



FOCUS:
ONE PERSON
AT A TIME

LIFE CHOICES
ANNUAL REPORT 2012

CONTENTS

02	LIFE CHOICES GOVERNING BOARD
04	MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRPERSON
05	MESSAGE FROM THE MANAGING DIRECTOR
07	OUR PRINCIPLE
08	DREAM2BE
12	WELFARE PROGRAMME
13	FAMILY AFFAIRS
15	HEALTH4LIFE
17	THIS IS IT!
18	FINANCES
20	RESOURCE MOBILISATION



LIFE CHOICES

GOVERNING BOARD

Clare Ballard
CHAIRPERSON



Ms. Ballard joined the Civil Society Prison Reform Initiative, Community Law Centre (University of the Western Cape), as a researcher in January 2011. She has a Bachelor of Arts and an LLB from the University of Cape Town, and an LLM from Cornell University. Ms. Ballard also practised as an attorney at the Centre for Child Law, University of Pretoria, and lectured occasionally at the Centre for Human Rights.

Bonginkosi Chiliza
VICE-CHAIRPERSON



Dr Chiliza is a senior psychiatrist at Tygerberg Hospital and senior lecturer at the Department of Psychiatry, University of Stellenbosch, in Cape Town, South Africa. His research interests include first episode schizophrenia (particularly factors that influence outcome); psychopharmacology and language access in mental health services.

Zwelakhe Mnguni
TREASURER



Mr. Mnguni is the Equities and Portfolio Manager at Stanlib Value Funds. He has a B-Com Hons (University of Cape Town), M-Com Finance (University of Cape Town) and has been in the financial services for 10 years. He started his career as an intern at Cadiz Holdings. After two years at Cadiz, he joined Allan Gray as an equity analyst for a four year period. More recently, he held the positions of equity analyst and co-fund manager of the Stanlib Value Funds.

Alice Hobbs
BOARD MEMBER



Mrs. Hobbs studied Media and Film at University of Cape Town followed by a Postgraduate degree in Marketing Management. After 6 years in London, working in marketing consulting, Mrs. Hobbs has brought her skills and knowledge home. She now works for a dynamic Cape Town based Marketing Agency.

Donal Skinner
BOARD MEMBER



Dr. Donald Skinner has trained both as a clinical psychologist and has a PhD in research psychology. He is currently the Director of the Research on Health and Society Unit (RHS) at the University of Stellenbosch. Dr. Skinner has a great deal of experience conducting qualitative and quantitative HIV-related research in South Africa. Previously, he held the post of Chief Research Specialist at the Human Sciences Research Council, where he led several HIV-related studies.

Bathandwa Sonamzi
BOARD MEMBER



Mr. Sonamzi is an active community member, Primary School Principal and the regional chairperson of SADTU (South African Democratic Teachers Union). He hails from the Eastern Cape Province, from a small town called Lady Frere. He completed his Senior Primary Teachers' Diploma at Lumko College of Education. In 2002 he studied at the University of the Western Cape and completed an Advanced Certificate in Education and BEd Hons in 2004.

Analisha Warely
SECRETARY



Ms. Warely is an Operations Administrative Support at Shell S.A. Marketing (PTY) Limited. She started her community work in 2001 as part of the YMCA Peer-Education pilot project at Modderdam High in Boteheuwel. While working at Life Choices she completed her B-Com degree in Economics through the University of the Western Cap

Anthony Roberts
BOARD MEMBER



Mr. Roberts has worked in the field of education in South Africa for the past 20 years. His work as an educator has included teaching at a secondary school, lecturing at teachers' training colleges and working as an educational psychologist for the Western Cape Department of Basic Education. Mr. Roberts holds a Masters degree in education as well as a Masters degree in psychology.

Rev Edmund O'Neill
BOARD MEMBER



Rev. Dr O'Neill has studied in Ireland, Canada and South Africa and obtained a number of degrees in Philosophy, Theology and Canon Law, in which he has a PhD. Ordained a Salesian priest in England in December 1974, he has worked in parishes in Hanover Park and Mitchells Plain. Since 1989 he has also held the position of Property Administrator of the Archdiocese of Cape Town. Rev. Dr O'Neill is currently the Director of the Salesians Planning and Development Office.

