



BONNIEVALE

418

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LOVE · HUMILITY · COMMUNITY

2022/23

Annual Report

Financial period 1 Jan – 31 December

JGE Funding Trust t/a Bonnievale 418 | NPO 253669 | PBO 930054635

Foreword

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When people with different giftings and an aligned vision work together great things happens. Things change. Lives change. The oppressed are set free (Luke 4:18).

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When people with different giftings and an aligned vision work together great things happens.

The book Ecclesiastes says there is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens. We are pausing for a moment to celebrate. We celebrate the grace bestowed upon us by our Heavenly Father to do precisely what we are called to do. We celebrate our stakeholders, our enablers, our mentors, our implementors and our volunteers. Each a member called according to his/her purpose in the body. Making it work.

August 2023 marks a three-year milestone for Bonnievale 418 with this Big Hairy Audacious Goal (BHAG) of zero youth unemployment in

Bonnievale by 2030. In Afrikaans we can also describe this goal as a “tameletjie” (a tough toffee to chew). With Bonnievale 418 facilitating about 300 opportunities in 2022/23 and Bonnievale having a combined total of less than 200 high

school leavers, we should have had zero NEET's. In theory, all our school leavers should have been placed in an opportunity. But we have learned it is not just a supply (employees) and

demand (employer) issue. Our learnings show that there are expectations to be managed on both ends and it emphasized that skills without character is not enough. Although still a far way out from zero youth unemployment in Bonnievale, many lives were changed the past three years. Many of our young school leavers were placed into jobs and enrolled as first-generation tertiary students. I am reminded of a Jade-Lynn Klein at Sol Plaatjie University studying education. Gabriel Kholomba from Jakes Gerwel's school of skills who are permanently employed in Paarl at a business with a national footprint. A local

ancillary health care business making several permanent appointments from our Extended Public Works Program. I am confident that if we continue to collaborate in this manner we will reach our BHAG.

We want every child to read with meaning by the age of ten. We want to introduce clear career pathway options much earlier in a learner's school career. We want to improve our employer networks to link our skilled and workready supply to industry demand. And last but not least, we want five schools of skills in five different towns by 2025. These “wants” are not unique to Bonnievale and we celebrate the fact that so many South Africans are looking for ways to transform their communities. Our Sharing team travelled approximately 21 000 km's to share our learnings with 217 different communities/teams.

I end with the beginning statement. When people with different giftings and an aligned vision work together great things happens. Things change. Lives change. The oppressed are set free (Luke 4:18).

Abbreviations

BPS	Bonnievale Primary School
CCF	Candidate Care Facilitator
CEMIS	Centralised Education Management Information System
ECD	Early Childhood Development
ECD Centre	Early Childhood Development Centre
EPWP	Extended Public Works Programme
DDD	Data Driven Dashboard

NEETS	Not in Education, Employment, or Training
NPC	Non-Profit Company
PBO	Public Benefit Organisation
SA-SAMS	South African School and Management System
SETA	Sector Education and Training Authority
WCED	Western Cape Education Department

Addressing Learner Gaps

In June 2020 a plan, or a “reference kit”, for the Education Stream was developed. In short:



Bring a community together by providing a platform where high schools, primary schools and ECD centres are aligned.



Strengthen existing relationships to determine the needs of Bonnievale.



Close learner gaps, determine what ensures the success of a school's management and governance systems, and take steps toward career-based education.



Increase the access to secondary schooling, improve early grade literacy and numeracy, improve learner outcomes.



Addressing learning gaps is mammoth. Where does one start? Our colleague Dewald Cillie always says: “Bite off more than you can chew... and then start chewing.”



Figure: Jakes Gerwel Technical teachers at the Teachers' Appreciation Event in November 2022.



Photo by: Juka

Figure: At the Teachers' Appreciation Event in November 2022, Bonnievale 418 celebrated our teachers' work in our schools.

Education Council

The Education Council was established in 2021 to create the much-needed unifying platform where our schools could discuss their challenges, joys, and possible solutions for quality education in Bonnievale. The initial focus was to build strong relationships to ensure

a shift to a basis of trust when issues need to be confronted fearlessly. Programs welcomed by the council include YearBeyond, Wolkskool, DDD (Data-Driven Dashboard), and Community Keepers. Bonnievale is fortunate to have schools that ask, "what is best for our learners?"

