



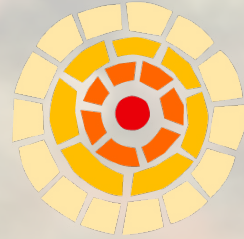
# 2022

# CTAOP

# IMPACT:

*Collective strength,  
power, and action*





*"As we look back at 2022, we are thrilled to share stories from the Program Partners and young people we serve. In a year filled with uncertainty, instability, and challenges, we were inspired by the power of local solutions, collaboration across boundaries, and the elevation of youth voices and action. No one person or organization can tackle the world's inequalities alone. The impact we collectively and collaboratively had this year continued to underscore this fact. We are so grateful for our CTAOP community. To all who are connected to this mission - we are proud to walk together in this journey and can't wait to see what lies ahead. We are because you are."*

Ashlee George  
Executive Director  
Charlize Theron Africa Outreach Project (CTAOP)



*Our mission is to advance and invest in the **health, safety, and education** of young people living in Southern Africa to create a more equitable future for all.*

Charlize Theron  
AFRICA OUTREACH PROJECT

Charlize

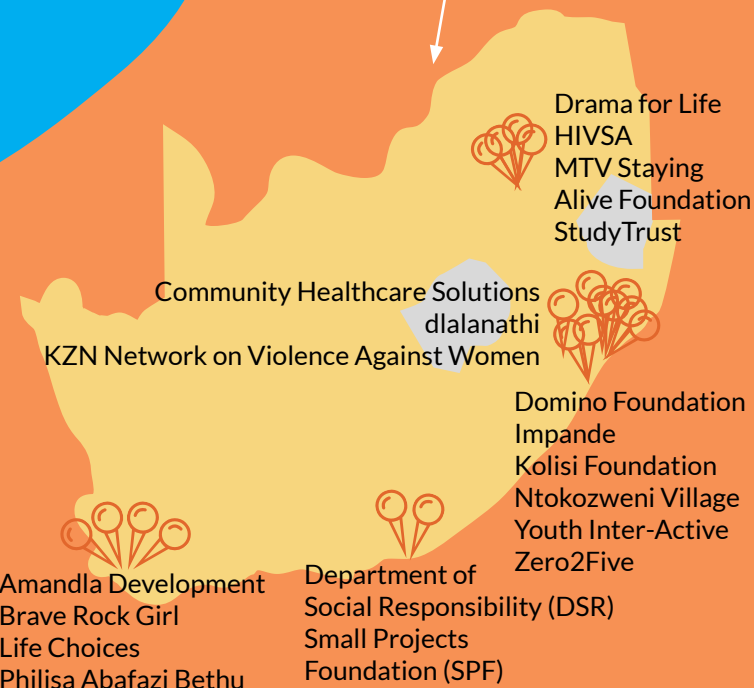


*2022 marks CTAOP's 15th year. Founded by Charlize Theron in 2007, CTAOP originally focused on HIV prevention, but our scope has expanded with an eye on supporting young people holistically, including their health, safety, and education. As we look toward these next 15 years, we are working to continually learn, grow, and evolve into the best partner we can be to our Program Partners, their communities, and the remarkable young people they serve.*

CTAOP provides community-based organizations with grants, convening opportunities, and other capacity strengthening support, as well as cultivates the next generation of changemakers through our Youth Leaders Scholarship.

- African Parks, Bangweulu Wetlands
- Agahozo-Shalom Youth Village (ASYV)
- Amandla Development
- Biomedical Research & Training Institute (BRTI)
- Brave Rock Girl (BRAVE)
- Community Healthcare Solutions (CHS)
- Department of Social Responsibility (DSR)
- dlalanathi
- Domino Foundation
- Drama for Life (DFL)
- HIVSA
- Impande
- Kolisi Foundation
- KZN Network on Violence Against Women
- MTV Staying Alive Foundation (MTV SAF)
- Ntokozweni Village
- Life Choices
- Philisa Abafazi Bethu (PAB)
- Small Projects Foundation (SPF)
- StudyTrust
- Youth Inter-Active
- Zero2Five

**\$1.81M\***  
**distributed to 22**  
**organizations in South**  
**Africa, Rwanda,**  
**Zambia, and**  
**Zimbabwe.**



**IMPACT AREAS:**

Health ●

Safety ●

Education ●

Vaccine Equity ●

Emergency Response ●



\*See note on page 15.

