



# Youth Transition Support Programme



The Youth Transition Support Programme is designed to support young people aging out of foster care, regardless of where they transition to—whether they are reconnecting with biological families, moving into independent living facilities, or residing in one of our transition houses. Our primary goal is to ensure that each young person is on a positive and sustainable trajectory as they enter adulthood.

At the heart of the programme is a holistic approach to development. We recognise that successful transition requires more than just housing or education—it involves emotional support, life skills development, access to opportunities, and a sense of belonging. By addressing these diverse needs, we aim to equip young people with the tools, confidence, and resilience needed to face the challenges of the world with independence and hope.

The following statistics highlight the positive impact of our Transition Support Programme:

- Between 2019 and 2025, 56 young people left Home from Home's foster care.
- 26 are employed, 9 are in education or training, and 11 are on productive pathways despite not being in employment, education, and/or training.
- 10 young people are not in employment, education and/or training and are not on productive pathways.

Despite South Africa's youth unemployment rate of 46%, 82% of our young adults are in employment, education, training or on productive pathways. Specifically, 46% are employed, 16% are in education or training and 20%, although not in employment, education, or training, are actively engaging with our Programme to explore opportunities. Only 18% of our young adults who have left care are not on productive pathways currently.



Graduation day  
Performing arts



Fittings for her first uniform  
Amazi Beutician



Graduation day  
Early Childhood Development

# Youth Transition Support Programme- Update- SANDISIWE



Sandisiwe has commenced her practical training in Child and Youth Care at Home from Home as part of her ongoing studies in the field. Her responsibilities during this placement have included engaging directly with young people to support the development of their individual transition plans and playing a coordinating role in facilitating a SAYes mentorship workshop in partnership with both Home from Home and SAYes.

All her activities have been closely monitored and signed off by her assigned supervisor at Home from Home to ensure accountability and alignment with her academic requirements. Additionally, Sandisiwe took on the responsibility of compiling and presenting updates on young people who have exited the Home from Home system, which were shared with the broader transition support team.

Demonstrating initiative and a commitment to gaining broader practical experience, Sandisiwe independently approached a Child and Youth Care Centre to further develop her skills. She is currently placed at St. Michael's Child and Youth Care Centre, where she is gaining hands-on experience in a more intensive residential care setting.

Transitioning to St. Michael's has been both a challenging and enriching experience for Sandisiwe. Unlike the smaller, family-style setting of Home from Home, this environment supports thirty girls, which initially caused her to question her readiness. However, she has embraced the experience with resilience and determination.



In her role as an Auxiliary Child and Youth Care Worker, she works rotating shifts alongside senior staff, including weekends and night shifts. She continues to build trusting relationships with the girls and has regular supervisory sessions with both the on-site social worker and the senior care worker. Feedback from both colleagues and the young people has been overwhelmingly positive.

While she acknowledges that some days are emotionally demanding and occasionally triggering, Sandisiwe is actively working through these challenges with professional support. Reflecting on her journey so far, she reports a significant improvement from her first week, sharing that she is now feeling more confident, settled, and grateful for the opportunity to learn through experience — one step at a time.



# Youth Transition Support Programme- Update- NDUMISO



Dumi is currently pursuing his N5 studies and preparing to begin his in-service training. While he's passionate about his field of study, the academic load recently became overwhelming, and he began to fall behind. It was a tough time for him, he came very close to giving up, and however his sense of fortitude speaks volumes.

Instead, he reached out to our transition support team for help, a step that speaks volumes about his resilience and determination. Our team arranged a meeting with his college's student support services to better understand the challenges he was facing. That meeting revealed some underlying struggles, and together, we put a plan in place to support him moving forward.



With encouragement and new measures in place, including extended exam time granted by his Head of Department and ongoing communication between the college and our transition team, Dumi is beginning to find his footing again. He's also taken the initiative to speak directly with his lecturers and administrators to ask for the help he needs.

The college has been wonderful in keeping us informed of his progress, even sharing his exam timetable with us so we can check in on key dates and encourage him through every step. Dumi's journey is a reminder of how powerful support and belief can be.



