

Afternoon Program Empowers Learners in Swaneville

By Life Sithole

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South Africa is a country characterised by shocking inequality at all levels of life. This is very clear in the education system even 30 years after apartheid legally ended with many schools struggling with infrastructure and support for learners. The learners themselves usually come from disadvantaged backgrounds.

Many learners in Swaneville, Krugersdorp, fall under the same situation. The schools in the area are mostly categorised between quintile 1 and 3.

For many working class parents, assisting their children with homework is a struggle, as a result children often don't do well at school.

Kwena Chosi (26) established an afternoon program in 2021 solely to ensure children in Swaneville, receive all the necessary academic support. This program assists learners from poor backgrounds, and those who seriously need this kind of support. It has become a helping hand for parents who struggle to assist their children with their schoolwork or assignment. The program also helps the elderly who are struggling to look after their grandchildren by keeping them safe after school.

Chosi together with two other tutors mainly assist learners from grade 4 to grade 9, focusing on mathematics and English. Thapelo Marumo (45) says he was very proud of the way his child passed last year [2024] and he is happy about the community program because it has removed his child from the streets, as he was no longer into books and had started smoking. He says he believes the program has had a good impact on him, as he is now focused on his books. 14-year-old Precious Mangope who became a top learner in Rietvallei Primary School, says she is proud of the program because it helps her achieve the top position at her school.

During school holidays, Chosi partners with other community organisations like Entokozweni Home Based Care and Young Minds to offer engaging after-school holiday programs for the children in the community.

“As the program grows, it will provide even more opportunities for learners to participate in extra mural activities and support them with their overall well-being,” said Chosi.

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