Data-driven dashboard

What if it was possible to know which learners are on the verge of a bachelor pass in matric if they improved their overall marks by 5%? What if it was possible to quantify lost teaching time in manhours due to teacher absenteeism? DDD, or the data-driven dashboard, does just that. It is a powerful tool that school principals can use to manage their schools more effectively.

Unfortunately, DDD requires the input to be in an SA-SAMS format, where most Western Cape schools utilise CEMIS databases. Starting with BPS, three data capturers are working around the clock to set up the SA-SAMS database for BPS. Once BPS with the highest learner count is completed, the other schools' databases can also be created.

Community Keepers

One of the biggest concerns identified by the education council was the need for psycho-social support in schools. Two dedicated social workers at Jakes Gerwel Tegnies and Bonnievale Primary School (BPS) have made an enormous difference in the past two years in supporting learners and their families. Our partnership with Community Keepers, who have been helping

learners in Western Cape schools for more than 15 years, aims to expand psycho-social support in Bonnievale by including all 11 schools, not just two. A team of social workers and interns from our community work hand-in-hand to achieve this. Much is currently taking place behind the scenes, and the program officially kicks off on 18 July when the schools reopen for Term 3.

Figure: The Community Keepers CCF's (Candidate Care Facilitators) doing online training before being employed in the schools at the beginning of Term 3.



As Education looks back at 2020 through 2023 and celebrates what was not, but now is, the realisation is firm that much still needs to be done. It would have been pleasing to say that everything planned in 2020/2021 was completed, but that would have been the same to say as eradicating youth

unemployment is an easy task. As Education looks toward 2024 it is clear: the task is indeed immense. As Nelson Mandela put it: "It always seems impossible until it is done". Let's get the impossible done!

Community Keepers:



1 AREA
MANAGER



3 SOCIAL
WORKERS



6 CARE
FACILITATORS



11 SCHOOLS



3200 LEARNERS

*Community Keepers:
The figures involved in the
transformation of a community*

Placements

The building blocks towards our vision of zero youth unemployment in Bonnievale by 2030 is to facilitate and secure placements (opportunities) for our cohort of school leavers every year. We aim to ensure that no learner falls within the NEETS category. To this end, our Career Hub supports learners with a broad range of interventions, from assistance with compiling a CV to study application support (see below), help with work applications, and the like.

We celebrate the overall placement rate of our first two cohorts of school leavers of 80%. Two hundred twenty-five (225) out of the total of 280 school leavers accessed an opportunity within the first fifteen months post-school. Our 2022 cohort had a 51% placement rate three (3) months after completing school. We are very excited to see more learners from this cohort accessing opportunities during the next six months.

Total number of Placements



Placement rate (%)

- Total
- 2020
- 2021

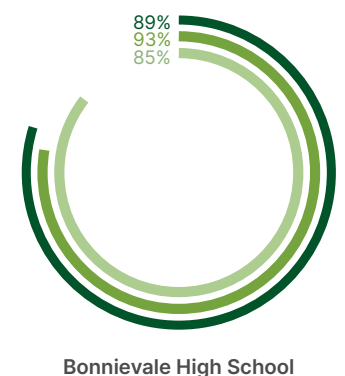
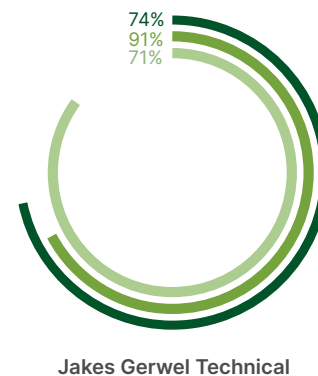
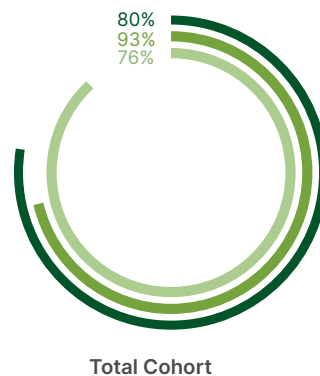




Photo: Cornell Williams from our office and one of our learners from Jakes Gerwel Technical at one of our Career Fairs in Bonnievale



While we celebrate the impact we are making in the lives of our beneficiaries, we are also on a continuous path of improvement.