Sofia Neves
NON-VOTING MEMBER



Ms. Neves is the Salesian Life Choices Managing Director. In 2005, she helped the Salesians to establish the organisation. She holds an Honours Degree in Animal Science and is currently finishing her Masters Degree in Development Studies with the University of the Western Cape. Ms. Neves joined the development field in 2001 in an OVC programme in Mozambique and has since gathered a vast experience in the non-profit sector across various disciplines, in several African countries.

Charity Bafana
BOARD MEMBER



Ms. Bafana holds an undergraduate degree in Social Science with majors in Organisational Psychology & Industrial Sociology from the University of Cape Town. She also holds a Post-Graduate Diploma in Business Administration from the University of Cape Town's Graduate School of Business. Ms. Bafana has worked professionally in the NGO sector for five years, but has been active in charitable work since her first year at university.

Father Pat Naughton
BOARD MEMBER



Father Pat Naughton is the Salesian Institute Bursar and Fundraiser. He began working in South Africa with the Salesians in 1963. Where he taught in Salesian schools in Gauteng and the Western Cape. From 1995 to 2001, Father Naughton was appointed by Rome as Provincial and Financial Manager for the Salesian Province of Southern Africa (South Africa, Lesotho and Swaziland). In 2002, Father Naughton became the Rector and Financial Manager of the Salesian Institute in Cape Town.

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRPERSON

No doubt, it has been a year of “firsts” for the Life Choices team: new donors, new projects, new members, and not least of all, the transition of Life Choices into a Non-Profit Organisation with the requisite induction of a Board of Trustees. Under the expert leadership of Director Sofia Neves, the transition of Life Choices to an NPO and the expected challenges that come with it (not to mention the anticipated funding and resource challenges that come with every financial year) appears to have occurred seamlessly and, indeed, most successfully!

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I congratulate the Life Choices team for their unwavering commitment to the success and development of young people under their stewardship and wish them an equally fruitful 2013.

Clare Ballard
Life Choices Chairperson



“THE LANGUAGE OF
CITIZENSHIP SUGGESTS
THAT SELF-INTERESTS ARE
ALWAYS EMBEDDED IN
COMMUNITIES OF ACTION
AND THAT IN SERVING
NEIGHBORS ONE ALSO
SERVES ONESELF.”

BENJAMIN R. BARBER

MESSAGE FROM THE MANAGING DIRECTOR

It gives me great pleasure to introduce the Life Choices 6th Annual Report.

The past year has been marked by several changes in methodology and approach, initially as a result of changes in the Western Cape Department of Basic Education policies.

For this reason, we decided to go back to basics at the beginning of the year and partner closely with the real experts: the people living in the communities in which we work. Together we reviewed our programmes with the aim of adjusting our focus, gathering resources and collaborating with other experts in order to move a step closer to our mission.

As a more mature organisation, we came to the realization that we are not a fast panacea: we ourselves are struggling to find the way. However, we continue believing that the solution for the problems faced by society can be found within human beings. We acknowledge that this is a process, and not an easy one. To work with people (ourselves and others) is challenging and takes time.

During the past year we also questioned our existence and why people should partner with us. We came up with many answers to this, but four reasons stood out for me and I would like to share them with you:

Firstly, we have a team that deeply cares about what they do and they run the organisation’s work in a transparent and professional manner. We regularly ask ourselves “How can we do things better?”

Secondly, the joy of our work is that, as much as our partners (beneficiaries) and targeted communities grow and develop through the various programmes, we (who are involved in the process) also grow and develop.

Thirdly, we are dedicated to bridging gaps in such a way that eventually there will no longer be a need for our services.

And fourthly, we are committed to continue dreaming and working passionately towards a society where everyone has the opportunity to find his or her purpose in life.

