



Yakhanani High School Tutorial & Mentorship Program

Concept Note

A Community Outreach Project of Christ's Youth and
Student Movement (CYSM (SA))

NPO- 167-074

1. Introduction and background.

‘Yakhanani’ is a Zulu word that means ‘let’s build and grow together’ and it is an apt description for this school mentorship program that is designed by University Students to be implemented by University Students and graduates targeting High School students from disadvantaged communities. The ‘Yakhanani high School Mentorship Program’ is a community outreach program of Christ’s Youth and Student Movement (CYSM(SA)) a Christian organisation registered as an NPO with the department of Social Development. The vision of CYSM (SA) is to contribute to the development of young leaders drawn from university and high school campuses all across South Africa and Africa. To raise a generation of students and youths, who embrace a life of excellence, manifested through excellence academically, professionally, spiritually, emotionally and relationally. Youths who combine a commitment to excellence with a life of integrity and live with a leadership mentality.

The ‘Yakhanani School project’ feeds into the leadership development component of our mission statement, which aims at developing a crop of leaders with a heart for the community and a commitment to shared growth and development. The philosophy of our engagement is to train our youth leaders to develop a heart for the community they come from and are surrounded by through the creation of platforms for knowledge, skills and opportunity sharing. The philosophy of ‘Yakhanani’ is to promote a culture of solidarity in joint development by encouraging senior students and graduate to volunteer to mentor their younger ones in the high schools through a series of projects created to accomplish this objective. To the senior university students and graduates involved, it is an opportunity to develop a servant leadership heart that is primary concerned with meeting the needs of their younger ones, there by contributing to their development by being positive role-models. To the recipients and beneficiaries, it is an opportunity to see leadership being modelled as selfless and caring, an opportunity to be inspired and mentored by role models who are career and academic successes. It is ultimately an avenue for the provision of information and opportunity as well as support to facilitating access to higher education and other opportunities available for youth empowerment and development. This is the philosophy that underpins the series of projects undertaken under ‘yakhanani’ and they are ultimately inspired by our Christian obligation to care and develop morally upright and ethical leadership. Under this program we seek to implement four projects for which we seek funding collectively and individually as briefly described below.

2. Project Description.

The projects developed under the Yakhanani program are identified to meet the needs of our communities and to align with the core objectives of our ministry as CYSM. The funding received and project administration is ring-fenced and separate from the finances of the ministry. CYSM as a ministry believes in the importance of the objectives to be accomplished by these projects and consequently raises funds and contributes towards their execution. There are currently three projects we seek to executive under the Yakhanani program window for 2017-2018, these are:

- i) **Matric preparation tutorial project**
- ii) **Computer literacy project.**
- iii) **Motivation, Coaching & Career Orientation**
- iv) **Music development and art project.**

The objectives of each of these projects are briefly presented below:

2.1 Matric Preparation Tutorial Project.

The objective of this project is to contribute to increase the pass rates at the matric level and promote and facilitate access and admission into universities and institutions of higher learning. This objective is going to be accomplished through the provision of tutorial and exams revision services to selected high schools from designated disadvantaged communities. Tutorials and revision shall be provided in most subjects identified with the guidance of school officials being difficult or areas of need, and would include tutorials in maths, physical science, accounting, economics and business studies. The aim would be to provide guidance, advice and explanations that could be facilitated by peer level familiarity that may exist between university and high school students by virtue of being in the same age brackets. Volunteers will be selected from academically meriting students to **provide one-on-one mentorship, small group mentorship and small classes' tutorial style** of interventions.

This project shall also provide application support and career advisory services. Through the provision of peer to peer role modelling the younger high school students will also be advised on career choices and what courses and subjects to enrol for in order to meet their career objectives. The anticipated outcomes and results of this project are an increase in the pass rate for Grade 11 and 12 final exams for participating schools and an increase in the number of student who take advantage of scholarship opportunities and gain access and are enrolled at universities and institution of higher learning. This project shall source funding to provide

application fee support to some mentees and a mentor to follow them up closely through the application process, through acceptance and welcoming and orientation around the university through the registration period. It is a project that intends to be purposely and intentional in contributing to the number of high school students that make it to and stay at the university by providing them the necessary inspiration and support towards the accomplishment of this objective as far back as when they are in Grade 11.

2.2 Computer Literacy Project.

The objective of this project is to provide high school students with basic computer literacy skills by providing basic training in Microsoft office and internet navigation. The objective is to make the participants be comfortable in the use of Microsoft word, Microsoft Excel and Microsoft PowerPoint and with internet navigation capabilities. This training primarily aims at getting them ready for life at the university, so that they are better prepared to complete assignments and do project presentations and research related internet searches. The primary targets of this project shall be schools in underprivileged communities which may not have a functional computer lab or sufficiently trained personnel to equip these students. The project will be set up to function as a mobile operation that can be functional in the most deprived areas. Our long term objective would be to raise funds and endow some of these deprived communities with functional and internet connected computer labs. The training will be provided by volunteer students with the guidance of designated and trained experts. The internet navigation component shall have a dual objective of increasing literacy in internet usage and also in directing the beneficiaries to opportunities that are available for them to gain opportunity to higher education institution. For those who happen to enter the job market after their matric, this training should increase their employability as well as enhance their ability to be able to search and apply for some jobs.

2.3 Motivation, Coaching and Career Orientation.

The objective of this component is to motivate and coach the learners towards discovering and fulfilling their God given potential and also providing career guidance and orientation towards life choices. This will include providing presentations about study options at the university and eventually assisting the learners to apply for positions at various universities and higher education institutions. The motivational and inspirational talks will be offered

across all our activities as it remains our central objective to motivate the learners towards realising their best. Career guidance, realizing life's full potentials and inculcating of soft skills for survival will occur as youth empowerment seminar series that we will organise in consultation with the school authorities on a periodic basis. We will identify and bring in speakers that specialise in each of these chosen areas and to also address specific challenges we identify and as advised by the school authorities.

2.4 Music Development and Arts Project.

This component of our activities would aim at providing a platform for the learners to develop their capacities in the arts and music. It shall include components like drama, poetry and the learning and playing of musical instruments. We intend on providing a platform to teach interested learners how to play certain musical instruments and sing. This is a skill that could make them employable in the short run and provide an opportunity for the musically gifted to develop and pursue their dreams in the music and arts.

3. Funding requirements.

The projects that have been retained in the 2016-2017 Yakhanani program share a common characteristic of being concepts that can be scaled up or down dependent on available resources. The idea is to pilot the concept in a few selected schools, learn from the experience and develop greater capacity to expand to more schools and other provinces. The key personnel resource requirement will be a group of volunteers drawn from our university campuses who will essential require transportation, refreshments. We are in favour of instituting some form of stipend for our participating volunteers to increase the appeal of the program and its chances of attracting a rich and competitive pool of volunteers. Apart from these we require expert personnel to act as trainers for the music project and an educational development expert to act in an advisory capacity for our tutorial and computer literacy projects.

4. Contact Details.

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