



ANNUAL REPORT

2022 - 2023



ILITHA LABANTU
PEOPLE WHO CARE ABOUT PEOPLE

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OUR VISION

To assist in the elimination of all kinds of violence especially those that occur in the domestic domain where the ideology of privacy is strong.

OUR MISSION

We strive to end violence and abuse against women and children in disadvantaged communities. We provide emotional support, practical advice, education and training for coping with and addressing violence against women and children. We utilize interactive and inclusive methodologies in our education and empowerment programs





MESSAGE FROM

Ms Nkhabele Marumo

CHAIRPERSON OF THE BOARD

Following the global public health emergency brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic, in 2022 “lockdown” restrictions were lifted fully with a sense of normalcy returning. Yet throughout South Africa, and indeed in the communities of the Western Cape where Ilitha Labantu primarily operates unacceptably high rates of violence against women and girls remained the norm. In 2022, the Western Cape again recorded high numbers of femicide cases. Delft Police Station was among the top three stations with the highest number of rape cases.

For many women who are killed or violated, it is at the hands of someone they know, love and trust – in 74% of reported cases the victims were either in close relationship with or knew the perpetrator. Therefore Ilitha Labantu’s work, providing services and support to meet the needs of communities affected by high levels of violence and addressing the root causes of violence through community interventions, remained invaluable.

In addition to seeking justice for victims of violence and supporting survivors, we also intensified our efforts to hold key role players in the protection, justice system, and victim support services accountable. By engaging with multiple stakeholders and convening government and civil society actors, we were able to create a united and stronger force to counter the waves of violence that continue to sweep over our communities. The creation of the Khayelitsha Gender-Based Violence and Femicide Forum, which constitutes stakeholders including the National Prosecuting Authority, SAPS, Thuthuzela, Khayelitsha Court Management, DSD Khayelitsha and various non-profit organisations is an example of the collaboration and synergy required to dismantle the roots of violence in our communities.

We also continued to increase the impact of our programs, providing accessible services to gender-based violence survivors and the broader community, joining in relief efforts during disasters, reaching communities with vital information about gender-based violence prevention and reporting and empowering and educating communities through our outreach programmes. While we still have a long way to go to eliminate violence in our society, the results in this report show that we are making important inroads with each life we impact.

On behalf of the Ilitha Labantu board, I extend my gratitude for the work of our staff and partners. Your commitment to Ilitha Labantu’s vision and values carried us through the pandemic and ensured that we remain strong as we seek justice and an end to violence against women and children. As we head into a new year we remain inspired by the many stories of survival and hope, despite the harrowing experience of women and girls – their resilience makes us fight harder to make a violence-free society a reality.





MESSAGE FROM

Ms Ella Mangisa

DIRECTOR

SUMMARY

In 2022, while the health pandemic subsided, the war waged on women's bodies persisted. Rape, sexual assault and domestic violence continued to engulf our communities. Economic challenges and the cost of living crisis further exacerbated violence meted out to women and children. We continued to see brutal cases of femicide including the rape and murder of an 85-year-old, a woman set alight by her boyfriend and a young mother of three brutally murdered. These are some of the cases that Ilitha Labantu is actively providing court support for. More than ever, our work is vital as we tackle the complex nature of violence against women and girls while providing practical relief for survivors and justice for victims.

During the reporting year, we scaled our clinical interventions which include counselling for individuals and families on a wide range of issues and also provide legal advice and support for women and families who have opened cases or are currently going through a court process as they seek justice. These programmes combined, assisted over 3000 beneficiaries directly with far-reaching impact for households, families and communities.

While our work reaches those who need it most, collaboration, coordination and partnership remain the bedrock of our interventions so that they are meaningful and sustainable. In 2022-2023, we saw improved working relations between multiple stakeholders like the Department of Social Development, the South African Police Service and Courts in the Cape Metro specifically in the Cape Flats areas. Improved engagement included interrogating how to collectively deal with cases of gender-based violence and mechanisms that could be implemented to hold each other accountable.

A crucial part of GBV prevention rests with the police as they open and investigate cases and interact directly with survivors and families of victims. Engagement with communities showed that there was a lack of professional conduct and knowledge of the legal process when dealing with women, children and families affected by GBV. As a result during the reporting year, we conducted trainings on gender sensitivity, trauma, and legal remedies, useable acts, GBV and the law to capacitate members of the SAPS and improve their interactions with GBV survivors.

During the reporting period, Ilitha Labantu used a variation of approaches to ensure that the organisation has a wider reach in communities affected by high rates of gender-based violence. One of the successful interventions was the #Uthuleleni Anti-GBV motorcade. The motorcade and accompanying loud hailing ensure that communities that cover large land areas can receive the messages that are projected. This strategy is particularly useful in a community like Khayelitsha with approximately 2 million inhabitants, covering a land area of less than 40km² as thousands of households can be reached.

We also expanded our online reach by increasing social media engagement. The information shared on our social media pages allows online audiences to interact with the organisation on matters relating to violence against women and children, and other related matters. Ilitha Labantu also used its online platforms to host themed webinars which focus on the local, continental, and global developments relating to women's empowerment.

The webinars have proved to be an essential tool in providing education and awareness on the developments made by governments, international organisations and other actors in the sector.

As our programmatic and advocacy work grows, we continue to seek out effective means of reaching people who need our services. An important aspect of this is ensuring that we have qualified and committed staff to support our work and deliver services promptly. Our dedicated staff, are at the core of our operations and we are grateful for their tireless work and commitment to the vision of a society free from gender-based violence. We are also indebted to the many partners from government, donors, corporations, academic institutions, and civil society who enable us to carry out our mission. Thank you for your unwavering support.





INTRODUCTION

Ilitha Labantu, as an experienced civil society organisation with 34 years of active experience, utilises best practices and incorporates holistic approaches to ensure that communities have access to essential services and that the needs of survivors are adhered to. Our work is based on the following already proven approaches: community-based primary prevention; dialogues, workshops and training; capacity development of institutions and civil society organisations to deliver quality services in response to violence against women (VAW); advancing an integrated response to improve protection and prevention, care and support through changes in behaviour, practices and attitudes.