Future Focused

While we celebrate the impact we are making in the lives of our beneficiaries, we are also on a continuous path of improvement. We are concerned about the high number of temporary placements accessed by each cohort of school leavers. This leads to our beneficiaries falling in and out of the NEETS category as their temporary contracts end. We are also very aware that more can be done to change the mindset of our school leavers from not just finding an opportunity but seeing every opportunity as a step towards

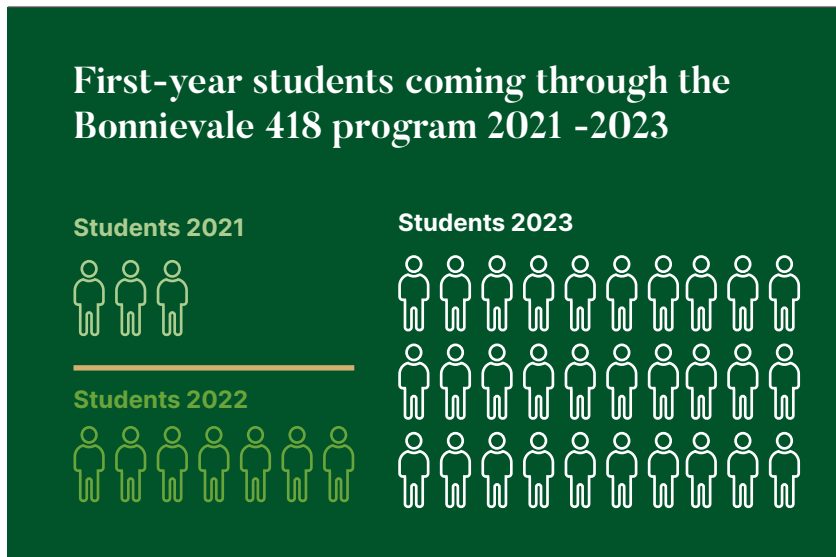
building a career.

Seeing many of our beneficiaries accessing work, study, and other related opportunities is encouraging. While many of our beneficiaries secure employment opportunities, we know that our beneficiaries struggle to retain employment. Interventions such as our Work Readiness course are aimed at addressing these concerns, and we are looking towards further engaging our partner High School to find ways of addressing the shortfalls in soft skills we see in our beneficiaries

Our Students

One of the main aims of the Bonnievale 418 program in Bonnievale since its inception was to increase the number of school leavers from Bonnievale who access tertiary study opportunities. We guide and mentor prospective students from the first step in the application process, to accessing funding, to register on campus and beyond.

Our Student Alumni has grown from a small group of 5 first-year students in 2021 to 33 first-year students in 2023. We are humbled by the growth in students and we celebrate the close to 50 students that form part of our Student Alumni Network. We are very proud of our students as we will also be welcoming our first graduates back to Bonnievale in the very near future.



Our first Student Alumni Network event was held in January of 2022, with our first Student Alumni group and our second Student Alumni Network event held in December of 2022.



YearBeyond

Facilitators (or Yeboneers) from the Year Beyond-program during an interactive session with learners

We celebrate our partnership with YearBeyond for the past three years. Through our collaboration and efforts, more than 100 beneficiaries from Bonnievale and the surrounding areas have come through the program, undergoing personal development and gaining work experience.

The YearBeyond program is a collaboration between the Western Cape Department of Culture and Sport, the Michael and Susan Dell Foundation, and various NGOs. Bonnievale 418 collaborates with different primary schools to implement the program in and around Bonnievale. The program places unemployed youth at Primary Schools where they assist the school as assistants, support learners in Grades 3

and 4 with mathematics and literacy and homework and follow up on learners who are absent from school or at risk of dropping out of school.

During the past three years, we as an organisation have learned a great deal from the YearBeyond program and our collaboration. We are truly grateful for our partnership and the investment the YearBeyond office is making in the young people from Bonnievale. The YearBeyond-program has become one of the cornerstones of our placement strategy, not only to open up opportunities for the youth in Bonnievale, but to bridge the gap for many of our beneficiaries between school and the next step in their career.



