



WOZA
MOYA



ANNUAL NARRATIVE REPORT 2020

CELEBRATING 20 YEARS OF COMMUNITY CARE
AND EMPOWERMENT SERVICES

WOZAMOYA.ORG.ZA

AT WOZA MOYA IXOPO
WE ENVISION ALL PEOPLE
IN THE UFABA VALLEY COMMUNITY
AS HEALTHY AND PRODUCTIVE,
LIVING IN A SAFE AND
CLEAN ENVIRONMENT,
WITH GOOD ACCESS
TO SERVICES AND SOCIAL JUSTICE

WE FACILITATE THE SUSTAINABLE
EMPOWERMENT OF THE COMMUNITY
TO FULFIL THIS VISION THROUGH
EDUCATION AND HEALTH SERVICES,
CAPACITY BUILDING, ENGAGEMENT
WITH SERVICE PROVIDERS AND
OTHER STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS



2020 HAS BEEN A YEAR LIKE NONE OTHER

We began the year full of hope and positive energy, with great plans to celebrate our 20th Year.

In January Woza Moya entered into a new partnership with local NGO Vukuzithathe, strengthening our Children Living with Aids programme. 15 local unemployed young people successfully graduated from our 3-month Computer Course. February saw the start of a fantastic programme for 48 local girls, aged 9-15, **powergirls.com**. Founding Director, Sue Hedden, set off on 20 Year celebratory road trip around the Cape telling the Woza Moya story. We were gifted with Early Childhood Development volunteer, Alice from Belgium, who turned our ECD centre inside out, all in a good way. Then all of a sudden Covid-19 was upon us.

With only one week's warning before lockdown began in South Africa on 26th March, we rushed to buy 5 litre water bottles, antiseptic liquid soaps for **tippy taps** and other supplies. The initial lockdown period was for 21 days. However we soon realised that we were in for a long haul, and successfully applied for Essential Services Permits. Local nurses from Ixopo Clinic partnered with our Community Health team, going door to door to do Covid-19 screening. Our Community Care Givers were equipped with PPE so that they could continue their work of screening, monitoring, supporting, counselling families. We moved into emergency relief mode, distributing 1000s of food parcels, as many households began to struggle to put food on the table due to lockdown.

Partnering with Mamas Alliance, ELMA Foundation, HCI Foundation & Maitri Food Trust, private donors, BRC, local farmers, SA Home Loans, East Coast Radio, SAPPI and Rotary Umhlanga, we became a conduit for the survival of many families in the Ufafa valley community over the next few months. We also distributed 100s of bags of compost and seedlings.

WE MOVED INTO EMERGENCY RELIEF MODE, DISTRIBUTING THOUSANDS OF FOOD PARCELS

Woza Moya's response was covered by media channels **news24** and **eTV**. The Woza Moya crafters began to produce masks, and were thrilled to receive an order for 1000 masks from Mamas Alliance.

Woza Moya Paralegal team assisted the unemployed to apply for social relief grants and UIF, and responded to an increase in gender based violence. In redesigning our programmes our ECD practitioners began to use a mobile app **Wordworks** which was highly successful. Read more **here**. In June Woza Moya began a new partnership with the South African Human Rights Commission **SAHRC** in order to assess and monitor the readiness of our 11 local schools re-opening in Ufafa. Our paralegal, received the required training, enabling Woza Moya to become an accredited monitoring organisation in KwaZulu-Natal. In July we began to see a few cases of people testing positive for Covid-19 in our community, but not many, unlike the urban centres of South Africa.

Throughout the winter months we waited anxiously, not knowing if and when we may be hit by this pandemic, our memories still fresh and raw from the Aids pandemic that devastated Ufafa. Click [here](#) to see how we coped during Covid- 19 at Woza Moya.

In spring we began to tentatively reopen some of our group based activities, first the PowerGirls and then our ECD centre, ensuring all hygiene and safety measures were in place. As the rains started in October we received more emergency relief funding from Mamas Alliance and KZN Slots to expand our food security initiatives. Local seedling nurseries, door size deep trench home gardens, communal gardens, and water tanks are currently being installed throughout the 10 villages of Ufafa. These projects, creating more sustainable food systems, will take us well into 2021.