One step at a time; one person at a time; everyone making a small difference and in the end, this will translate into a movement of people working towards a better world for all of us.

With this report I wish to acknowledge and thank everyone who has been involved with Life Choices for the past year.

I also would like to use this opportunity to encourage people to continue being part of this special movement and to invite others to join us.

Sofia Neves
Managing Director

“HAVE PATIENCE WITH ALL THINGS BUT FIRST WITH YOURSELF. NEVER CONFUSE YOUR MISTAKES WITH YOUR VALUE AS A HUMAN BEING. YOU’RE A PERFECTLY VALUABLE, CREATIVE, WORTHWHILE PERSON SIMPLY BECAUSE YOU EXIST AND NO AMOUNT OF TRIUMPHS OR TRIBULATIONS CAN EVER CHANGE THAT. UNCONDITIONAL SELF-ACCEPTANCE IS THE CORE OF A PEACEFUL MIND.”

ST. FRANCIS DE SALES

OUR PRINCIPLE

Salesian Life Choices is an innovative youth development organisation based in nine disadvantaged communities (Athlone, Bontheuwel, Gugulethu, Hanover Park, Heideveld, Lansdowne, Manenberg, Nyanga & Phillippi) of Cape Town, South Africa.

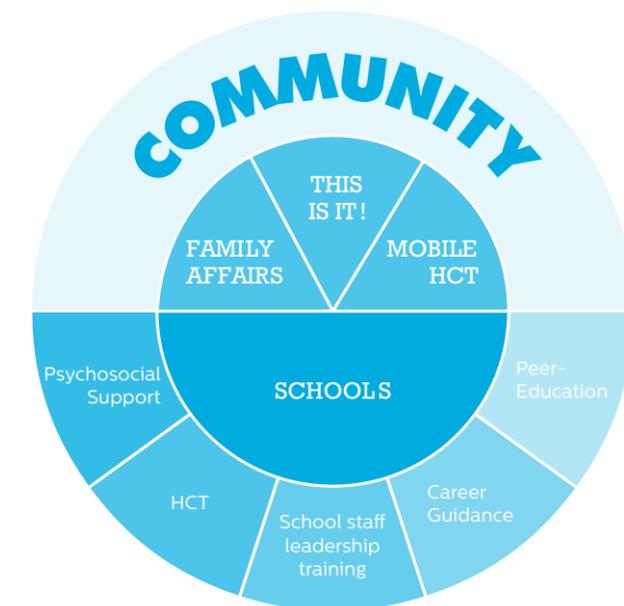
The organisation aims to encourage youth to “own” who they are and to actively make choices that will give them the freedom to grow and become all they can be.

The vision of the organisation is “to start a movement of young people who foolishly pursue their purpose and are surrounded by supportive environments.”

Life Choices bases its work on the principle that, for youth to form a solid foundation so that we can create a society where all people can fulfill their dreams and develop their potential, young people need:

- INFORMATION
- EDUCATION
- SKILLS
- YOUTH-FRIENDLY SERVICES
- EMPLOYMENT
- SAFE ENVIRONMENTS

Through on-going needs assessments and beneficiary feedback, the organisation expanded its initial scope to offer several different programmes within schools and communities. Salesian Life Choices has organically expanded its capacity and now provides services to over 65 000 people each year.



Why we do it?

Current analysis of the experiences of youth in the majority of the 'Cape Flats' communities shows that their life is a struggle. High unemployment, family disintegration, high failure rates in school, early sexual debut, physical and sexual abuse, drugs and poverty are realities for many young people in the Western Cape.

Almost two decades after the introduction of democracy in South Africa, teachers, pupils and government agree that there is still a long way to go in terms of ironing out inequalities, particularly within the South African education sector. Despite a massive resource shift towards schools located in previously disadvantaged communities, overall matriculation results have actually deteriorated in the post-apartheid period. Thus, the school system contributes little to supporting the upward mobility of disadvantaged youth into the job market and tertiary institutions after school.