YearBeyond 2022 Graduation event



Work Readiness

Thank you to each person contributing to the life-changing 13-day Work Readiness Course (in partnership with Work 4 A Living). From the ideal venue and brilliant guest speakers to intercessors and support groups who journey long-term with graduates, it is no wonder that we are continuously receiving such beautiful testimonies of how the lives of graduates and their families have transformed.

Focused on themes such as Work Ethic, Financial Literature, World View,

and Entrepreneurship, this Course empowers participants to make the most of their Careers and to re-think their past, present and possibilities for the future.

Every participant brings their unique flavour to the group and discovers just how special they are and how easy it is to make a positive impact through acts of kindness.

Statistics July 2021 – May 2023



Career Hub

Work Readiness Course – April 2023
Graduates in Employment

A remarkable average of **373 visits to our office per month** was captured in Term 1 of 2023 – emphasising the role Bonnievale 418 plays in supporting the whole of Bonnievale with CV's and other Career Support.

The Career Hub's primary focus is **sharing information and connecting people** with the plethora of opportunities for Employment, Education and Training in Bonnievale and across the world, depending on the individual's life goals.

The **E-Café** is a relatively new Career Hub offering, empowering individuals with the necessary skills to access more opportunities through a range of online courses. Through this offering, every person in Bonnievale has access to a computer, the internet and a printer. **163 sessions** was captured since June 2022.

This space is regularly utilised to implement **Workshops and Training** to not only develop the necessary soft-skills enabling healthy careers but also to continuously increase the quality and impact of programmes managed by Bonnievale 418.

*Facilitator assisting E-Café
student with Online Course*



Programmes & Learnerships

Partnering with key local and national stakeholders is crucial to building a competent workforce and a sustainable and thriving economy.

The **Expanded Public Works Programme** (EPWP) is a government initiative to address the vast unemployment rates in South Africa. We have partnered with the Independent Development Trust (IDT) and Department of Public Works to provide additional employment opportunities in Bonnievale and surrounding towns. This programme grants job-seekers the opportunity to gain valuable experience and prove their worth, while earning an income.


The **Yes 4 Youth-Learnership** gave young people the opportunity to show their character and build their skillset, while working at a local farm and school. Additional career guidance and in-job training ensured this first job opportunity (for most) laid a strong foundation from which to build their next steps, leading to high progression and retention rates.

Accredited **SETA Learnerships** is a fantastic way for local companies to empower and upskill young employees – leading to huge benefits for all parties. Apart from those already offered, there is a variety of industry specific learnerships still available and we would love to partner with more businesses to make it available in Bonnievale.

EPWP:

100 July '22 – March '23
200 Dec '21 – March '22

Yes 4 Youth-Learnership

25 Yes 4 Youth
 88% Yes 4 Youth Progression

SETA Learnerships

 **33**

Mentorship

We always knew that we will never stand a chance in achieving our bold goal of **zero Youth Unemployment by 2030** without taking hands with others.

Feeling alone and hopeless is two major obstacles for our youth in gaining and retaining employment.

Our Mentorship Programme's foundation is the Bonnievale 418 value of

Community. By connecting youth with voluntary mentors, they now have a positive role-model, committed to their holistic wellbeing, able to listen, ask probing questions and provide advice.

With **88%** of youth who are in a committed mentor-relationship, also finding themselves in employment or further education, it is clear that being held accountable and sharing ideas with an experienced individual, can have a major impact on one's career.



Local entrepreneurs learning from chairperson of Stilbaai Chamber of Commerce



Job interviews with national employer



Holistic Health Workshop

A School of Skills for Every Town

Our dream was always to take what we have and share it! First to communities around us, then the rest of the Western Cape, South-Africa, Africa, and then the rest of the world. Embodied in our logo is symbolised our belief that the message of hope should be circled out, one community at a time.

After the completion of Jakes Gerwel Technical, Bonnievale 418 was birthed, and we took hands with the community of Struisbaai to build the Struisbaai School of Skills. Next is Ashton, Fisantekraal and Vredendal. So what is the big dream and how does our vision and mission align to reach this big dream?

Vision

A school of skills for every town in South Africa

Mission

To establish 10 schools of skills with 10 communities in the Western Cape in the next 10 years.