Zoom meetings became the new normal in 2020 with our Board of Directors meeting x4 via this platform. The Woza Moya Annual General Meeting was held in November with only our immediate team and Community Advisory Council present on site. Others joined us via zoom with all presentations projected on to a big screen. Woza Moya Board Chair Dr Bongwiwe

Ndlovu addressed everyone via zoom, as did Woza Moya Accountant Theresa Samuelson. The theme of this year's AGM was '20 years of Woza Moya' with old pictures and stories shared by Founding Director, Sue.

Our greatest challenge this past year has undoubtedly been Covid- 19 and the subsequent lockdown which increased unemployment, intensified poverty and hunger, resulting in stress and a spike in social issues, such as gender based violence.

OUR GREATEST CHALLENGE THIS PAST YEAR HAS UNDOUBTEDLY BEEN COVID-19 AND THE SUBSEQUENT LOCKDOWN

We wrapped up 2020 on a cautiously high note, with the PowerGirls having a wonderful beach outing, our creche children receiving Santa Shoe Boxes at their Christmas party, PowerGirls graduation party, Annual Reflections and end of year braai at Woza Moya!



OUR WORK IN 2020

THE COMMUNITY HEALTH PROGRAMME AIMS TO PROVIDE QUALITY HOME BASED CARE TO CHILDREN AND ADULTS LIVING WITH HIV, TB, COVID-19 AND OTHER ILLNESSES, VIA THE COMMUNITY CARE GIVERS (CCGs) WHO GO FROM DOOR TO DOOR, EDUCATING, MONITORING, COUNSELLING.

The focus most of this year has been on Covid-19 screening. Wearing masks, gloves, carrying sanitizers, the CCGs met clients outdoors, in the sun and fresh air, as much as possible, to do their assessments. They saw on average x500 clients per month.

The CCGs monitoring & support monthly meetings were suspended in April 2020 due to Covid-19 restrictions. Instead WhatsApp groups were set up and all CCGs and Health staff provided with data.

Likewise our x4 monthly outreach Wellness Days were suspended in April 2020 due to Covid-19 restrictions. All 200 members of the People living with Aids groups received food parcels and seedlings instead.

The quarterly meetings for Children living with Aids aged 3-18 were also stopped. The 50 children in this group received food parcels, donated clothing and Christmas hampers.

Planned capacity building of Community Care Givers (CCGs), focussing on children aged 0-5, child health, development, disability, was postponed.

We did however manage to complete excellent First Aid Training for all CCGs and staff.

Our strong partnership with local Ixopo Department of Health (DoH) continued throughout 2020. The Government mobile clinics on site at Woza Moya were attended by about 100-150 patients every month. Woza Moya is a designated CCMD chronic medications PUP (pick up point); we fortunately managed to keep this service going throughout lockdown. Woza Moya also works with our local DoH on the C-IMCI Programme (Community-Integrated Management of Childhood Illnesses) for children aged 0-5 years.

Our main challenge this past year was in making sure that children and adults with chronic illnesses, (especially HIV+ clients on ARVs) still received the care and support they needed, and were not forgotten in the covid-19 pandemic. Our local health facilities closed a few times due to covid-19 infections amongst their staff. Fortunately this did not happen often or for long.



2.

EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT AIMS FOR THE HOLISTIC (SOCIAL, EMOTIONAL, COGNITIVE, PHYSICAL) DEVELOPMENT OF CHILDREN VIA STIMULATION AND PLAY, IN A SAFE, LOVING AND HAPPY ENVIRONMENT

In January 2020, 47 children aged 3-5 were registered at the Woza Moya ECD centre (creche), attending from 8am to 2pm daily, receiving fortified porridge from JAM on arrival, and a nutritious cooked lunch at midday.

The CCGs saw a further 250 children aged 0-5years, in the homes or at outlying creches, checking Road to Health cards, and encouraging guardians to interact, play and stimulate babies and children.