Violence against women, children and vulnerable persons in South Africa is a complex phenomenon that exists in many different forms and is prevalent in all spheres of society. The COVID-19 pandemic exacerbated the socio-economic conditions that often lead to the proliferation of incidents of gender-based violence in communities with little to no mechanisms to fight the scourge. Recognising these compounding factors, Ilitha Labantu introduced a multifaceted approach that adhered to the primary care of survivors, while providing education and awareness to communities and service providers operating with the objective of eliminating gender-based violence (GBV).

This annual report outlines the work conducted by the organisation in its efforts to eradicate violence that is perpetrated against women, children and vulnerable persons. The report includes the primary psychosocial interventions conducted by Ilitha Labantu's Clinical Department which saw a substantial increase in the number of survivors that received psychosocial support. It also includes the legal procedures that were undertaken under the Policy & Advocacy Department that ensured that survivors and their families receive due justice for the crimes committed against them and that the Courts and legal processes work efficiently towards the needs of survivors.

The report also provides evidence of the effective awareness campaigns that were conducted throughout this period, particularly the organisation's solidarity campaign, #Uthuleleni Anti-GBVF Campaign, which sought to break the silence of abuse and widen the scope of the organisation's reach throughout the Western Cape region. This reporting period demonstrated the effectiveness of Ilitha Labantu's training tools as the organisation was instrumental in the capacitation of various clusters of the South African Police Service (SAPS) in the Western Cape with training tools and knowledge on how to effectively deal with cases related to gender-based violence.

Additionally, the report demonstrates Ilitha Labantu's commitment to a holistic approach towards VAW survivors and unemployed women, through its empowerment programme which enables women to gain marketable skills they can use to find work or start a business. Through the comprehensive Food Security Programme, Ilitha Labantu's community impact also extended to households affected by disasters including post-pandemic economic stress and disasters such as fires in informal settlements.

Stakeholder engagement from local to global levels is an integral part of Ilitha Labantu's work. During 2022 – 2023, we held numerous engagements with communities in the Western Cape, at provincial and national levels with government departments and at the international level with multilateral bodies such as the United Nations and international NGOs. The outcomes of these interactions are also captured in this report.



PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION

Ilitha Labantu has five (5) focal program areas that together provide a holistic bundle of services to meet the needs of women and children affected by abuse and violence. These include:

- 1. Clinical program:** Walk-in service Centre for survivors; Dorothy Zihlangu Transitional House which provides three months of emergency accommodation for abused women and their children.
- 2. Policy and Advocacy:** Para-legal services, court support, and lobbying.
- 3. Outreach and Education:** Learner-centred outreach support, public awareness, and community workshops.
- 4. Employment Readiness:** The Building Bridges skills development programme closes the gap between life experience and job readiness.
- 5. Comprehensive Food Security Program:** Operating a provincial food distribution centre and 100 community-based kitchens which provide communities with direct access to food daily.

The organisation's programs are managed and supervised by skilled and experienced professionals who are technically equipped in multiple areas including programme management in psychosocial support, emergency accommodation, law, skills development, food security and public relations.

Figure 2: Programme Implementation



CLINICAL DEPARTMENT

The clinical department offers individual counselling, family intervention, and group counselling primarily for women, children, and the elderly and safe accommodation for survivors through the Dorothy Zihlangu Transitional House. Between March 2022 and February 2023, we provided counselling for 2906 survivors of violence and assisted 1292 people through the 24-hour helpline. We also supported 42 people online and 81 through the shelter.

Our social workers have seen a noticeable change in the clients who have come for counselling, particularly for domestic violence and rape cases. Those who have to go to court and those who have to go for consultation, are prepared and willing to relive their traumatic experience because they want justice to prevail. We continued to provide face-to-face counselling and psycho-social support through our social workers and the auxiliary social worker to assist survivors and equip them with the necessary skills to cope with and overcome, some of the challenges and obstacles they are facing.

The Clinical department also conducted two therapeutic support groups for primary survivors and secondary survivors. The intake largely comes from the Thuthuzela Centres, Department of Social Development (DSD), SAPS and walk-ins. There are two primary survivor support groups for rape survivors who are mostly girls between the ages of 12 – 18 years and the other support group deals with the behavioural challenges of children who have witnessed violence in their homes or wider communities and are currently acting it out largely at school - many of these children come as referrals from schools. The secondary survivor's support group is made up of parents and guardians of rape and sexual abuse survivors who blame themselves for their children being exposed to violence and abuse.

It offers them a space to vent but also creates a support structure so that they too understand the traumatic experience that their children have overcome or are in the process of overcoming.

While Ilitha Labantu does not have the necessary status to remove or place a child, it maintains a close relationship with organisations like Child Welfare and with the DSD who have the statutory obligation for removals and placements. The organisation conducts home visits, drafts the necessary reports and completes the relevant forms for the removal and placement of children and senior citizens who are abused at home.

Ilitha Labantu's 24-hour line which started as a measure to counter COVID-19 has been a very useful communication instrument for beneficiaries as there is a social worker on call at all times via SMS, Whatsapp and 'please call me' (USSD) service if the person does not have data or airtime. This service ensures that we continue to offer critical and time-sensitive services to survivors beyond normal working hours.

