



## END OF YEAR REPORT

10 December 2021



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## CREATING A CULTURE OF READING

In 2021, Shine Literacy worked under the programme umbrella of Creating a Culture of Reading in schools and at home to holistically address the crisis in education caused by the Covid-19 Pandemic. Centre and Chapter Managers were in classrooms supporting teachers with reading and literacy for all children in the Foundation Phase. Shine Literacy bought a grand total of 52 864 resource packs which were distributed to Foundation Phase children in 46 Centre, Chapter and Youth 4 Literacy (Y4L) schools. This quarterly offering included resources such as a children's magazine called The Little Issue, a story book with activities based on it, stationery and TIME Pack for Grade 1 children. This worthwhile investment came to a total of R1 604 900.00 in 2021.

The CCR programme umbrella will continue to be implemented in schools, with CCR@home, CCR@school, and CCR Youth 4 Literacy (Y4L) taking a central role in schools. We seek to ensure that all our Shine schools incorporate paired and shared reading in their daily practice. We will continue to invest in the Take Home resource packs quarterly for the coming year to support children at home.

We conducted parent/caregiver, teacher and learner surveys at the end of the fourth term to assess the impact and value of the @Home Resources.

Seyisi Primary School, New Brighton, Gqeberha



## LEARNER SURVEY RESULTS

Ask the learner which of the following is true for them?

155 responses

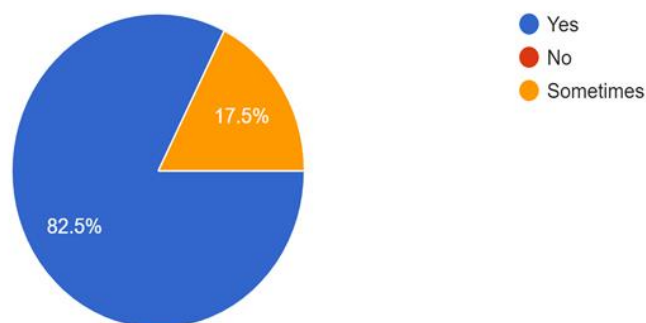


Learner surveys indicate that 66.4 % of learners had few or no books in their homes before receiving Shine Literacy Packs. Now 100% of learners have at least 8 quality reading resources at home !

## PARENT/CAREGIVER SURVEY RESULTS

Does your child use the material?

57 responses



Parent/caregiver quotes regarding the quality of the resources:

“It's helpful because now my child can read unlike before.”

“It really helped us a lot with my son; he can read now and he enjoys reading.”



“They are amazing because I get ideas and things to do at home with my kid.”

## TEACHER SURVEY RESULTS

Teacher surveys indicate that 94.4% of learners are excited to receive their packs each term. One of the teachers from Sullivan Primary said, “We really appreciate what you've done for our learners because parents are now eager to assist their learners with interesting stories at home. They also want to talk about what they've read in the classroom. They also ask time to read Shine books for other learners in front of the classroom”.

In addition, 72.9% of learners continue to talk about the packs even after they have been sent home. While there is some negative feedback referring to 11.9% of learners that have not mentioned the packs after receipt and the 16.9% of teachers report that parents do not support learners at home with the materials, we feel that the overall Shine Pack feedback is positive and will inform content of future @Home Shine Packs.



## SHINE LITERACY HOUR 2021

Shine Literacy Hour as the flagship programme was not implemented at the Centre schools again in 2021. However, eight Chapter schools implemented the Shine Literacy Hour in its original format. We had anticipated that there would be challenges in continuing with the programme as it is and provided the Chapter managers with the Creating a Culture of Reading model to select and implement suitable elements for their respective schools and community needs. Most schools implemented a variation of SLH, with all schools prioritizing paired reading with children at classroom level, with a handful of volunteers. In most cases the Centre / Chapter manager facilitated this themselves if the school did not allow visitors on their premises.

The Shine Board and Senior Management Team took a strategic decision to discontinue with the flagship SLH programme in our Centre schools at the end of the 2021 academic year. This was our award winning flagship programme for 20 years; a response to the educational and societal needs of the time. However, faced with new challenges, many volunteers no longer able to work and social demands which were further exacerbated by Covid-19 and school closures, we needed to address current social and societal needs to support communities, schools, teachers and learners. To this end, we seek to address the needs of ALL learners in the Foundation Phase rather than a select number of learners, a move that has been well received by the school staff consulted.