ECD Consultant, Lynn Stefano and ECD volunteer Alice from Belgium, ran excellent training workshops in early 2020 for all ECD Practitioners (x16) in the Ufafa valley.

The Woza Moya ECD centre was overhauled, thoroughly cleaned, and redesigned with great new equipment funded by Alice and friends in Belgium. This was sadly interrupted by Covid-19 and lockdown.

ECD Trainings (ECD NQF Level 4) were suspended between April-October due to Covid-19 restrictions. Bi-monthly ECD forums and capacity building of all ECD practitioners, including all outlying crèche teachers, was stopped, as was the 10-session Family Literacy Training programme, "Every Word Counts".

The ECD mobile app from **Wordworks** became a life saver as our ECD Practitioners began to go door to door in the community keeping the children stimulated and developing in their homes during lockdown. Due to extra emergency funding received we were able to provide porridge and food parcels to these children at home.

Our main challenge was the outlying crèches. Our ECD team simply did not have the resources to reach them on a regular basis, or the authority to continue mentoring these outlying crèches, many of which are terribly under resourced. We did however still manage to get porridge and food parcels to them.



3.

SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOODS AIMS TO EMPOWER INDIGENT WOMEN TO BECOME ECONOMICALLY AND SOCIALLY INDEPENDENT

There are 3 main activities under this programme:

A. Income generating **CRAFTS** which consists of 30 local crafters who receive monthly training and support to produce sellable crafts. Lockdown was devastating for these women as no work meant no pay. Once we began to produce masks things began to improve a little although we are still nowhere near where we used to be prior to lockdown; many of our regular customers, shops, are no longer ordering like before.

B. Women's **SELF-HELP GROUPS** which consists of 8 groups with 20 women per group, 160 women in total. Many of these groups have now saved on average R60, 000 per group, all from R2 per week savings, over a 6 year period! Sadly these groups too were also forced to suspend their weekly meetings due covid-19 restrictions. During the 6month closure period they found themselves returning to loan sharks, as their rules did not allow them to borrow funds during the closure period. Since reopening in October, they are slowly getting back on their own feet, hoping and praying that there will be no more lockdowns.

C. AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITIES, consisting of vegetable gardens and x50 village chicken farmers. As mentioned earlier in this report, we received extra emergency relief funding allowing us to greatly expand this programme. In October local women were trained in how to establish and maintain local seedlings nurseries, 2 of which are nearing completion. Training in deep trench door size home gardens was provided for the CCGs and community garden champions, mentors. Those trained returned to their own homesteads first to establish a door size garden; thereafter they are working with households nearby to set up door size home gardens. Woza Moya is providing seedlings, compost, agricultural tools (on loan) and support and mentorship. We plan to implement x5 new water tank sites in water scarce outlying areas of the community in 2021. This will create more sustainable food security systems in Ufafa.

As mentioned above, challenges this year have been loss of income for crafters and self-help groups, and food shortages, in some case related to lack of access to water, but mostly due to poverty.



4.

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT AIMS TO EMPOWER AND EQUIP YOUNG PEOPLE WITH BOTH HARD AND SOFT SKILLS, INCLUDING SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH (SRH), DECISION MAKING AND SELF-KNOWLEDGE

Planned activities for 2020 were as follows:

- A. Afterschool Programme for about 100 children aged 6-18 years. The afterschool programme has 3 areas: life-skills, library activities, computer club
- B. PowerGirls programmes for 48 girls aged 9-16
- C. Soccer and netball on Fridays, and bi-annual play offs around Ufafa valley which involves 100s of young sportsmen and women and 100s of young spectators. The finals usually take place on 16th June, Youth Day in South Africa.
- D. Talent shows, bi-annual, in different outlying villages of Ufafa, draws 100s of young people. We use this platform to talk about SRH and other relevant topics.
- E. 3-month Computer Training Course for unemployed young people.

Due to Covid-19 and lockdown all of the above programmes were closed down. The second group of 15 young unemployed local youth had not yet

completed their 3 month training course when Covid-19 restrictions struck. Likewise the PowerGirls programme was stopped after only a few sessions. Our Afterschool programme also came to an abrupt end, in line with government rules.