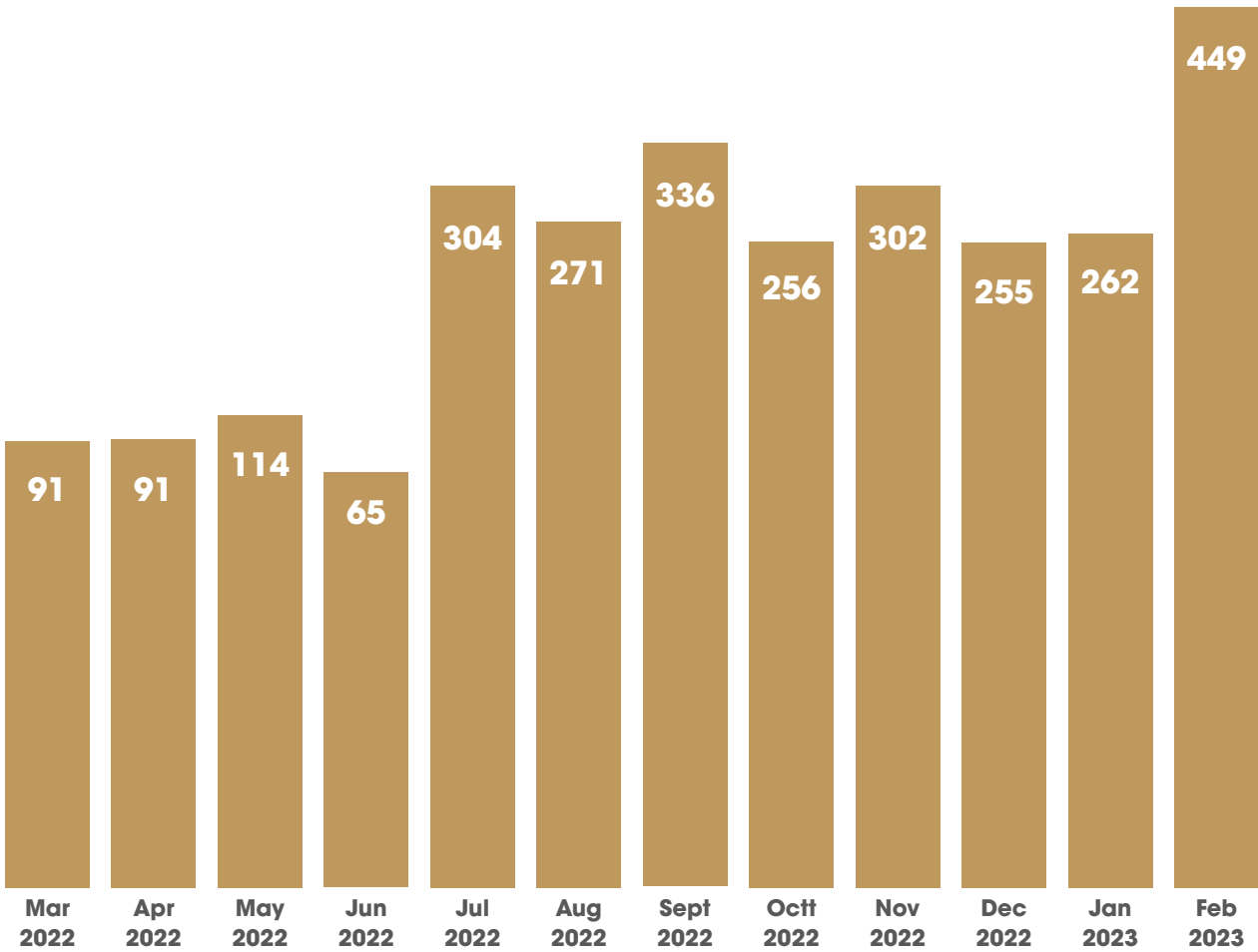
In the reporting year, the Dorothy Zihlangu transitional house safely accommodated 81 mothers and their children for a maximum period of three months and provided them with meals, counselling and support groups. Women who are not working formed part of the skills program offered by Ilitha Labantu. Transport is provided for children who are school-going and those under five years are accommodated at a local early childhood development centre. There is also a tutor at the facility for children whose safety may be at risk at school. We also transport women who have cases in court, medical appointments, SASSA applications and those who need services from the Home Affairs department.

Community dialogues are another important activity of the Clinical Department. These discussions are critical for raising awareness about violence against women and children and what actions community members can take.

- The Clinical Department conducted talks at Michael Mapongwana on 24 February 2023, for 88 community members and at Ny 3 Clinic in Gugulethu on 27 February 2023, for 52 community members.
- From the 13th to the 15th of September the Clinical Department and the Outreach and Education department had an engagement with Community members in Vrendendal concerning the rapes of young boys by ex-prisoners. The engagement involved the SAPS and the Vrendendal Magistrate as the community felt their plight was not taken seriously. The engagement created a community forum and an open channel between community members and the SAPS GBV desk. The community was encouraged to support each other when attending court hearings so that they are aware of progress on cases. They were further encouraged to engage the Prosecutors as it is their right to know the status of the cases



Figure 2: Total number of cases per month (Mar 2022 - Feb 2023)



POLICY AND ADVOCACY DEPARTMENT

The policy and advocacy department provides individual legal advice for women about domestic violence, divorce, child maintenance, etc. as well as wills and families with children who have been sexually violated (raped, attempted rape, incest etc.) Our legal services include pre- and post-court preparations for clients who will appear in court. During these preparatory sessions, clients are informed of court processes and procedures.

Between March 2022 and February 2023, the department conducted 206 consultations, 50 home visits, 156 court accompaniments and 30 pickets. Our legal experts assisted 654 people in applying for protection orders and received 517 interim protection orders, while 110 Motion/Notice Orders were granted. The Senior Legal Advisor also accompanied 25 beneficiaries to the police station for further assistance related to their cases and to open dockets or access documents.

The program has been successful in implementing planned activities, and we have seen levels of commitment in our engagements and services offered to the Security Cluster. Ilitha Labantu has taken steps to sensitise our Police with other crucial stakeholders on how to further assist our survivors.

On 2nd February 2023, the Policy and Advocacy department attended the Western Cape Gender Justice Forum Meeting, hosted by the Department of Justice and Constitutional Development, they also held stakeholder engagements with the Philippi Magistrate Court on 14 February 2023.





KHAYELITSHA GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE AND FEMICIDE FORUM

On **13th of May 2022**, Ilitha Labantu hosted the Khayelitsha Gender Based Violence and Femicide meeting, which constitutes stakeholders, such as the National Prosecuting Authority, SAPS, Thuthuzela, Khayelitsha Court Management, DSD Khayelitsha and various non-profit organisations who work on issues related to violence against women and children. This particular session was held at the Isivivana Centre and the key focus was to ensure we developed terms of reference on how the forum was to work and move forward. The responsibility was further given to Ilitha Labantu to develop a working document and later to present to the forum. This stakeholder meeting follows earlier meetings in **February 2022** where a GBVF stakeholder forum was created and **January 2022** where Ilitha Labantu initially convened all the stakeholders.

During a follow-up meeting on **24 June**, committee members were selected from SAPS, DOJ, Thuthuzela, Khayelitsha Day Hospital (KDH) Ilitha Labantu and Empiweleni. On **26 October**, we further developed Terms of Reference for the Khayelitsha GBVF and presented the design of the KGBVF logo. The last meeting for the year took place in November 2022, when the Terms of Reference were adopted. The Forum will be officially launched in 2023.

On the **26th of August 2022**, Ilitha Labantu as the Secretariat hosted the Khayelitsha Gender-Based Violence and Femicide Forum meeting at Isivivana Centre in Khayelitsha, 24 organizations from civil society and government attended the meeting.