## YOUTH 4 LITERACY 2021

The benefits of using unemployed young people to support literacy programmes in schools cannot be overstated- societally, socially, educationally and politically. This is clearly demonstrated by the Department of Basic Education Presidential Youth Employment Initiative (PYEI) placing 280 000 young people in schools as education assistants after receiving 6 million applications. Having opted to pause the start of implementation of Y4L, the programme team used 2021 to build capacity, consult with schools and build out the training offering for 2022. We used this year to design a project plan, to be ready for implementation at the start of 2022.

In February 2022, 130 unemployed young people will support reading and literacy in Grade 2 and 3 classrooms in the one or two languages used at each school. As always, the emphasis will be on paired reading with each child and a whole class daily shared reading time. This programme will be for twelve months, depending on when a young person starts on the programme. Currently, our Youth Implementing partner will be Action

Volunteers Africa (AVA), who will be securing stipends through the YES fund and support Shine Literacy with administrative and recruitment processes components.

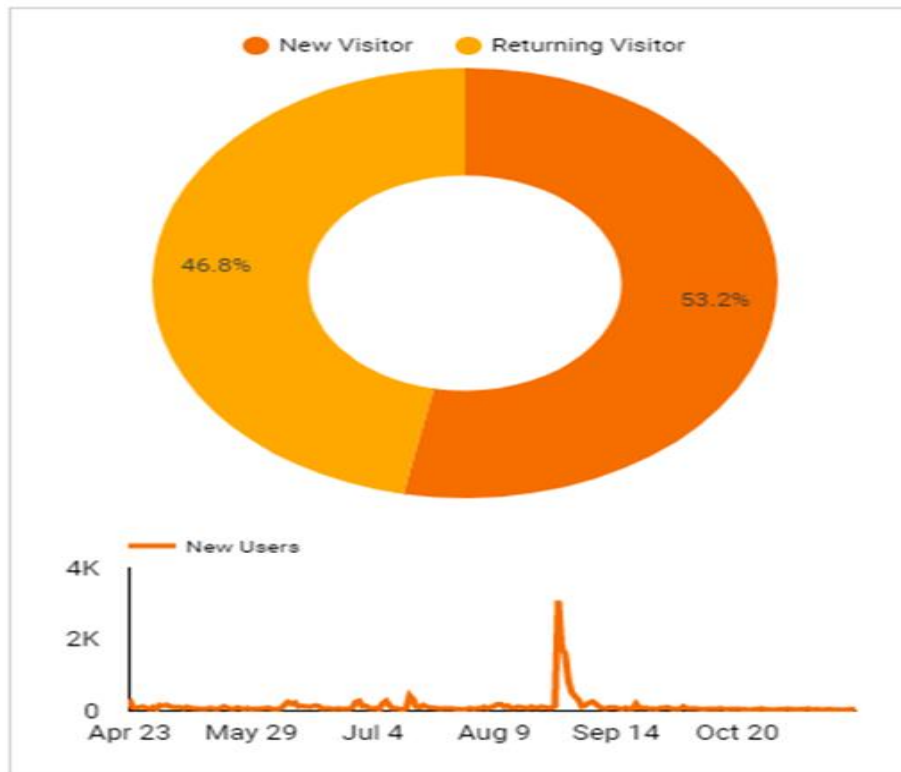
Numbers at a glance:

- 22 schools in Greater Cape Town Metro area
- 130 youth Reading Partners
- Grade 2 and 3 classes
- Approximately 5 700 children
- 7 Cluster Coordinators
- 2 Trainers

## PRESIDENT YOUTH EMPLOYMENT INITIATIVE (PYEI)

In November 2021, Phase 2 began of the PYEI under Basic Education, which saw over 280 000 young people employed in schools in all provinces of our country. Upon consultation with our schools it became apparent that the young people did not receive any training to support teachers most effectively in classes. As a result, Shine Literacy, with permission of each school and the WCED, positioned themselves to provide Reading Assistant training to the youth in January 2022. This strategic move will support Shine Literacy in building a profile, not only with WCED but with the DBE, with the outlook of being the preferred training provider in all provinces if required. Currently, we are looking at running training for approximately 420 young people in the 46 schools we will be implementing Y4L. The training team will provide a standard three-hour training on paired and shared reading methodology, and ongoing support provided by the Coordinators, either in person or online.

## SHINE ONLINE



Since inception on the 23rd of April 2021, Story Time with Shine has had 51,000 people visit the site, of which 53.2% are returning users. The majority of the visitors have been from South Africa as the Mobi-Site is data free in South Africa. However, the site has been viewed in 87 countries around the world, with Malaysia being the 2nd highest user of the site.