# HEALTH

A group of children are playing soccer on a grassy field in a rural setting. In the foreground, a group of children in blue shirts are gathered around a soccer ball. In the background, a man in a red and black shirt is gesturing towards the field. Other children in white and orange shirts are also visible. The field is surrounded by simple wooden structures and trees under a clear blue sky.

**CTAOP Program Partners work to provide comprehensive health services to youth in innovative ways. They support youth with information, programming, and access around their sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR), mental health, and menstrual health, as well as capacitate parents, health workers, and caregivers.**

**MTV SAF** expanded its peer education program messaging from mainly HIV and SRHR **to include mental health, gender equity, and COVID-19 information** in 2022. Current Program Partners, **dlalanathi** and **DSR**, run these peer education programs.

An evaluation confirmed that the MTV Shuga Peer Education programs in South Africa and Nigeria are having a positive impact on young people's health; viewers of the program are 2x as likely to test for HIV and young women are 60% less likely to have an STI. Peer educators themselves are also shared:

*"Being part of [MTV Shuga] taught me that someone can change if given a chance. And changing people's lives is what I am enjoying the most. I can talk [with] someone and make them understand between choices and decisions which really brings a change in my community."*



**90k**

**SPF** trained staff in 10 clinics on their mental health manual, resulting in its systemic use as a screening tool and allowing healthcare workers to support each other and connect with local NGOs. The tool has been used to train 5,000 youth ambassadors and is reaching 90,000 people per month across various sectors with mental health services.

**3,559**

youth reached  
through 6 Clubs  
across 68 schools

For **African Parks**, young people are shaping health services designed for adolescents by running family planning and SRHR education outreach for youth and encouraging them to access health services. They are also **helping reduce the maternal & child mortality rates** in the rural Bangweulu Wetlands by working with Safe Motherhood Action Groups (SMAGs), supporting pregnant women to access prenatal care and safely give birth in clinics.

*"Involving the youths to be [taught] by their fellow youths is something everyone is happy about."*

-Lloyd, African Parks Community Manager

# 450k



**new users** [HIVSA](#)  
**engaged through Choma.**

HIVSA's Choma Magazine empowers young women and girls with online content and real-time interactions that meets their emergent needs - including information on SRHR and HIV, love and relationships, and stigma - so they can make informed life decisions.

In Pietermaritzburg, [dlalanathi](#) launched a new program focused on **building dignity and empowerment** by providing information and reusable **menstrual health** kits to girls. They also trained teachers and caregivers on SRHR with a mental health lens.

[ASYV](#) [trained educators](#) nationwide in life skills and SRHR, leading to teachers successfully encouraging girls who had dropped out of school due to pregnancy to return. Many teachers established SRHR clubs in their schools, **ensuring a safe and vital space for students to access information, resources, and reproductive health dialogues.**

[BRAVE](#) hosted personal development and leadership workshops that emphasized SRHR education for 477 adolescent girls that are part of their program.



Life Choices runs their Health4Life program in schools accompanied by a mobile clinic and in 2022 provided:



**5,142**  
learners & community  
clients with HIV  
counseling & testing



**12**  
safe spaces  
in schools



**4,325**  
learners with  
SRHR educational  
talks



**23,756**  
people through  
health campaigns



**553**  
learners with  
psychosocial support

*“Having the Health4Life programme at the school has benefited our school immensely. The impact of the programme is very difficult to quantify. When the counsellor comes to the school they genuinely listen to young people; they are interested in what the teenager has to say. We have someone who is present, who is available to talk to young people about challenges which affect them, assisting them with issues and topics which they are struggling with, such as sexuality, HIV/AIDS, sexually transmitted infection, and teenage pregnancy. These conversations are not easy to have. Being able to partner with an organisation that is able to bridge that gap, and create a safe space for learners to open up without judgement and genuine compassion, is truly remarkable.”*

*-Principal from a school where Life Choices operates*

# SAFETY



**CTAOP Program**  
Partners work to counter the scourge of gender-based and intimate partner violence in South Africa with unique approaches that keep communities, and young people, safe.