HIGHLIGHTS OF KEY PICKETS

In the reporting period, a series of pickets were conducted to advocate for a no-bail plea for perpetrators who were appearing in court. These pickets were further augmented by the dissemination of the Bail Conditions Campaign Information which educates the public about their constitutional right to access copies of the bail conditions.

Ilitha Labantu held pickets and distributed information flyers on the bail conditions campaign in the following courts:

DATE	COURT	ACTION
31 January 2022	Wynberg Magistrate Court	Rape of a minor picketing and bail conditions campaign
7 February 2022	Athlone Magistrate Court	Femicide picketing and bail conditions campaign
16 February 2022	Paarl Magistrate Court	Femicide picketing and bail conditions campaign
9 March 2022	Athlone Magistrate Court	Femicide picketing and bail conditions campaign
29 March 2022	Khayelitsha Magistrate Court	Femicide picketing and bail conditions campaign
21 April 2022	Philippi Magistrate Court	Domestic Violence picketing and bail conditions campaign
17 May 2022	Khayelitsha Magistrate Court	Femicide picketing and bail conditions campaign
23 May 2022	Cape Town High Court	Femicide picketing and bail conditions campaign
8 June 2022	Athlone Magistrate Court	Femicide picketing and bail conditions campaign
7 July 2022	Athlone Magistrate Court	Femicide picketing
19 July 2022	Cape Town High Court	Femicide picketing
20 July 2022	Bellville Magistrate Court	Femicide picketing
2 August 2022	Cape Town Magistrate Court	Rape picketing
19 September 2022	Athlone Magistrate Court	Femicide picketing
5 October 2022	Bellville Magistrate Court	Femicide picketing
16 November 2022	Wynberg Magistrate Court	Femicide picketing
23 November 2022	Wynberg Magistrate Court	Femicide picketing
17 January 2023	Khayelitsha Magistrate Court	Femicide picketing
20 January 2023	Cape Town High Court	Femicide picketing
24 January 2023	Khayelitsha Magistrate Court	Femicide picketing
31 January 2023	Khayelitsha Magistrate Court	Femicide picketing
27 February 2023	Wynberg Magistrate Court	Femicide picketing
9 February 2023	Wynberg Magistrate Court	Femicide picketing
13 February 2023	Khayelitsha Magistrate Court	Femicide picketing
20 February 2023	Khayelitsha Magistrate Court	Femicide picketing
23 February 2023	Khayelitsha Magistrate Court	Femicide picketing





BUILDING BRIDGES PROGRAM

Building Bridges is a unique employment training initiative designed for abused and young women – many of whom have experienced early pregnancy. The programme takes a holistic approach to employment preparation by addressing the individual’s physical, social, emotional and intellectual needs in the way she approaches learning and employment. A total of 210 unemployed women between the ages of 19 and 72, took part in the skills development program.



SEWING SKILLS COURSES

Twenty-five young women between 18 and 35 years, participated in the 12-month Seta Sewing learnership, while 50 women over 35 years, took part in the 6-month sewing skills program. The learners are currently awaiting their certificates from the Fibre Processing and Manufacturing Sector Education and Training Authority (FP&M SETA).





NAIL AND MAKEUP SKILLS COURSES

We recruited 50 young women for the nail technician program – 36 have completed the course and received their certificates and starter kits. Another 50 were recruited for the makeup beautician course which focuses on makeup application; 32 have completed the course and received their starter kits and certificates. Both of these beauty programs took 3-4 months each. The beauty industry is a growing industry and is in great demand, therefore the young women who have completed the courses offered by Ilitha Labantu have gained a skill which has empowered them to offer a service and generate an income for themselves. Armed with marketable skills, they are now on the path to self-reliance and financial independence.

CELLPHONE MARKETING

Through Kasielabs, participants in the sewing and beauty courses offered by Ilitha Labantu received a week-long online training to teach them how to use their cell phones to market their services. The training helps them to navigate and use the internet effectively and efficiently to market their services and generate sales. For a minimal fee, they can advertise their services on local Facebook pages and start their own small business doing women's nails and make-up.



BASIC COMPUTING SKILLS

The Ilitha Labantu Basic Computer Skills Program, empowers individuals, particularly young women from underserved communities with fundamental computer skills. The 3-week programme aims to bridge the digital divide by providing digital literacy, access to information, job readiness, and social inclusion. It covers computer basics, internet usage, email communication, Microsoft Office applications, online safety, and practical exercises. The program offers both in-person and online training options, catering to learners of all levels. By enhancing employability and improving access to education and resources, it fosters community empowerment and inclusion in the digital era.



SCHOOL RETURN

The Ilitha Labantu School Return Program, targets young adults from underserved communities. Its primary aim is to rekindle their interest in education, helping them complete their matriculation (Grade 12). This program offers academic support, life skills workshops, mentorship, and vital resources to empower participants. The impact is profound, increasing academic success, building life skills, reducing dropout rates, and fostering community development. By encouraging young adults to return to school, it aims to break the cycle of disadvantage and provide them with brighter prospects and a promising future.





OUTREACH AND EDUCATION

The activities implemented under the Outreach and Education department in terms of awareness and workshops have been very successful in 2022/23. Building from an initial baseline of reaching 60 000 households we managed to surpass our target per annum of over 117000 households through the learner-centred support program, the distribution of advocacy material and motorcades with loud hailing that covered large areas at a time as part of the Organisations Public Awareness Campaign. Interviews and radio slots also provided an opportunity to engage audiences about Ilitha Labantu's work – our mass media campaigns and interviews reached over 1.1 million people.





#UTHULELENI ANTI-GBV MOTORCADE

The #Uthuleleni Anti-GBV Motorcade was created as a response to the spike in cases of femicide plaguing communities in Gugulethu, Khayelitsha, Langa and Samora Machel. The #Uthuleleni campaigns were conducted from March 2022 to February 2023 and approximately 10,000 pamphlets and flyers were distributed to the affected communities.

