- School cooperation
- Organisational reputations

#### Challenges

- Lack of support from the Department of Basic Education (DBE)
- Lack of information about government services and support
- Overstretched programmes
- Finding conducive programme spaces
- Limited funding

#### Potential Partnerships

- Department of Basic Education
- NGO Networks
- Rhodes University
- Nelson Mandela University
- Local schools
- Businesses
- Potential funders

## SPORTS AND RECREATION

### Strengths

- Organisational leadership
- Community support

### Challenges

- Compliance issues on sports related matters
- Counselling gaps
- Limited capacity
- Lack of collaborations
- Limited funding

### Potential Partnerships

- Department of Sports, Arts and Culture
- Department of Basic Education
- Department of Social Development
- National Lotteries Commission
- Local Sports Organisations
- Parents

## ARTS AND CULTURE

### Strengths

- Social grounding
- Promoting cultural experiences
- Youth appeal
- Growing demand

### Challenges

- Limited resources in rural areas
- Lack of organisations in the arts space
- Lack of awareness on art as a career choice
- Limited networking opportunities
- Promoting art as a process that donors can understand
- The exclusion of artist management and financial skills in arts programmes
- Promoting volunteerism by artists in arts programmes

### Potential Partnerships

- Department of Sports, Arts and Culture
- Department of Basic Education
- Institutions of Higher Learning
- Local Municipalities
- Eastern Cape Arts and Culture Council

## PSYCHO-SOCIAL SUPPORT

### Strengths

- Committed staff
- Organised programmes
- Opportunities for referrals
- Strong community ties

### Challenges

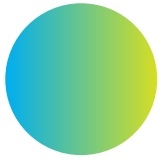
- Limited human resource capacity
- Government entities taking credit for NGO work
- Registration and compliance requirements from government
- Overstretched NGOs
- Need to identify good practices

### Potential Partnerships

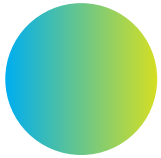
- Tertiary Institutions
- Department of Social Development
- Department of Basic Education
- Community Leadership
- Parents

# STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

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Building intentional and **meaningful partnerships**/collaborations.



Exploring opportunities for **capacity building** with institutions of higher learning.



Promoting **community voices** and **active citizenship** in raising awareness on child protection



Tapping into available **DBE training** for capacity building on supporting learners with disabilities.



Improving learner **access to scholarships** through stronger relationships with relevant departments.



Exploring possibilities for establishing **classroom partnerships** for improved access to space and learners.



Building a better understanding of **compliance requirements** from various departments and formulating response strategies accordingly.