Photo Credit: Jessie Chiliza

**Philisa Abafazi Bethu** opened an LGBTQI+ safe house - the only one in Cape Town - to provide emergency services to meet the unique needs of this population.

**DSR supported rural Eastern Cape communities that are experiencing gender-based violence at alarming rates.**

**Their work includes:**

- Teaching their GBV support groups to make soap resulting in much needed income that survivors are putting towards foundational family needs.
- Advocating for and successfully established a youth desk in police stations to assist young people in reporting crimes.
- Setting up Safe Communities to abolish sexual abuse and violence through a network of safe persons. They train communities and use WhatsApp groups to coordinate efforts so that the strength of the network relies on the communities' shared resources and efforts.
- Training community members on SA's Sexual Offences Act and ensuring people know their rights.

The **KZN Network on Violence Against Women** deepened their work establishing Violence Free Zones by training and mentoring Rapid Response Teams around Durban and coordinating efforts that strengthen the network of response and prevention in communities.

“*Amaz000's [youth born in the 2000s] are brushed off as idle and not doing anything - but they started youth desks at police stations who can then also engage with Community Policing Forums.*”

-Lisa, DSR Youth Coordinator

**In 2022, many communities in South Africa were filled with turmoil. Philippi and Manenberg, in the Cape Flats, were rocked by the intense and brutal gang violence, and in Pietermaritzburg, there were riots and political unrest. All of this meant youth were hard to reach and feeling very unsafe.**

In Philippi, thanks to their partnership with the Global Fund, **Amandla** opened **more safe spaces for youth** to access health services, educational support, life skills, and economic development opportunities.

In Manenberg, **BRAVE** **connected in new ways to avoid dangerous environments** and provided mental health support for all youth served.

In Pietermaritzburg, **dIalanathi** **built a youth center for youth to gather safely** and established nine youth-led community gardens.

# EDUCATION

**CTAOP's Youth Leaders Scholarship (YLS) program provides wraparound scholarships to young community leaders, nominated by Program Partners.**



25

tertiary students, studying at  
17 different institutions across  
South Africa, were supported  
as part of YLS

The **Youth Leaders Scholarship** (YLS) program provides young leaders with funding, tools, and resources to access tertiary studies and achieve long-term success. YLS was built with the understanding that true lasting change will only come from within communities themselves. CTAOP believes the leaders *there* are the experts—they are the ones with the vision, the passion, and the deep connection to their community. YLS is an investment in those young leaders, their potential as changemakers, and the future they envision. CTAOP partners with [StudyTrust](#) for the ongoing, wrap-around support of the Scholars and the administration of the program.

**Amandla's** Resource Access Program employed youth peer mentors, **creating a network of support to carry out the government's integrated school health program** while also strengthening the support referrals connecting young people to services.

**BRTI** launched a [Young Researchers Academy](#) to **train young people in research and data collection methodologies**, and enable them to carry out research projects while also providing an opportunity for employment within research projects.

**Building local capacity through upskilling**

**SPF** enrolled, registered, and supported **5,000 youth ambassadors in online learning** through the Future Skills Platform, improving their skills and employability.

**CHS** helped young people learn to **crochet**, making crafts and earning income that many spent on buying necessities like sanitary pads and toothpaste.



Through **BRAVE's** Girls in Conservation program, **Daring Disas**, 2 cohorts of girls learned about conservation and met women in conservation careers.

Alongside implementing partners, **BRAVE** Senior Leaders pursued personal development and educational opportunities in business administration, fundraising, gender equity and digital activism.



Recognizing their unique skillset and experience in contextualizing dramatic arts as effective language for social change, **DFL** shifted towards **building capacity & mentoring other organizations**.

They trained 11 schools and other organizations – including **BRAVE** – in interventions for 9-18 year-olds. **DFL** also expanded their content to include mental health.



**Amandla** coordinated the data from the Philippi Collective Network – a network of over 50 CBOs and other providers that collaborate to support youth – to quickly identify barriers youth face. They formed working groups, **providing pathways for stakeholders to work together** when implementing projects that tear down barriers to learning like HIV, domestic abuse, or literacy.