In many ways covid-19 and lockdown restrictions affected this group the most, as they are the least likely family members to stay at home, being always out and about in the community. Many of this age group did not abide by the rules and continued playing soccer and hanging out with their friends. However as time went on we found that this group required more emotional support and counselling than any of our other target groups. Woza Moya Child & Youth Care Workers found they had to do many more home visits and counselling sessions than usual, referred to by the CCGs. An increasing number of young people were feeling stressed, lonely, disconnected, depressed.



A COVID-19 CASE STUDY

FROM HEALTH MANAGER, JANE NXASANE

**names have been changed*

MaBuyi Choncho is a 48 years old woman living with HIV in the remote village of Emagobongweni, in Ufafa. She has 9 children and 4 grandchildren, 3 of who are HIV+. Her husband works in Durban, has a city wife for many years and stopped sending money home a long time ago.

MaBuyi is works part time, cleaning side of the road, clearing rocks, making the road to work when there is heavy rains, so cars can continue to pass. If she is doing this job they paid R500. Her household also receiving x3 Child Support Grants at R440 each. Otherwise she is carrying firewood from the forests and doing extra washing at the river for other households to earn more money.

MaBuyi's 2 daughters was selling small foods and drinks at the school during break time. MaBuyi's one son was working on the taxi collecting the monies and calling for more passengers, but he never help at home, even before. But now we are having Lock down she is not working in the road and also to those that she was doing washing for, they are now at home. This

household is surviving only with Child Support Grants. Some of the children in school, was no more get the school lunch. MaBuyi's 2 daughters also lost jobs, no more income. The household is very short of food for everyone, they are hungry every day. Sometimes the neighbours help with foods but they also are poor and worse now in Covid-19.

The Woza Moya CCG is report this situation to Health Manager who does follow ups. This household is successful in getting food parcels from Woza Moya, as in emergency relief. The CCG also give 5 litre water bottle and Tippy Tap instruction pages, hygiene pack and make sure they do this by themselves. Our Paralegal helps extra grant monies from SASSA Covid-19 relief fund. They do not have smart phone in order to apply, so he intervene to help the application and they got it. Woza Moya also provides seedlings and composts. Now they are eating from that garden a lot.

In 2021 we hope to start a local seedling nursery in this remote village and include MaBuyi as one the women running it and earning some extra income from it. MaBuyi is hard-working all the time.

CROSS CUTTING ISSUES IN 2020 HAVE INCLUDED:

1. **Paralegal** Services were ramped up to help people access unemployment grant, extra covid-19 grant, UIF, and to deal with social issues arising from lockdown, food shortages, stress in homes.
2. **Gender based violence** related to the above, children and women were even more at risk, as angry, frustrated men, have lost their jobs, not allowed to leave their homes, nor drink or smoke.
3. **Disability, People living with HIV and/or TB, and now Covid-19**
4. **Active Citizenship**, helping to build a stronger voice amongst the most marginalised groups.
5. **WASH**, water, sanitation and hygiene became even more critical during this year of Covid-19.
6. **Learning and Sharing**, all communications moved on to electronic platforms in 2020 such as Zoom and WhatsApp.
7. **Resource Mobilisation, Systems & Staff Development, Strategic Planning, Fund Raising and Friend Raising**, we made good use of this Covid-19 time to look inwardly and strengthen many of our systems at Woza Moya.

KEY LEARNINGS

Our greatest learnings from 2020 are that we are a flexible and adaptable organisation. In response to Covid-19 we re-invented ourselves and our programmes with every employee having an important role to play. The Ufafa valley community were full of gratitude and praise for our responses which were appropriate, transparent, professional, swift and effective.

GOVERNANCE STRUCTURES 2020

The Woza Moya BOARD OF DIRECTORS has met x4 this year, x1 FEB in person, x1 in JUL and x2 NOV via Zoom. The Board of Directors are professional people based mostly in Durban. Their main task is to hold the Vision and Mission of the organisation, and to support the Executive Director.