Overview of #Uthuleleni Anti-GBV Motorcade activities

DATE	LOCATION	ACTIVITY
1 March 2022	Samora Machel	On the - #Uthuleleni Anti-GBV & Femicide Motorcade – 500 pamphlets distributed
11 March 2022	Harare, Khayelitsha	On the - #Uthuleleni Anti-GBV and Femicide Motorcade – 350 pamphlets distributed
27 April 2022	Langa	On the - #Uthuleleni Anti-GBV & Femicide Motorcade – 400 pamphlets distributed
6 August 2022	Gugulethu	On the - #Uthuleleni Anti-GBV & Femicide Motorcade in -500 pamphlets distributed
11 August 2022	Gugulethu	On the - #Uthuleleni Anti-GBV & Femicide Laying of the Wreath Ceremony for Nontsomi Mgodana – 300 pamphlets distributed
4 November 2022	Delft	#Uthuleleni Anti-GBVF Motorcade in – 500 pamphlets distributed
25 November 2022	Philippi	Take Back The Night Motorcade in– 16 Days of Activism 800 pamphlets distributed
25 November 2022	Mbekweni, Paarl	Take Back The Night Motorcade in– 16 Days of Activism – 800 pamphlets distributed
1 December 2022	Lingeletu West, Khayelitsha	Take Back The Night Motorcade in / 16 Days of Activism – 800 pamphlets distributed
1 December 2022	Harare, Khayelitsha	Take Back The Night Motorcade in– 16 Days of Activism - 800 pamphlets distributed
24 February 2023	DuNoon	#Uthuleleni Anti-GBVF Motorcade in – 500 pamphlets distributed





LEARNER-CENTRED OUTREACH SUPPORT THROUGH SCHOOL VISITATION

Through our learner-centred outreach support, we interacted with more than 8000 learners between the ages of 5 and 18 - from Early Childhood Development (ECD) level through to Grade 12. The program forms part of the existing Life Orientation subject at schools. The programme is tailored for children who live in communities where violence and abuse have been normalised. It aims to change children's attitudes so that they no longer view violence as a solution. Through the program, Youth Facilitators identify and refer students who need ongoing support and assistance to social workers and their parents are also informed and involved in the process.

Learners at the following institutions were reached:

NAME OF THE SCHOOL	NUMBER OF PUPILS	GRADES
Fezeka High School	360	8, 9, 10, 11, 12
I. D Mkize High School	600	8, 9, 10, 11
Thembalethu School for Special Needs	500	1, 2, 3, 4, 5
Nompumelelo Special School	700	8, 9, 10, 11, 12
Sivuyile Skills Combined School	700	N1 to N5
Lwazi Primary School	800	1, 2, 3, 4, 5
Luzuko Primary School	300	1, 2, 3, 4, 5
Xolani Primary School	800	1, 2, 3, 4, 5
Bonga Primary School	800	1, 2, 3, 4, 5
Sokhanyo Primary School	800	1, 2, 3, 4, 5
Ntsinga Primary School	600	1, 2, 3, 4, 5
Mseki Primary School	600	1, 2, 3, 4, 5
Mahlasela Pre-School	150	ECD
Manata Pre-School	120	ECD
Ndaliso Pre-School	60	ECD
Nonkululeko Pre-School	120	ECD
Cape Town College Thornton Campus	80	





GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE WEBINARS FOR FIRST-YEAR STUDENTS

We conducted five gender-based violence webinars with first-year students from the Cape Peninsula University of Technology (CPUT). During each of the webinars, the facilitator interacted with around 40 students. These webinars created a platform of engagement for students to discuss rape culture in the institution and concerns about their safety particularly in areas of the school that have no backup systems when power fails or during load-shedding. Additionally, Ilitha Labantu on occasion receives cases from students who prefer to speak to an outside service provider rather than the counsellors and social workers provided by the university as they feel safer and believe their information will remain confidential.

The following CPUT faculties participated:

FACULTY	DATE
1. Faculty of Business Management Science	1 September 2022- 14h00 till 15h30
2. Department of Real Estate	6 September 2022 – 12h00 till 13h30,
3. Department of Retail Business Management	8 September 2022 – 10h00 till 12h00
4. Department of Applied Legal Studies	9 September 2022 – 11h00 till 12h30
5. Faculty of Business Management Science	13 October 2022 – 11h00 till 12h30
6. Faculty of Business and Management	13th February 2023

MASS MEDIA

Ilitha Labantu views mass media as one of the critical instruments to carry the message of a society free from all forms of violence against women and children. To ensure consistent media engagement, Ilitha Labantu had a 12-month contract starting in January 2022, with CCFM 107.5 to appear on a weekly radio slot every Tuesday at 9:00 p.m. with 157,000 listeners.

We also participated in the following media interviews:

MEDIA CHANNEL/STATION	INTERVENTION	DATE	AUDIENCE/LISTENERSHIP
SAFM	Interview	20 April 2022	239 000 weekly audience
Heart FM	News Commentary	27 Jan 2022 24 Feb 2022, 24 April 2022, 02 June 2022, 14 June 2022 27 June 2022 21 Nov 2022	734 000 listenership
Bush Radio	Interview	19 July 2022	59 000 listenership





Social media engagement is also a crucial and growing component of interacting with public audiences. Regular posts on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter reinforce our messaging and are important to alert communities about our activities and events and to highlight news items related to gender-based violence and how communities can take action. Through social media, we comment on content that focuses on various issues related to violence against women and children, the current status of women in South Africa, the criminal justice system and the prosecutions of perpetrators.

Community participation and discussions are important to get everyone to denounce violence in our community and create safe spaces, particularly for women, children and vulnerable groups. On 31 May 2022 at Isivivana Khayelithsa, 14th of June at Gugulethu Sports Complex and 29 July at the Langa Sports Complex, Ilitha Labantu hosted Elderly Abuse Dialogues with the theme Restoring the Dignity of the Elderly by protecting them from abuse and harm. This initiative was aimed at capacitating the elderly members of the community, particularly in townships, on issues of abuse towards elderly people as well as estate planning. Ilitha Labantu talked about the South African Older Persons Charter, which looks at the rights of the older person in the community and discusses issues of abuse against the elderly as well as how they can protect themselves from abuse. This gave the elderly a platform to not only participate and give their input but to also report some of the abuses that are happening at home.

COMPREHENSIVE FOOD SECURITY PROGRAM

Ilitha Labantu's comprehensive Food Security Programme model relies on a holistic community-driven approach to development and creating food-secure communities. We do not only focus on the immediate provision of meals but we also look at rebuilding and sustaining livelihoods and rehabilitation services for vulnerable women and children affected by domestic violence who have become food insecure.