# VACCINE EQUITY

**CTAOP, in partnership with the Ford Foundation, supported grassroots efforts to increase access and knowledge around the COVID-19 vaccine.**

*Photo Credit: Small Projects Foundation*



# 460k

people were vaccinated in Gauteng and the Eastern Cape by CTAOP Program Partners



**CTAOP, with the Ford Foundation, directed resources to **SPF, HIVSA, DSR, and DFL** for their equity work around the COVID-19 vaccine. These organizations shared learnings from their work:**

- **SPF** proved that it's possible to provide SRHR, COVID-19, and HIV testing in schools as long as you do all three. They led a coordinated effort alongside the Department of Health, CBO partners, Youth Ambassadors, and community leaders to educate and get over 450,000 people vaccinated in four Districts.
- **HIVSA** shared that their success was due in large part to layering the vaccine work on top of existing work. **Alongside their long standing relationships and holistic approach, HIVSA helped build trust within family units and in the community.**
- **DFL used art therapy as their approach** and a participant reflected “this play hit on the important social triggers that no one could speak about because it got lost in the politics.” Another organization shared “this engagement pulled the group together and released a lot of closed-off students” with regards to their hesitancy on the vaccine.

*\*While the vaccine equity funds were distributed in December of 2021, we are including their impact here as the implementation was in 2022.*



CTAOP mobilized funds for KZN communities after catastrophic floods in April. Efforts focused on basic needs, getting kids back in school, and women back to work.

# EMERGENCY RESPONSE

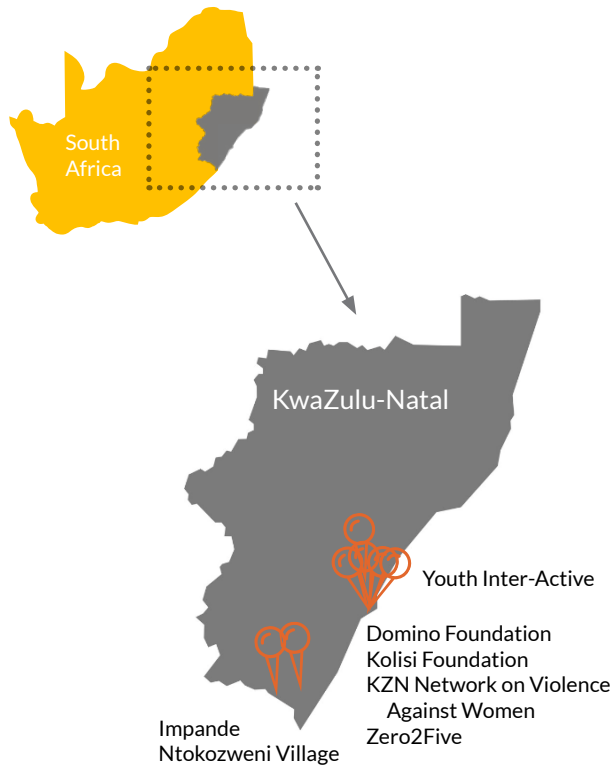
Photo Credit: Jessie Chiliza



## KZN FLOOD SUPPORT

In April 2022, the greater Durban and South Coast of the KwaZulu-Natal (KZN) Province experienced catastrophic flooding, killing 459 people. Over 4,000 homes were destroyed and 40,000 people were left unhoused. The economic cost of infrastructure and business losses was estimated at \$2 billion. CTAOP set up a flood relief fundraiser which raised \$80,000 and was distributed to 7 community-based partners in KZN: **Kolisi Foundation**, **Zero2Five**, **Impande**, **Youth Inter-Active**, **Ntokozweni Village**, **Domino Foundation**, and the **KZN Network on Violence Against Women**.

These organizations provided immediate relief which included food parcels, clean drinking water and medications, and supported the set up of community halls as temporary shelters. In the week following the emergency response, the organizations provided psychosocial support to survivors, rebuilt homes and early childhood education centres, and provided school supplies and uniforms so **caregivers could return to work and children could return to school**.





In 2022, CTAOP intentionally shifted to a new approach that incorporated an equity lens, combining trust-based philanthropy principles and participation. Among a host of responsive support, CTAOP also nurtured collective strength by convening our Partners and Scholars to build skills, collaborate, and rejuvenate minds, bodies, and spirits.





