

Here's to looking back at a 2019 filled with success.

We would like to take this opportunity to express our gratitude to all our dedicated partners and look back at all our achievements in the year that has passed. We are happy to announce the year 2019 was full of remarkable opportunities, unique challenges and a unified feeling of growth. Having to actualize our supporters' intentions of transforming our society for the better, has made it easier to be committed in providing Socio-Economic, Skills Development and lastly Enterprise and Supplier Development solutions.



1. Socio-Economic Development

Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

It was a great honour to establish and officially open 2 brand new mobile classrooms and a total of 24 ablution facilities at Hawk Academy School. A total of 140 young students now have superior facilities with each classroom fully fitted with everything needed to aid their academic abilities. A phenomenon we once took for granted, we were reminded by their joyful smiles as they took up space in their classrooms.

Timsrand Property

As the year progressed our partnerships increased. We partnered with Bona Lesedi Disability Centre, who previously operated from inadequate mobile containers on the outskirts of Diepsloot. We gave the centre full access to our 2.5HA property. This made it possible to take special care of 70 people living with disabilities, from disadvantaged backgrounds. This property ensures access to education, therapeutic sessions, land for physical activities, a bakery and a garden initiative which will later grow into Skills and Enterprise Development programmes.

Mandela Day

The tremendous support we received for our Mandela Day at Hawk Academy was overwhelming. The day was concluded with a total of 1400 people being fed thanks to the soup kitchen, 50 new trees planted, multiple vision boards created, 1200 scarves handed out, 150 blankets knitted for the grade R's and plenty more joyful activities.

Potjie Competition

On 7 September 2019, Abland hosted the biggest Potjie fundraising competition to date, with 103 companies participating in support of the AGF's vision. We raised over R1million rand towards our Structured Socio-Economic Development Programs which included rebuilding the second phase of Hawk Academy School. We have since been able to purchase 6 additional classrooms, 2 of which will be used as a computer lab and a science lab respectively.

With this type of momentum and future investment we've aimed to build a Green Source soccer field at Hawk Academy School with an aim to provide the kids and the wider community with functional sporting facilities. The soccer field will give birth to skills and enterprise development solutions including filtering absorbed rainwater, bottling the product and eventually allowing the community to buy from the school.



2. Skills Development and Training

Our Skills Development and Training pillar has shifted its focus to the absorption of learners and students by securing employment opportunities for them. By improving absorption rates, we can provide value to our youth and work towards real transformation within the industry. In 2019, we had 83 students come through our doors. We managed and continued to oversee these students through learnerships, apprenticeships as well as those studying at formal tertiary institutions.



During the month of February, we welcomed 30 of our bricklayer artisans from the deprived community of Dunoon in Cape Town. These students were hosted in Abland's Atlantic Hills development. These artisans sharpened their bricklaying skills, with the aim of completing their apprenticeship. This initiative gives them an opportunity to be entrepreneurs with the possibility of us continuing to support them, through our Enterprise and Supplier Development programme. In September, we welcomed a further 29 learners from Dunoon who commenced a Project Management learnership.



Over 65% of these apprentices and learners were female. A total of 9 tertiary students spent two weeks during their vacation period with our team of experts in the industry. Students were taken out to Abland's various sites and were given insight into the construction industry and its value chain. Out of these students some will be absorbed within the Abcon Group of companies for internships while others will be joining our partners for placements to get experience in their chosen fields of study.



3. Enterprise and Supplier Development

This pillar experienced the most challenges due to the ailing SA economy in 2019. Through our black-owned private equity investment company, Abheka, we have given access to markets to our small black owned aluminium windows and glazing company who completed aluminium windows for Flexi Stores in Fairlands (a Craft Homes development), and the tenant installation company was given an opportunity to partner in the Loftus Park development in Pretoria. Our close relationship with Oilgro allowed Abheka to open its first filling station on Lagoon Drive, Stamford Hill, Durban. Through this strategic sector shift we are now actively pursuing further investment opportunities within the oil industry. Abheka aims to create value through actively pursuing investments in the property as well as the oil sector.



In 2020, the AGF's purpose is to make an even bigger impact to the lives and businesses of South Africans. We actively seek to make a positive difference through the upliftment of communities within which we operate.

It is with grace and gratitude that a Foundation like ours can rely on you!