COMMUNITY NUTRITIONAL DEVELOPMENT CENTRE

Ilitha Labantu CNDC feeds 280 beneficiaries on a daily basis with breakfast and lunch. The CNDC has a developmental element and invites various partners to offer free health services and developmental programs to the beneficiaries. This program operates from Monday till Friday.

COMMUNITY-BASED KITCHENS

Community-based kitchens (CBK) supported by the Department of Social Development, provide communities with direct access to food daily. The kitchens benefit people who may have to use other forms of social assistance to try and sustain multiple aspects of their lives such as education, shelter, electricity and clothing. CBK provide immediate relief for those who suffer from hunger and have no other means or very limited means of sustaining themselves. Ilitha Labantu is the implementing agent of the programme with a target of managing 100 kitchens in the Western Cape.





KITCHEN OPERATIONAL AREAS

METRO	CAPE WINE LANDS	CAPE WEST COAST	OVERBERG	EDEN KAROO
Gugulethu	Ashton	Lutzville	Grabouw	Oudtshoorn
Langa	Robertson	Kabaskraal,	Villiersdorp	George
Khayelitsha	Mcgregor	Aurora	Hawston	
	Ceres	Algeria,	Hermanus	
	Wolsely	Riebeek	Gansbaai	
	Rawsonville	Kasteel	Elim	
	Worcester	Saron	Striusbaai	
	Bonnivale	Picketberg,	Arniston	
	Touwsriver	Mooresburg	Bredasdorp	
	Barrydale	Saldanha	Swellendam	
	Montague	Stompneus	Caledon	
		Baai		
		Vredenberg		
		Vredendal		
		Hardeveld		
		Bitterfontien		
		Papendorp		
		Doringbaai		
		Ebenaushaer		
		Citrusdal		
		Elands Bay		
		Lambertsbay		
		Eendekuil		





DISASTER MANAGEMENT

JOE SLOVO FIRE

On **Saturday, 16 April**, a huge fire rampaged through the informal settlement of Joe Slovo, in Langa, Cape Town. Ilitha Labantu assisted in relief efforts for families that lost their homes, belongings and livelihoods. An initial government assessment showed that approximately 1200 people were displaced – 50 – 60% of that figure were children, and over 260 homes were destroyed. Before the fire, many households were already struggling to survive due to the negative economic impact of the pandemic and the rising cost of essential goods including food, and the fire put further strain on their resources.

Ilitha Labantu provided meals to the community for eight days and provided food parcels after this period to ensure that families could continue to survive as they began to regain their livelihoods. The procurement of blankets and vanity packs for the community was the second most important priority to ensure that people had a sense of dignity and warmth.

The Fire in Joe Slovo has hampered many livelihoods and thus has contributed greatly to food insecurity in the area. In this current year there have been many people who are suffering under the cost of living and with the ever-rising cost of living it is essential that the burden of hunger does not fall on those who are most vulnerable. The beneficiaries consist of Households who were affected by the fire and have lost all possessions, these include women children, elderly youth and men. Many of the affected people have tried to rebuild their lives but continue to struggle under the weight of the current economic parameters due to global issues, such as the COVID-19 pandemic.

Other services offered by the team from Ilitha Labantu, included counselling, post-trauma counselling and following up on cases of child abuse. Ilitha Labantu also assisted in the provision of stationery and uniforms for school children affected by the fire.

MASIPHUMELELE FIRE

On **Sunday, 30th of October** a Fire began in the Community of Masiphumelele. Over 200 homes were destroyed in the Masiphumelele fire. Following our assessments with stakeholders, we determined that 309 households (610 individuals including women, children, elderly, youth and men) were affected by the fire and lost all possessions. Food parcels which contained dry and canned goods and hygiene/dignity packs were provided to the families as well as baby food, formula and diapers for households with infants and toddlers.

The assessment reports also highlighted that in addition to food, households affected by the fire also had limited access to home-based water systems and therefore had to travel with buckets and containers to fetch water from a localised tap, which had also been damaged during the fire. Taking this into consideration, the Food Security team developed a means of ensuring that there would be easily accessible water containers for the retention of water in their homes.

Following the fire, Ilitha Labantu engaged with the community further on interventions to prevent fires. Information gathered showed that open flames, lack of water and lack of electricity are major contributing factors to the start of fires and the inability to contain them. Possible future interventions should consider assisting households with solar or electric light sources, small and portable gas stoves (that can shut off as they work from gas cans instead of canisters) and portable fire extinguishers.





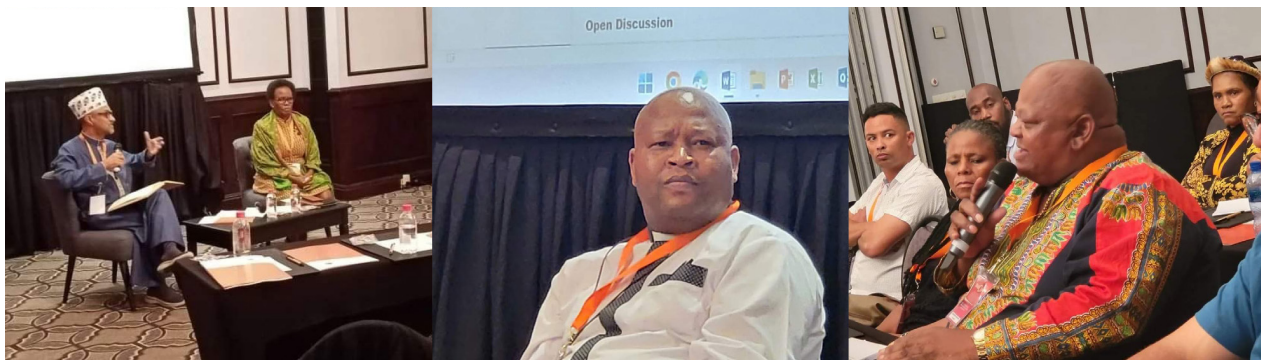
HIGH TEA FUNDRAISER

On the **27th of August 2022** Ilitha Labantu hosted its 3rd annual High Tea themed "Be Bold Be The Difference". The High Tea Honours Mam Dorothy Zihlangu, through her dedicated service towards the advancement of women and we continue her Legacy through the Dorothy Zihlangu Transitional House (Shelter) and encourage all women to Be Bold and to Be the Difference. The event was Master of Ceremony was Mrs Carol Bower, with the our Key not Speaker being the Honourable Head of UN Women Ms Phumzile Mlambo Ngcuka, who shared insight on what it means to be bold and to be different, she was joined by Ms Thembi Mtshali.