If we look at the demographics of the people using Storytime with Shine, 76.1% of our users are female, with 48.5% of them between the ages of 18 and 34. The average time spent on the site is 4.37 minutes, meaning each user listens to at least 2 books per session. The top rated book on the site is "Foxy Joxy plays a trick" with 6007 people reading this book.

The most listened to languages are English 1st, Afrikaans 2nd and isiZulu 3rd even though the Mobi-site has books in Sepedi, isiXhosa, French and Setswana . On the "sing a song" section of the site, Hey diddle dimba has been listened to the most. The majority of our users go straight to the "Look and Listen" section of the site before they start exploring, giving us 419 709 page views.

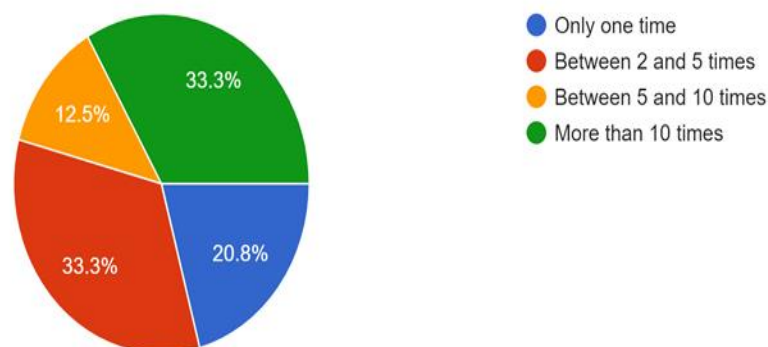
Although our user data indicates that our Mobi-Site has had an amazing uptake, our parental survey shows us that our Shine schools parents are not



using it as often. As we increase our digital footprint, parental engagement will be one of our key priorities moving forward.

If you have used the Mobi-Site, how often have you used it?

24 responses



As we continue to look at ways to be more efficient and innovative we are currently developing a Shine Literacy ODK app that will be ready to launch by January 2022. This app will allow our learning partners in our Youth 4 Literacy schools to input information directly into Salesforce, allowing us to run reports more frequently and address issues as they arise.

## YEARBEYOND 2021

The YearBeyond model has changed immensely since Shine Literacy started working with them. Their current model in 2021, was based on Shine Literacy training their mentors in Paired Reading methodology in a cluster of 35 at the beginning of February. This took the format of a Train the Trainer, where after receiving a three-hour training, the Mentors then trained their respective cluster Yeboneers.

Quality Assurance Site visits by the Shine Programme Team to 10 schools in August and September showed varied degrees of accurate implementation and success of paired reading. As a result of our feedback meeting with YearBeyond, we agreed that the training offer to YearBeyond needs to include follow up video clips and tips which will give mentors the tools to provide the Yeboneers ongoing training support. All sites which implemented

paired reading successfully were managed by mentors who had been part of a number of programmes implementing Shine Literacy programmes over the years.

#### Numbers at a glance:

- 18 Implementing partners in Western Cape
- 95 schools
- 30 YeBo Mentors
- 500 Yeboneers
- 10 000 children

For 2022, YearBeyond will be scaling to take on 2 000 young people on their programme across the Western Cape province. This is a huge undertaking, which requires collaboration between government and NPO players. We will continue to train the mentors, providing continuous support with video clips which are loaded on our data free Mobi-Site.

## ORGANISATIONAL CHANGES 2021

With the discontinuation of the SLH Programme, Shine Literacy has undergone a restructuring process for 2022. In April 2021, we employed a Programme Coordinator to support the Programme Manager.

The Y4L and PYEI programmes require ongoing training and on the ground support for our Youth Reading Partners. Shine Literacy will be employing two trainers in 2022, one Afrikaans fluent and one isiXhosa fluent, to lead the training of these programmes. We will also be employing seven CCR Coordinators whose responsibility and role will be to support the 130 Youth Reading Partners in schools. These coordinators will also be the contact person between Shine Literacy and the school.

A heartfelt thank you to our volunteers who have been such a big part of building Shine Literacy to the organisation it is today. We hope that you will continue to be Helping Hands in your schools next year. And equally, thank you to our funders, parents, school teachers, principals, the YearBeyond and AVA Team and WCED@home Forum and all the other organisations we collaborate or partner with. It's only together we can bring about change.

We have ended this year strong as a team and looking forward to ensuring that the children in the 46 schools we support will gain ground, become joyful readers and dynamic citizens.