Without a Matric or Matriculation Exemption, young people have little chance of following their dreams. Furthermore, communities and the school system do not offer much scope for learning soft skills such as problem solving, punctuality and commitment. This limits job seekers' capacity when entering into the working world.

Knowing that opportunities are few and far between increases risk behaviours among young people. Youth feel despondent and hopeless. It is a picture of a generation of young people at risk, unlikely to reach their full potential.

What we do?

Dream2Be is a programme that incorporates leadership and employment skills training with a HIV prevention methodology. This methodology complies with the standards of the Western Cape Peer-Education programme and builds on these standards to ensure the intervention is more effective.

Dream2Be enables seemingly average youth to become young leaders. Dreamers (Dream2Be participants) are invited to play a 'game', where they score points using their Dream2Be passport as a scorecard. The points are scored by:

- attending training (after school and camps)
- excelling at tasks they perform
- running activities such as lessons, dialogues/ debates and community projects which positive impact their peers and their communities

Dreamers are encouraged to play well and play hard. By scoring points, they acquire soft skills such as decision-making, punctuality, planning, personal excellence, and perseverance. The key to this educational methodology is having fun while encouraging positive behavioural change.

“THE FUTURE BELONGS TO THOSE WHO BELIEVE IN THE BEAUTY OF THEIR DREAMS.”

ELEANOR ROOSEVELT

Each school term, top scorers are rewarded with educational or cultural prizes such as a day in Parliament with a local politician, a five-day wilderness camp, hikes around Cape Town, and visits to historical monuments such as Robben Island. These prizes encourage Dreamers, showing them that hard work results in rewards. The prizes also expose



DREAM2BE WINS THE 2011 AFRICOMNET EXCELLENCE AWARD

them to different realities that inspire them to dream differently.

Dream2Be Results

- ✓ 32 schools were offered the intervention.
- ✓ 1,581 learners were recruited and trained in Peer-Education and introduced to the Dream2Be game (minimum 20 hours training).
- ✓ 11,810 learners reached with five life skills sessions conducted by Dreamers during orientation periods. The five sessions' topics were: seeking help, decision making, relationships, HIV/AIDS and being assertive.
- ✓ 11,035 learners reached through face to face discussions by Dreamers.
- ✓ 136 dialogues led by Dreamers reaching 3,331 peers. Topics vary according with schools needs: let's talk about sex, teenage pregnancy, drugs, crime, stereotyping among others.
- ✓ 32 community projects organised by Dreamers reaching 12,331 peers.
- ✓ 453 learners offered one-on-one career guidance sessions.
- ✓ 213 Grade 12 Dreamers trained over two days in study methodology, time management and the Journey. Dreamers were also offered one-on-one career guidance and help to apply to tertiary education.

“I doubted myself because I failed grade 10 ... I never felt important due to the fact that I was always undermined, nobody took me seriously ... (however) ... being a peer-educator made me feel important. My confidence and self-esteem grew...Today I'm not a bad statistic; I have got a job. Life Choices gave me a key. It is up to me which door I want to open.”

Piwe Ncetezo, Former Peer-Educator

“Life Choices has been of tremendous benefit to our learners and staff. From the very successful Dream2Be programme several learners have emerged as strong and confident leaders. Although attitudinal changes are very difficult to measure, the new energy and excitement that we have noticed in some of those who have engaged in the programme are clear indicators to us that these learners have been positively transformed.”

Basil Snayer, Garlandale High Principal

Life Skills

Life Choices based its work on the belief that sustained and positive behaviour change requires a significant investment of time. Since its inception, Life Choices has run 7 curriculum-based sessions per year with each class in school. This programme aimed at exploring developmental issues that, in the long run, may help young people make positive choices. In 2011, 20,593 learners were reached with 7 life skills sessions.

Due to the change on the Western Cape Department of Basic Education policy, Life Choices stopped running this programme in 2012.



“PEOPLE WHO ARE CRAZY ENOUGH TO THINK THEY CAN CHANGE THE WORLD, ARE THE ONES WHO DO.”