ANNUAL LECTURE

Ilitha Labantu in partnership with the African Women Independent Forum and UN Women hosted the 2nd Ilitha Labantu Annual Public Lecture on **2 December 2022** at the Castle of Good Hope. The theme of the lecture was "Equal Rights, Equal Opportunities – Progress for all. The two speakers were Hon Thandi Modise, Minister of Defence, South Africa and Ms Aleta Miller the UN Women South Africa Multi-Country Office Representative. The event also formed part of Ilitha Labantu's 16-days of Activism activities



SUMMIT ON FAITH-BASED ORGANISATIONS AND VAW

From **9th – 10th December 2022**, delegates from different denominations in the Western Cape, came together to participate in a two-day summit held at the Cape Sun Hotel, Cape Town, organized by Ilitha Labantu in partnership with the UN Women Multi-Country Office on the theme "The Role of Religious Communities and Faith-Based Organizations in Addressing Violence against women & girls and HIV/AIDS" The religious leaders are influential figures in churches and communities in many community contexts. They exercise an enormity of influence in their communities which provides them with ample opportunity to stem the tide of GBV and mitigate the spread of HIV/AIDS. They are divinely saddled with the responsibility of providing hope, care, and support for persons who have been victims of GBV and HIV/AIDS. While women are more inclined to visit churches than men, the authority of religious leaders extends beyond the church, which makes them important agents of change in their respective societies.





PRE-COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN 67 (CSW 67) CONSULTATION

On the 14th and 15th of February 2023 Ilitha Labantu conducted a Pre-CSW67 CSO Consultation.

2. OBJECTIVE

The objective of the consultation was to provide an interactive forum for Civil Society organisations to examine ways to accelerate progress on key frameworks including the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action on Advancing Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment: Beijing+25 Review), the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The consultation provided an opportunity for participants to take stock of key trends, needs, gaps in policy responses, and good practices as well as to consider possible areas for interventions to address innovation and technological change, and education in the digital age for achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls.

Specifically, this consultation was held to facilitate the exchange of knowledge and ideas among state and non-state actors in order to:

- a. Foster better understandings of the obstacles preventing women and girls from sharing in the benefits of digital transformation and innovation, on an equal footing with men and boys. These obstacles include barriers to connectivity (access to the Internet, and the affordability of digital tools and technologies), the role of gender norms in limiting women’s and girls’ access to and effective participation in STEM education and careers.
- b. Consider how to create and promote gender-transformative digital technology and innovation ecosystems, which actively respond to the needs of women and girls, and ensure that we leave no one behind, looking at the future of work, the digital economy and society. This includes digital technologies to support and advance individual social and economic development and rights, including innovations tailored to meet the needs of diverse women and girls (including women and girls with disabilities; in hard-to-reach communities and/or crises-affected contexts) etc.
- c. Enhance collaboration to ensure that gender equality and women’s empowerment is mainstreamed across digital strategies, policies, programs, and related investments in all developmental spheres, and additionally to promote research and data science to inform these policies (and social and economic policies, more broadly), and the development of digital tools, capacities, and services, to ensure that no one is left behind in the process of digital transformation.
- d. Develop comprehensive frameworks for addressing online and ICT-facilitated gender-based violence and discrimination, in order to effectively safeguard the rights of women and girls (i.e. their leadership, participation and agency) in digital spaces.





MEETING AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENTS

On the 3rd of August 2022 Ilitha Labantu together with the Gugulethu Community and the Members of the Mdadana engaged SAPS Gugulethu regarding the handling of the Mdadana Femicide and after an inquest engagement with the lead Detective on the matter.

On the **16th of August 2022** Ilitha Labantu together with the National Prosecuting Authority (NPA) and other Stakeholders hosted a meeting for the Wynberg Sexual Offences unit. Stakeholders, in attendance were civil society organizations and various government departments.

On the **8th of September 2022**, the Outreach and Education Department and Clinical Department hosted a stakeholder engagement in the community of Vredendal, through this process the organization invited the Vredendal Magistrate as well as the SAPS and community.

From the **12th to the 14th of September 2022**, Ilitha Labantu conducted community and stakeholder engagement in Vredendal North together with various stakeholders and community members.



MANDELA DAY

On the **3rd of August 2022** Ilitha Labantu together with the Gugulethu Community and the Members of the Mdadana On **18th July 2022**, the organization hosted CPU Management and Administration for Mandela Day. Ilitha Labantu also participated in the Department Justice and Constitutional Development event which educated beneficiaries on their rights and how the department supports GBV survivors.





TRAINING AND WORKSHOPS

Training: South African Police Service (SAPS) Training on Gender Sensitivity

On the **6th – 7th of April 2022**, we conducted a South African Police Service (SAPS) Training on Gender Sensitivity. Phase one of this training is part of a series of Ilitha Labantu's ongoing partnership and training with the SAPS. The purpose of the training is to capacitate the police with the necessary skills and knowledge to adequately handle GBV cases and other related matters in Gugulethu, Nyanga, Khayelitsha, Lingeletu, Harare, Philippi East, and Lwandle police stations.

At the end of phase one training, members of the SAPS should be able to: define and understand the dynamics of gender; be sensitive towards the issue of GBV; raise awareness around GBV; handle survivors of GBV and GBV reported cases; understand why and how citizens have to speak out within their communities through mutual support; demonstrate changed attitudes about GBV and violence perpetrated against women; be equipped with the necessary skills to identify GBV and VAW. Thirty SAPS members attended the 2-day training.



South African Police Service (SAPS) Training on Trauma

On the **8th – 9th of June 2022**, Ilitha Labantu conducted a two-day training for SAPS on Trauma. The two-day training workshop, facilitated by Ntsiki Sigege, Ella Monakali and Marumo Nkhabele comprised of facilitator presentations, open discussions and group activities. Participants also completed individual trauma pre-assessments and training evaluation forms.



Training modules included: What is trauma? What causes trauma? Why would we care about trauma? Recognising the role of trauma; Changing mindset; Responses to trauma; Understanding feelings and reactions of a person who has experienced trauma; Understanding post-traumatic trauma; What is unresolved trauma? How do you know that a person has unresolved trauma? Signs of trauma in children; Trauma and gender-based violence; Recovering from trauma; What you can do to help yourself? Things that family members and friends can do to help; Work-related trauma and victim support room.