**“I have never had a donor treat us this way. It is freeing.”**

**“CTAOP money helped sustain us for projects that pulled back overheads during COVID.”**

**“The partnership with CTAOP [doesn't make you] feel you are under pressure. You have space to learn and become a better team.”**

**“Thank you for making this [summit] so special and for creating a space where we could bring our whole authentic selves and connect with others and ourselves in new ways.”**

**-CTAOP Program Partners**

# PROGRAM PARTNERS

The [Charlize Theron Africa Outreach Project](#) forms long-term relationships with local organizations - Program Partners - who support young people and their communities to address the social and structural drivers of health and gender inequality.

## SOUTH AFRICA

[Amandla Development](#) engages community change-makers to collectively support youth in Philippe Township in all facets of their lives, working to break the cycle of poverty that keeps young people trapped generation after generation.

[Brave Rock Girl](#) (BRAVE), a youth-led organization, is creating a network of women and girl leaders across the continent by supporting girl-led initiatives, using the challenge of travel and adventure, and creating safe spaces for young women living in Manenberg, one of the most dangerous townships in South Africa.

[Community Healthcare Solutions](#) (CHS) helps reduce the burden of communicable disease among youth and promotes gender equity by building community responses, providing psychosocial support, and linking youth to care in the informal settlement of Shiya Abazali.

The [Department of Social Responsibility](#) (DSR) works with the Eastern Cape's rural communities on sexual violence, HIV/AIDS, land justice, and food security by creating community responses that empower those most affected, including survivors of violence and people living with HIV.

In the Pietermaritzburg area, [dlalanathi](#) focuses on building the capacity of community members and organizations, and empowering them to provide support to those affected by trauma, poverty, and loss.

[Drama for Life](#) (DFL), an arts centre for social transformation and healing at the University of the Witwatersrand, harnesses the power of storytelling and arts as a language to break barriers, reduce stigma, and start dialogues around sex, gender, violence, and the complex challenges that youth face.

Founded in 2002, [HIVSA](#) builds the capacity and resilience of individuals, community workers, and organizations working in communities affected by HIV to address socio-economic and health issues and create an HIV-free generation.

**KZN Network on Violence Against Women** provides a host of capacity building, advocacy, systems, and coordination for a network of over 300 CBOs, local government departments, churches, and schools that work together to address prevention strategies for violence against women.

**Life Choices** improves the health of youth and hard-to-reach populations in the Cape Flats by providing SRHR education, running health campaigns, and offering one-on-one youth-friendly HIV counseling and testing and psychosocial support.

The **MTV Staying Alive Foundation** (MTVSAF) harnesses the power of entertainment to change the attitudes and behavior of young people in Africa and India. SAF's campaigns include a radio drama, print, digital and social media, and peer education programs.

**Philisa Abafazi Bethu** (PAB) advocates for and provides services to survivors of domestic and intimate partner violence, including women, youth, elderly, and the LGBTQI+ community in Lavender Hill, Cape Town.

The **Small Projects Foundation** (SPF) supports under-resourced communities in the Eastern Cape to identify challenges, plan and implement local solutions, and improve physical, social, and economic outcomes.

## RWANDA

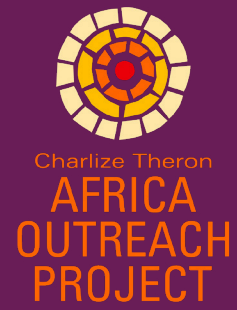
Founded in response to the orphan crisis caused by the 1994 Genocide Against the Tutsi, the **Agahozo-Shalom Youth Village** (ASYV) is a residential community for secondary school youth that focuses on restoring hope and opportunity to youth affected by trauma in Rwanda by embedding healing, care, family, and education in all aspects of the Village.

## ZAMBIA

**African Parks** is a conservation organization that takes on the rehabilitation and long-term management of protected areas in partnership with governments and local communities. In the 6 chiefdoms of the Bangweulu Wetlands, young people (75% of the population) are key to addressing the community's low literacy rates, lack of access to school and health facilities, silence around abuse and sexual violence, illegal poaching, and early marriage.

## ZIMBABWE

The Health Research Unit Zimbabwe (THRU Zim), at the **Biomedical Research & Training Institute** (BRTI), implements research projects and provides training and support services in public health, biomedicine, and health research mostly focusing on HIV/AIDS, TB, malaria, and other operational research.



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