APPLE INC

WELFARE PROGRAMME

Why we do it?

Life Choices works in disadvantaged communities where violence, substance abuse, poverty and many more social ills are the day to day reality of young people. On a daily basis, Life Choices finds such young people who are in need of assistance in order to overcome their challenging life situations. Without assistance these situations can limit young people's abilities to succeed in school and to become productive members of society.

What we do?

This programme uses a client-centred approach with individuals but at the same time works on making environments (schools and communities) safer. The basis of the programme is a humanistic approach.

The Welfare programme targets vulnerable children and youth whose rights are violated on a daily basis. The Life Choices Auxiliary Social Worker visits schools on a monthly basis as well as in emergency situations.

The Auxiliary Social Worker assists young people to overcome the difficult social situations they find themselves in through assessment and interactive counselling. Parents/guardians are informed and are also counselled in some cases. Thereafter, the case is assessed to see whether it can be resolved with on-going counselling (psychosocial support) or if it needs to be referred to other specialised organisations, governmental services or institutions for further support. After referral, Life Choices follows-up with each young person to ensure and support their full recovery.

Welfare Results

- ✓ **461 learners were offered psychosocial support sessions (one-on-one)**
- ✓ **68 parents were offered psychosocial support sessions (one-on-one)**



FAMILY AFFAIRS

Why we do it?

A stable family life with both parents present is a privilege of the minority of children in South Africa. Only a third of children are living with both biological parents, and there are nearly a million children who have lost both parents, many to AIDS. For most South African children, family is an unfamiliar concept (The South African Institute of Race Relations).

According to various literature reviews, many families in Cape Flats communities are in crisis and are faced with challenges that negatively impact their ability to sustain themselves. Alcoholism and drug abuse, together with high levels of violence, are heavy burdens for impoverished communities. Unemployment and crime rates are high and this increasingly affects community members. Many households are headed by single women who lack the skills and resources to care adequately for their children. These women often lack access to government and other support structures too.

In 2005, Life Choices started working with children and youth in schools by providing life skills sessions and peer-education training to learners. Children were found to be in need of help to overcome difficult social situations. When talking to young people about their problems, it was clear that a lack of proper family care was a common factor negatively affecting their wellbeing. When children lack caring, supportive and trusted adults in their lives, their own development is compromised.

What we do?

The Family and Child project is carried out in two main stages:

- Stage One:** Parental Skills Workshops
- Stage two:** Establishing parents' support groups

STAGE ONE

In stage one, the primary selection criteria for participation is that parents/guardians come from one of Life Choices targeted communities, and that they care for at least one child. Groups of 15 to 20 parents all with a variety of life experiences and household structures, are accommodated at local community facilities (schools, churches, libraries and community centres) that are selected on the basis of convenience for the participants.

Parental skills workshops run for seven consecutive weeks, one day per week, for three-hour sessions. Topics covered include: self-reflection; understanding children's behaviour; child developmental stages and needs; self-esteem and patterns of communication; listening skills; identifying feelings and dealing with them in appropriate ways; risk behaviour (including substance abuse, sexual behaviour and HIV/AIDS); education and children's rights. The last session is an intergenerational session to which parents are invited to bring their children to participate in team building exercises.

Throughout the sessions, parents share their personal stories and the difficulties they face while raising their children. Typically, this aspect of the programme results in profound group bonds as parents from all walks of life, with children of varying ages, realise that they share common struggles as parents. Life Choices employs a social worker who assists with counselling participants requiring one-on-one support, and the project facilitator also links parents to other local resources.

As part of parental skills training, parents are requested to develop and present a non monetary gift for their community. At the end of the seven sessions, parents jointly implement a community upliftment project as a gift to their children/school/communities. This activity aims to assist parents in realising their potential and closes the first stage on a high note.

The Parental Skills workshops improve participant knowledge and help to develop new skills among parents in order to enable them to succeed as parents.