South African Police Service (SAPS) Training on Legal Remedies and Usable Acts, GBV and Law

On the **15th and 16th of September**, Ilitha Labantu conducted a Phase Three training on Legal Remedies and Usable Acts" GBV and Law, exploring Human Rights in the Context of GBV, Defining Law in one's understanding, South African Laws and Remedies for Violation. The purpose of the training is to capacitate the police with the necessary skills, knowledge and an in-depth understanding of trauma and its impact as well as to look at the legislation available to adequately respond to GBV cases and other related matters. This is part of an ongoing series of Ilitha Labantu's partnership and training with the South African Police Service (SAPS).



Street Committee Training

On **18 June 2022**, the Policy and Advocacy Department conducted a Street Committee Training at Masikhanye Centre in Gugulethu. Each committee had 3 to 5 members in attendance. Participants were taught how to draft a proper constitution to govern their streets and assisted in the actual drafting.

The constitution would further assist them in determining certain policies that could further empower the community and themselves and the handling of various matters, particularly social ills. All committee members were very positive about the process and were tasked to go and gather information on the needs of their communities. This information would further assist the Senior Legal Advisor in developing a clear, precise template for each street committee.

Training for Community-Based Organisations on Gender-Based Violence

From the **25th to the 27th of July 2022**, The Clinical Department conducted training for Community-Based Organizations on Gender-Based Violence in Ashton. The training was conducted at Zolani Township eYellow Door in Ashton and was attended by 50 community members and community-based organizations. The focus was on areas where we normally receive calls to assist on various matters related to GBV. The organisation needed to capacitate those who were stationed in Ashton and provide guidance on how to handle some situations they encountered.

Basic Counselling Training

From the **27th to the 28th** of October, The Clinical Department conducted Basic Counselling Training for 46 Extended Public Works Program (EPWP) Volunteers at Isivivana Centre, Khayelitsha. These young women and men formed part of Ilitha Labantu's Youth Facilitators to act as Change Makers/Agents. They were incorporated in Ilitha Labantu's Learner-Centered Support Program to go to schools and conduct awareness programs during the Life Orientation period. Equipping them with basic counselling skills was necessary for them to conduct the lessons with the learners at the various schools they were placed in.



Training on SA laws on Violence

From the **31st of October to the 3rd of November 2022**, the Policy and Advocacy department conducted training for 46 EPWP Volunteers on SA laws on violence, at the Equal Education Isivivana Centre, Khayelitsha. Volunteers, who would be mainly working with children in primary and secondary school, learned about the current and necessary laws that exist in South Africa on violence against children particularly, the Domestic Violence Act and The Children's Act.



WORKSHOPS

School Holiday Program

From **30 June to 8 July 2022** and again from **3 - 7 October**, the Outreach and Education Department, in partnership with the Gugulethu Library, hosted a School Holiday Program. The program was attended by children between the ages of 8 and 17 years old and reached 300 children altogether.





#GirlChat Unique and Positively YOU

On the **1st of April** and the **6th of July**, Ilitha Labantu hosted #GirlChat Unique and Positively YOU, the program aimed to empower and encourage young girls between the ages of 13-16 years to be role models by boosting their confidence and self-esteem. The program sensitised them to issues of violence against young girls and discussions centred on the dangers of peer pressure and the expectations of society when it comes to girls.



Positive Parenting workshop

On the **23rd of July** and **5th of August 2022**, Ilitha Labantu hosted community workshops on Positive Parenting. After various community engagements with community leaders, it was established that many parents are struggling at home with their children. Positive parenting builds solid foundations of showing children love, warmth and kindness so that children do not go outside and seek it elsewhere. By building support and creating a supportive and nurturing home, children feel safe and loved at home. From birth to adulthood, it is the responsibility of parents to guide children to act the way they would want them to, by encouraging, teaching and strengthening positive behaviour. Through these community engagements and children seeing a home that is free from any form of violence, positive parenting sets children up for success. These continuous workshops aim to provide community members particularly parents, caregivers and loved ones useful tips on positive parenting; to raise the much-needed awareness for adults to play a more supportive and constructive role in the lives of children. The workshop was conducted for community members from Khayelitsha, Delft, Mfuleni, Harare and Makaza. The session was attended by 150 parents and guardians.





Self-Realisation workshop

On **12 and 13 September 2022**, the Clinical Department hosted a Self-Realization workshop for 32 young women between the ages of 20 – 35 years, who were part of the make-up skills development class in Masikhanye Centre, Gugulethu. The workshop aimed to address the social and emotional needs of the participants so that they feel empowered to utilise their new skills and make decisions that move them towards financial independence.



STAFF DEVELOPMENT AND WELLNESS

The organization has continued to offer staff debriefing sessions with a Clinical Psychologist, each staff member is further offered individual sessions should the need arise. For further staff development a series of trainings to up skill staff members was conducted by Elizayo Training Institution on various module like children’s behaviour who are exposed to Domestic Violence. The relentless levels of gender-based violence meant that staff were under pressure to respond to clients’ needs. We began the recruitment process for an additional Legal Advisor and Court Assistant to support the Senior Legal Advisor and efficiently deal with the increase in cases.

To enhance security, we continually brief the Gugulethu Police Station, and they have always been on call as there is the constant risk of possible retaliation from perpetrators who have been through the entire system including the court system which has led to a conviction.

Home visits are also risky for our social workers, so they are encouraged to travel in pairs and not alone. We are also looking at introducing a security system called Namola Panic Tracker, which enables access to help when you do not have access to your mobile phone. We currently have cameras at the main office, shelter and warehouse. All our cars are fitted with a car track with video recording internal and external. The main office has an electric fence and an inverter. The Transitional house currently has an electric fence, and an inverter will be installed in 2023.





ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

It has taken tremendous effort on the part of our staff and volunteers to keep the vision and mission of Ilitha Labantu alive as we collectively battled the second pandemic of Violence against Women and Girls. Your dedication has carried us through and enabled us to continue to serve communities affected by high levels of domestic violence. Ilitha Labantu's programmes are made possible through the generous support of our funders, donors and individuals who give to our programmes. The Board, management and staff of Ilitha Labantu extend their thanks to everyone who contributed during this financial year.

Siyabulela, Thank you.





ILITHA LABANTU

PEOPLE WHO CARE ABOUT PEOPLE

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