# Youth Transition Support Programme- Update-ABONGILE



Abongile continues to make steady progress in his journey toward becoming an educator. He is currently enrolled in a Bachelor of Education program and attends campus at least twice a week to engage in lectures and tutorials. Studying via correspondence has been a significant adjustment for him, particularly with managing assignments and coursework through an online portal. Despite the challenges, Abongile remains committed and focused on his academic goals. Outside of his studies, Abongile is actively involved in his local community. He regularly attends a gym in Khayelitsha and is also a dedicated member of a boxing club. His passion and discipline have seen him compete in multiple boxing competitions, where he consistently places in the top three, a testament to his perseverance and determination.

Abongile maintains a strong connection with Home from Home and is always willing to support the programme. He frequently participates in workshops, contributes to idea generation for improving the transition programme, and serves as a valuable mentor figure to others.

In addition to his studies and personal pursuits, Abongile volunteers daily with one of Home from Home's partner organisations, providing homework support and helping children improve their reading skills. His dedication to giving back is a reflection of his deep appreciation for the support he has received, and his commitment to uplifting others through education.



Abongile has also been working towards obtaining his driver's licence—a goal that has presented some challenges. After initially failing his learner's test due to an eye exam result at the traffic department, Home from Home supported him in visiting an optometrist. The examination confirmed that there were no issues with his eyesight, and he has since passed the required test. This experience helped boost his confidence and reminded him of the importance of resilience in the face of setbacks.

Abongile continues to grow as a young leader, and we are proud of his progress across all areas of his development.

# Youth Transition Support Programme- Update-MZIMASI



His contribution to reducing transportation expenses has been both practical and strategic, demonstrating strong communication skills and professionalism in his interactions with foster families, staff members, and external service providers. Mzimasi's efforts have had a positive impact on operational efficiency and resource management within the team.

Beyond his administrative duties, Mzimasi remains a valued presence in the transition house. He has taken an active role in supporting the young men in the home, fostering a sense of unity and shared responsibility. His creativity has led to the implementation of new routines and activities, including collaborative shopping trips, which have strengthened group cohesion and helped build life skills in a supportive, peer-led environment.



While he has not yet obtained his driver's license, Mzimasi is steadily building his confidence behind the wheel. He has begun practicing by moving vehicles in and out of parking spaces at work—an important step in becoming comfortable with driving. His determination and positive attitude reflect his long-term commitment to personal growth and independence.

Mzimasi continues to thrive in his role and remains a strong example of leadership, initiative, and teamwork within both the organisation and the transition programme.

# Collaborative Youth Development Partnership: Home from Home, Fountain of Hope & SAYes



The Home from Home Transition Team recently initiated a promising partnership with the new management of Fountain of Hope, an independent living facility committed to youth development. This collaboration marks an important step forward in our shared mission to support young people aging out of foster care as they transition into independent adulthood.

Central to this initiative is our ongoing partnership with the SAYes Mentorship Programme, which delivers a structured series of ten developmental modules designed specifically for care-experienced youth. These modules are aimed at building essential life skills, fostering independence, and promoting overall well-being.

As part of this collaboration, Home from Home and Fountain of Hope will co-create a shared learning space where approximately 28 young people from both organisations will come together to exchange experiences, build peer networks, and engage in structured peer learning. This setting will encourage the young people to reflect on their personal journeys, support one another, and grow together in a safe and supportive environment.

A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is currently being drafted to formalise the partnership and outline the roles, responsibilities, and shared goals of both organisations.

Together, we will deliver the following SAYes modules, grouped under two thematic pillars:

## Independence:

- Education & Learning
- Sports & Recreation
- Work & Money
- Home & Family
- Community & Citizenship

## Well-being:

- Cognitive Health
- Physical Health
- Emotional Health
- Social Health
- Identity Health



This partnership reflects our ongoing commitment to holistic, collaborative, and youth-centered approaches in preparing young people for life beyond care. We look forward to the positive outcomes this joint effort will bring.