“HAVING CHILDREN MAKES YOU NO MORE A PARENT THAN HAVING A PIANO MAKES YOU A PIANIST.”

MICHAEL LEVINE

STAGE TWO

Stage two of the project consists of the participants establishing community-parent support groups in order to sustain the intervention after completion of the project. Parents agree where and when to meet as a group, and two parent leaders are selected to take over the organiser role for a year. Life Choices continues meeting with the group once a month for three months, and thereafter every second month for four months (in total there will be 1.5 months of training [stage one], and seven months of support [stage two]). The Life Choices facilitator initially provides direction on operating the group, working closely with group leaders to pass on skills to ensure sustainability after Life Choices exits. The support groups provide community structures where parents receive ongoing support and also create forums where parents can share experiences and gain new skills.

Family Affairs Results

- ✓ 360 parents were offered the intervention

“After this course I felt like a better person. My inner healing came from being a part of this program. As a single mother things are very difficult for me and I was always too busy and never understood my children’s needs. This course has made me realise that I can be a better mother and still provide for my family.”

Melanie Witbooi, Parent: Druwefontein Community Centre Manenberg

“The aspects in this programme we covered has challenged me a lot. I have learned that my attitude in life, with my family and with those around me determines the quality of my relationships. I am not going to give up but get up and make a difference. I am going to encourage and inspire more and also be the pillar of support that I can be.

My reality has become one of being thankful and more appreciative for what I have instead of complaining about what I don’t have. During the training we relaxed, laughed and cried together which provided us with a platform to be reminded that to forgive is to survive and to heal.”

Lorraine Ockhuizen, Parent : Netreg Community Centre Bonteheuwel

Why we do it?

Policymakers, scientists, practitioners and communities have spent almost a quarter of a century attempting to solve the AIDS pandemic, however, the challenges presented by HIV continue to be daunting. The combination of poverty, poor education, substance abuse, and a legacy of power struggles, has resulted in South Africa having the highest number of people living with HIV in the world (www.avert.org). With nearly six million infected people, the risk of new infections is overwhelming.

Research has shown that the majority of new infections occur in young people aged 15 to 24 (with girls being particularly vulnerable due to relationships with older men).

Preventing new HIV infections as well as the associated risk-taking behaviour continues to be one of the country’s most urgent priorities. However, it has not yet been tackled effectively. Three decades after the advent of the pandemic, HIV prevention programmes still aim at reaching large groups of people with one message that fits all, which have proven unsuccessful. In order to effectively tackle this pandemic, true understanding of human behaviour is needed, and the use of behaviour theories grounded in empirical research should become the norm for all HIV interventions.

“IT IS NOT THE MOUNTAIN WE CONQUER BUT OURSELVES.”

EDMUND HILLARY

What we do?

HEALTH4LIFE IN SCHOOLS

Feedback shows that young people feel more comfortable receiving HIV Counselling and Testing (HCT) services on school premises rather than in health clinics. Life Choices offers youth-friendly HCT services in high schools on a bi-weekly basis. Life Choices developed an interactive and creative counselling protocol. Which uses the well respected Health Belief Model as the foundation theory for pre-counselling and the Stages of Change Theory for post-counselling protocol. The protocol uses HCT as an HIV preventive tool by tailoring counselling messages to the reality of each client’s unique circumstances. As part of the counselling protocol, personalised ‘risk reduction plans’ are drawn up with every client during the post-counselling session.

Life Choices also offers follow-up sessions, where counsellors and clients review the successes and failures of the initial ‘risk reduction plan’ two weeks after initial testing and counselling. In this way, clients continue to be supported in maintaining healthy behaviours and fulfilling their goals. Where necessary, more realistic plans are developed with clients who are falling short of their goals.

Clients are also offered STI screening, TB screening and referrals to other relevant local service providers where necessary. Extra follow-up counselling sessions are provided to youth who request ongoing support and guidance.

