

TRANSITION SUPPORT PROGRAMME UPDATE



Internships at an organisation offers valuable practical experience in a real-world context. Unlike classroom learning, internships allow you to apply theoretical knowledge to actual work scenarios, helping you understand industry operations and challenges. Our interns have participated in programme development within the Transition Support Programme. They were assigned a group of 8-10 Aging Out young people each, becoming ambassadors for them. This experience not only provides insight into professional work but also involves working with young individuals and using laptops to research opportunities for their peers.

Home from Home & SAYes Mentorship Programme

SAYes, South African Youth Education for Sustainability and Home from Home established a partnership to better the chances and future for our young people in our care. SAYes Mentorship programmes provide mentor-mentee matches with scientifically credible interventions to improve mentee independence (via the quality of decision making) and well-being (via the consistency of healthy practices). There has been a selection of five young people in the Home from Home transition homes to receive mentors through the SAYes programme. This interaction will improve their social impact and reducing social inequality.

In addition to the Mentor-Mentee programme, 25 of our young people have been selected to attend the Transition to Independence Group care workshops. These workshops focus on: Independence (including Education & Learning, Sports and Recreation, Work and Money, Home and Family, and Community and Citizenship) and Well-Being (covering Cognitive Health, Physical Health, Emotional Health, Social Health, and Identity Health). On Saturday, 08 June 2024, we hosted 19 young people who engaged in discussions about health and social issues and how they impact individuals. The Home from Home Alumni provided a platform for addressing their peers and discussing the realities of adulthood.



Mzimasi Says:

"Working with the laptops has made a lot of things easier to work with and it adds to the little information I have about Computers and internet . For example I knew a little about emails but now that we use it more often at the office it gave me more knowledge and now it is much better to communicate via emails , it even helps us to do online sessions with Yes4Youth and it will even help me with my college registration . Growing up I had problems with my eyes but I never wore glasses ever since I got these new ones life has been much better because I could see everything much clearer than before , there is no issues with the glasses they are a perfect fit and they are also very much comfortable and they don't hurt my eyes like when I started putting them on . I personally want to thank the team for the effort they put on getting us the laptops and glasses and for the opportunity they gave us to be interns so far it has been a wonderful experience, I am looking forward to learning more things as time goes on."



Abongile Says:

"Getting things done in a fast, unchallenging and accommodating manner is key - especially in an environment where schedules change and new assignments pop up frequently.

The laptops have played a crucial role in easing the load of all the work that is needed to get done.

Not only has having the laptops been efficacious in lessening the workload, but also been very educational personally because in the process of completing assignments you get to learn how to use programs such as Word, PowerPoint and Excel - which is an exercise I find fun (still learning though).

Definitely something I am grateful for, that's for sure!"



Andisiwe Says:

"Having a laptop has been really helpful, not only workwise but it has improved my basic computer skills too. As someone who was struggling with CAT in high school, practicing on Nicki's computer helped because by the time ours came, I had an idea of how it's like working on a computer.

With the laptop, I am now able to work confidently on Excel, emails etc. The glasses changed my life , I really had bad eyesight. I couldn't see far and closer without having to squint my eyes. I would have bad migraines because of the squinting, itchy eyes especially when it is hot or sunny. I still remember when we went for the collection of the glasses and wore them for the first time, I was so amazed at how beautiful the mountains were, being able to see vividly without having to squint my eyes."



OXFORD READING SAFARI (ORS)

Oxford Reading Safari is a personalised, online, interactive, remedial reading programme designed for children with reading challenges. It has been designed by reading and language experts to address different types of reading challenges. With the help of a reading partner, the platform assesses the level of the learner and then simulates the remediation that a reading therapist would offer in a session in an engaging, flexible and easy way. Oxford Reading Safari tests speed, accuracy and comprehension and tailors remediation exercises according to the reading ability and error pattern of the reader. It is this feature of finding and working on each individual's error patterns that makes this platform unique.

Eight of our young people attended the ORS training in order to facilitate this programme to the children in our care. The young people who attended the programme were quite keen to start implementing in our respective metros.

Not only are the children benefitting from this programme, but young people are given the opportunity to work at least 2-3 days a week and receive transport support and remuneration.

The interns could assist their peers to navigate through the ORS programme with the laptops they have received. This will assist with future training opportunities for our young people.