Advanced:

- 1. Ashton
- 2. Fisantekraal
- 3. Vredendal

Investigate:

- 4. Vishoek
- 5. George
- 6. Hermanus

Completed:

- A. Bonnievale
- B. Struisbaai

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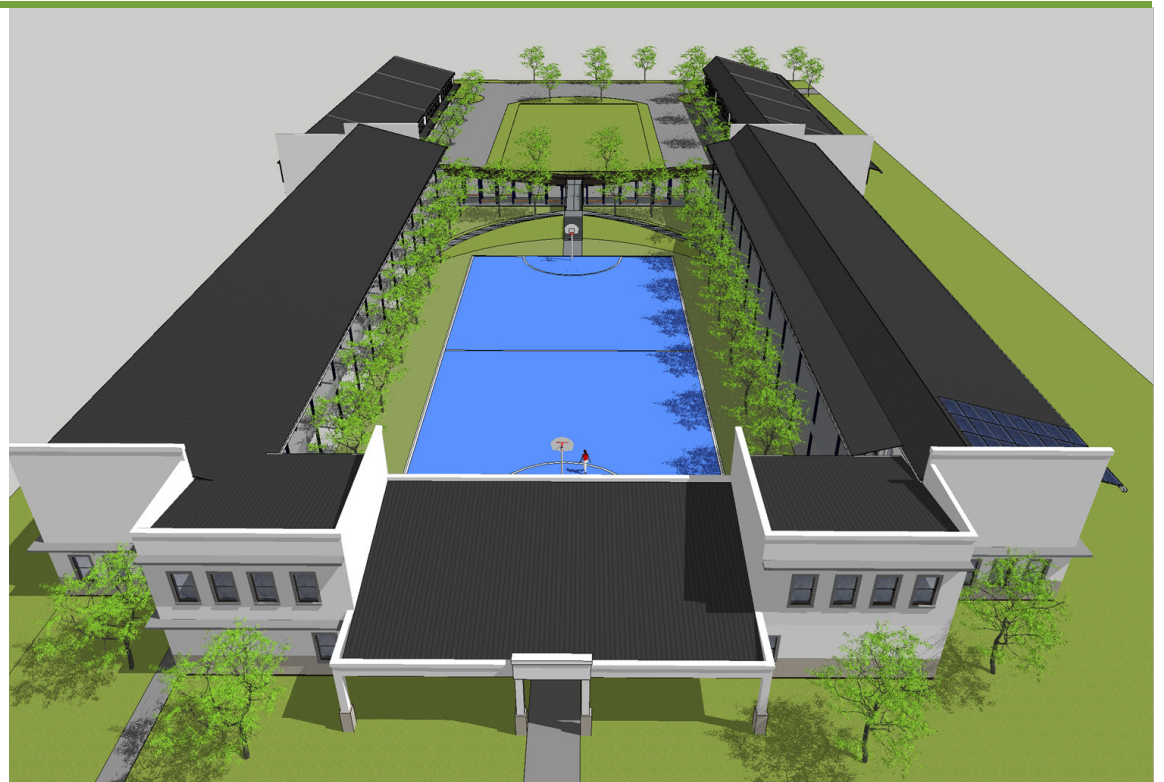
OUR MISSION: 10 SCHOOLS IN 10 COMMUNITIES IN 10 YEARS

Ashton

The Ashton Vocational Academy is in an advanced stage of development, and expectations are that the school will open its doors in 2025. The project has an established core team, a registered NPC (Non-Profit

Company), approved PBO (Public Benefit Organisation) status, and the team has raised its first R1 million.

A solitary vision can transform a thousand realities! This is an architectural drawing of how the proposed school of skills in Ashton will look like.



Fisantekraal

The *Loekie van Wyk Technical High* is proposed to be a 3-stream Collaboration School to cater for approximately 1200 learners in the Fisantekraal area. The project has a diversified core team, an approved

project plan from the Western Cape Education Department (WCED), and a property zoned as educational.

The community ownership and the core team driving the project is the driving forces behind the success of the project.



Vredendal

The community of Vredendal has a dream, a team, and a plan! This project has a dynamic team and good buy-in from the local community, the WCED, and surrounding businesses. There is no way to advocate better the

power and impact of a vocational school than the institution itself, and we hope to advance this model as a first-of-a-kind to the West Coast.

A team, a dream and a plan - this is what makes the Vredendal School of Skills project special.



Our team





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