THE 5 NON EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS ARE:

Dr Bongiwe Ndlovu (MD) CHAIR

Ms Jovita da Silva TREASURER

Mr Viroshen Chetty

Mr Mxolisi Nyuswa

Ms Yasmin Rajah

The **COMMUNITY ADVISORY COUNCIL** has met x3 as planned during 2020. These are 5 important stakeholders in the Ufafa Valley, dealing with internal community based matters. With 60 years being our ceiling date for all Woza Moya peoples, this group will be gracefully and gratefully retired in early 2021 to make way for some new and younger members.

The **WOZA MOYA MANAGEMENT TEAM**, consisting of Executive Director, Operations Manager and 2 Senior Managers, met x2 per month, as planned, to discuss daily matters.

Our Memorandum of Incorporation has been updated in line with new CIPRO laws in South Africa, by an NGO specialised lawyer in Durban.

NETWORKING AND PARTNERSHIPS

Woza Moya has continued to work hard at maintaining good relations with local government departments. Being a community based organisation our role is to help our community to know their rights and access services due to them. We help navigate bureaucratic mazes and educate community members via community learning workshops on how to move forward on their own. Our aim is for people to be able to help themselves, to do self-referrals.

Woza Moya's most successful partnership continues to be with the local Department of Health, as mentioned in the Community Health section of this report.

Woza Moya attends local Municipality meetings, and other local and regional stakeholder meetings regularly.

Woza Moya partners with various other specialist NGOs. Being a general community development project, it deepens and develops our programmes, to work with more specialised NGOs, many of which offer services beyond our own. To mention a few: Creighton Disability Clinic (disability), Ixopo Legal Aid (paralegal), Noah's Ark and Family Literacy Project (ECD), Wordworks (ECD), KwaZulu-Natal Society of the Arts (crafts), Educare (self-care), One Voice South Africa (youth), Vukuzithathe (children with HIV), Joint Aid Management, JAM (ECD nutrition), South African Human Rights Commission (paralegal, human rights).

ORGANISATIONAL MARKETING

The amazing Durban based LUMO lumo.co.za does all the Woza Moya marketing and branding, and has done so for many years.

wozamoya.org.za

facebook.com/wozamoya

twitter.com/WozaMoya

wozamoya.org.za/newsletters/

Investment in our marketing profile over the years has been very worthwhile, helping to increase our funding and support base.

Despite 2020 being a challenging year, we hope for a better new year. The famous poem (on the next page) written by Emily Dickinson says it so beautifully, honouring our capacity for hope, like a bird that lives within the human soul, this bird sings come rain or shine, gale or storm, in good times or bad.

FUNDING SOURCES 2020

Thank you to all our Donors and Friends for your incredible support in 2020! Without you none of this would be possible!

ELMA PHILANTHROPIES US

MAMAS KINDERFONDS, NETHERLANDS

STARFISH GREATHEARTS FOUNDATION, UK

MACAIDS, US

DEICHMANN FOUNDATION, GERMANY

SOUTH COAST FOUNDATION, US

MERCURY PHOENIX TRUST, UK

HCI FOUNDATION, SOUTH AFRICA

KZN SLOTS

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IQRAA TRUST, SOUTH AFRICA

WOZA MOYA UK

PRIVATE DONORS AND FRIENDS

Click here to see our latest ANNUAL FINANCIAL.

HOPE IS THE THING WITH FEATHERS

HOPE IS THE THING WITH FEATHERS
THAT PERCHES IN THE SOUL
AND SINGS THE TUNE WITHOUT THE WORDS
AND NEVER STOPS - AT ALL

AND SWEETEST - IN THE GALE - IS HEARD
AND SORE MUST BE THE STORM
THAT COULD ABASH THE LITTLE BIRD
THAT KEPT SO MANY WARM

I'VE HEARD IT IN THE CHILLEST LAND
AND ON THE STRANGEST SEA
YET - NEVER - IN EXTREMITY,
IT ASKED A CRUMB - OF ME

- EMILY DICKINSON -



IXOPO WWW.WOZAMOYA.ORG.ZA

DECEMBER 2020

SUE HEDDEN

FOUNDING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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