HEALTH4LIFE IN COMMUNITIES

Life Choices provides friendly, mobile HCT services at poorly resourced sites and at convenient times and sites aiming to attract ‘hard to reach’ population to the services (e.g. men, youth out of school, people that have never been tested). Every client is given the opportunity to discuss fears, risk factors, support networks, and internal resources within their lives. Clients use the information discussed to analyse how they are living and how they can best minimise their

risk. Clients are assisted to develop realistic personal risk reduction plans. All clients are screened for TB and STI's and referred to other relevant services where necessary. Those who are diagnosed as HIV positive or suspect TB and/or STIs receive telephonic follow-up calls from Life Choices counsellors to continue supporting them after diagnosis. Clients diagnosed HIV positive are also offered five free sessions with a local psychologist (prevention with positives).

Health4Life Results

- ✓ 396 HCT campaigns were organised during the year.
- ✓ 12,404 people were offered HIV Counselling and testing services.
- ✓ 57% of clients are younger than 25 years of age.
- ✓ 49% of clients are male and 51% are females (this is higher than metro averages of 33% males).
- ✓ 32% of clients are people who are doing an HIV test for the first time in their lives.
- ✓ 100% quality and accuracy in all testing results as measured through the externally evaluation conducted by the National Institute of Communicable Diseases (NICD) twice per year.

"As a young professional and merely starting out in my psychology career, Life Choices gave me the opportunity to find my feet in the world of work, and find myself. As a Life Choices HCT counsellor, I got the opportunity to discover my passions and live out my desire for helping people. My amazing colleagues also helped me to cultivate strengths and overcome personal challenges. The Life Choices HCT team works in the harshest of conditions where poverty and social ills are rife. But with their incredible tenacity, strive for excellence, warmth and courage they go out there every day to impart hope and change lives."

Christine de Goede, Former Life Choices Counsellor

"The experience with Life Choices counsellor challenged me to reflect in what I knew and to apply it to my life style. I discovered through the process that my future is worth more than the present fun. Thanks for believing in me and not judging."

Anonymous, Hct Client Survey

THIS IS IT!

Why we do it?

This is It! is the first Life Choices programme that has been developed entirely by beneficiaries. In 2011, Life Choices requested the 'Youth Advisory Committee' to design a programme that they felt was needed in their communities and could address the desires of youth.

A group of four Grade 11 learners came up with the concept of This is It! They strongly felt that communities need a one-stop 'shop' for all youths needs. Young people need one place in the community where they feel safe and they feel heard. In this place they will be able to choose from a variety of options which will support them to uncover their passions and ultimately succeed in life. They felt that youth in disadvantaged communities should be able to get the same opportunities and support as youth in the suburbs. Things like extra tuition, art classes, sports, one-on-one support and career guidance, should be freely available to them. What initially seemed a dream from four learners, became a commitment from Life Choices to make This is It! a reality.

What we do?

Life Choices piloted the 'This is It!' programme in 4 schools on a Saturday morning (from 09.30 am to 12.30 pm).

This programme created opportunity for people with passion, good will, skills and resources to give back to young people in disadvantaged communities. Life Choices staff, other organisations and volunteers from all walks of life spend Saturday mornings running short courses (6 weeks) and group activities with learners in schools.

Activities offered to learners included: academic tutoring; drama, dancing and singing classes; one-on-one career guidance; support groups (teen mothers, drug addiction, gangsterism, etc); sports; leadership training; yoga classes; and computer skills.

This is It! Results

- ✓ 323 learners were offered short courses.



ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2012

	2012	2011
	R	R
Income	6 832 543	6 483 502
CDC grant	3 304 561	4 055 537
USAID Grant	-	910 672
Western Cape Department of Health - Global Fund Grant	2 560 225	473 378
Western Cape Department of Health - Department of Basic Education Grant	615 330	-
National Lottery Distribution Trust Fund	-	731 500
Youth Unlimited	173 485	153 801
Austrian Funds	-	42 714
Western Cape Education Department	3 555	9 995
Other Donations	69 593	96 006
Interest Received	-	9 899
Vat Refunds	105 794	-
Gross Income	6 832 543	6 483 502
Expenditure	7 419 924	5 743 716
Accounting fees	1 700	-
Administration Expenses	155 170	125 577
Audit fees	10 000	23 192
Bank charges	21 074	24 667
BCC Material	36 449	78 299
Branding of Van	-	2 274
Capacity building	6 832	-
Capital assets under R5 000	5 350	-
Catering	-	23 130
Consultants	-	52 534
Courier and postage	-	267
Data Capturing	-	12 978
Depreciation	326 081	324 940
Donation Expenses	100 463	21 572
GPS - Tracking Toyota	-	1 022
Photocopying	15 417	-
Human Resources	7 700	-
Insurance	94 574	89 158
Marketing Material	7 242	37 131
Miscellaneous expenses	-	2 500

	2012	2011
	R	R
Mobile clinic expenses	139 534	146 149
Monitoring and evaluation	-	30 293
Motor vehicle maintenance	316 106	205 287
Office rental	-	15 000
Office security	1 959	-
Office supplies	41 765	54 078
Parking	-	295
Peer education expenses	586 858	-
Personnel Training and development	10 000	-
Petrol	-	26 433
Photocopier Rental	-	8 449
Printing	-	39 900
Printing materials	-	3 192
Public Transport	-	6 950
Refreshments	-	32 474
Rent	10 000	-
Repairs and maintenance	12 933	1 729
Salaries and wages	5 076 928	4 137 161
Staff expenses/welfare	2 025	325
Staff training	-	1 150
Stationery Youth Programmes	-	24 566
Teas and Cleaning	-	1 924
Telephone/fax/internet	-	18 373
Training expenses	214 387	80 407
Training material	-	22 134
Travel	61 838	60 303
Uniforms	-	5 000
Workshop materials	157 539	2 903
Finance expenses	-1 704	86 576
Net Surplus/ (Deficit) for the year	-585 677	653 209
	1 883 374	1 230 165
ADD: Accumulated Surplus at beginning of year	1 883 374	1 294 241
Prior Period Error	-	-64 076
Accumulated Surplus at end of year	1 297 696	1 883 374

RESOURCE MOBILISATION

Ongoing partnership with a range of different donors is critical to ensuring that Life Choices is able to fulfil its mission. Every donation received, regardless of size, is appreciated by the organisation.

Support During the 2011/2012 Financial Year

- During the year under review, Life Choices raised:
- 48% from bi-lateral agencies including CDC, BMZ and EC
 - 44% from South African Government including the Western Cape Department of Health and Basic Education
 - 7% from Life Choices staff and volunteers (free time donated to the organisation)
 - 1% from others

BREAKDOWN OF PERCENTAGE

	2012/2011	2011/2010
Bi-lateral	48%	78%
South African Government	44%	7%
Trusts	-	9%
Others	1%	1%
Staff & Volunteers	7%	5%

Due to the international financial crisis, Life Choices focused on obtaining local resources in order to sustain its activities. Life Choices was successful in partnering with the South African government and obtaining 44% of the total budget from this source.

Life Choices would like to commend the Western Cape Government for partnering with civil society.

We would also like to give a special thanks to the Salesians' fundraising offices spread throughout the world who helped to raise some of these funds: Salesian Mission, South African Planning and Development Office and Jugend Eine Welt.

Life Choices would like to praise staff and volunteers diligent efforts that make up to 7% of the total organisation's income. This was calculated based on hours and skills donated to the organisation.

If you would like to contribute to our work, please contact us at: salesians.lifechoices@gmail.com

Or make a deposit into the following account:

Standard Bank
Swift Code: SBZAZAJJ
Salesian Life Choices General
Account No: 070860823
Branch: 020909
Account Type: Current

“WHEN WRITTEN IN CHINESE THE WORD “CRISIS” IS COMPOSED OF TWO CHARACTERS - ONE REPRESENTS DANGER AND THE OTHER REPRESENTS OPPORTUNITY.”

JOHN F. KENNEDY



