



2022/23

ANNUAL REPORT



MATLA A BANA
a voice against child abuse

WHAT WE DID LAST YEAR

Minimising the secondary abuse children suffer when reporting abuse against them.

4

child friendly facilities
in 2 provinces implemented or
upgraded

297

officers of the law
trained and debriefed in
4 provinces

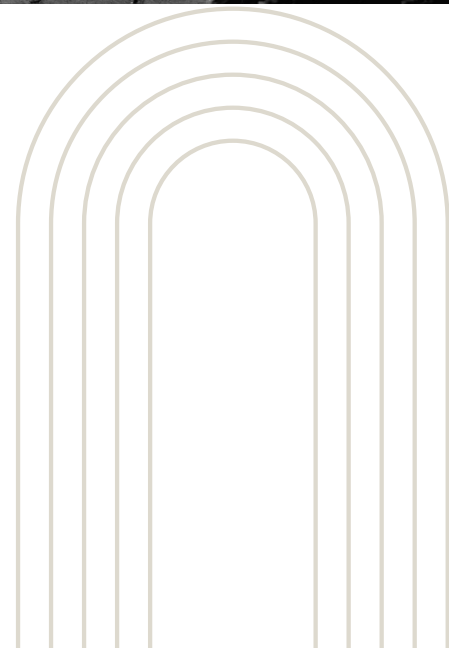
3375

comfort packs
supplied in 5 provinces



GATEKEEPERS

We, all of us alive today, are the gatekeepers of the future. The world we bequeath to our children and grandchildren will depend upon our success in building a more peaceful and decent world.



CEO REPORT

Matla A Bana has established a strong track record of delivery. As the only NPO with an MOU with SAPS, MAB is well-placed to influence change in the system, and has done so in several ways.



Those who know me know that I am a person of few words. To me, actions speak louder than words. Reflecting on the year 2022/23 year, I am proud to say that the actions of Matla A Bana reflect our successes and the tremendous support we have received from sponsors and the community. We had a bumper year regarding fundraising, setting the record for the most funds raised in one year. But we also came close to breaking the record of training the most officers of the law – only outdone by our training projects of 2009, where we trained nearly 500 police officers. We could not have done it without the incredible support of many people and companies and also not without some challenges! Some of those challenges we have been facing for many years and I would like to highlight two of those.

Firstly, there is difficulty in obtaining actual statistics to measure the impact of our project. Secondly, we could only meet some of the needs due to a lack of funding, especially for our comfort pack project. We also lacked support in some of the “forgotten provinces.” Being a winner in the Old Mutual Partnership awards (CSI division) and runner-up in these awards ensured prize money was allocated to two provinces where support was much needed – the Eastern Cape and KwaZulu-Natal. With great pride, I am giving the following feedback on our accomplishments this year:

TRAINING

We hosted twelve training modules and two debriefing (large group) sessions. We completed all the training modules of our course in various provinces. This includes two groups based at SAPS FCS units in Gauteng, one in the Free State, and one in KwaZulu-Natal. Our first training module for the KwaZulu-Natal group was hosted in 2016. Sadly, securing funding to finish the additional training modules with this group took us so long. There were only a few members left of the original group who did our Essential Skills Training, but this group was highly passionate about learning and implementing the skills. This training will impact rural districts like Amajuba, uMkhanyakude, uThukela, uMgungundlovu, and King Cetshwayo. We also completed two training modules with a group of state prosecutors based in the Western Cape. Of much importance is the pilot training program hosted for shift commanders and management who are based at the police stations served by the Moroka SAPS FCS unit. This formed part of the holistic approach, which included a child-friendly facility, SAPS FCS training, and then training on a station level. Three debriefing sessions were hosted – two for sexual offences prosecutors and an art therapy session with SAPS FCS WC provincial office. This turned out to be really successful and we will look at hosting similar workshops. We specifically want to thank the donors who funded this project. We are often told that the government should pay for this training, but we know this is impossible. We also realize the positive impact this training has on service delivery. So do the funders with the insight of the difference this training is making in service delivery and minimizing secondary abuse because of greater understanding by the officers.

COMFORT PACK PROJECT

Our comfort pack project had the most impact in the northern areas of South Africa, mostly Gauteng. The reason for this is two-fold. Many volunteers are supplying packs to the projects and receiving more regional funding from local donors. This year, we managed to supply nearly 3,500 packs, primarily for small (5 to 8 years old) and medium-sized (9 to 12 years old) girls. Provinces supported include Gauteng, Limpopo, Mpumalanga, Free State, North West Province, and the Western Cape. These packs were distributed to local SAPS FCS units or the provincial offices. We regret to say that we have not been able to support the Northern Cape, KwaZulu-Natal, or the Eastern Cape this year. A particular word of thank you to all the volunteers who so eagerly assisted in donating and packing the packs.

“MAB HAS AN IMPRESSIVE TRACK RECORD OF DELIVERY, AS EVIDENCED BY THE NUMBER OF CHILD FRIENDLY FACILITIES IT HAS DELIVERED, THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN THAT BENEFIT ANNUALLY FROM THESE FACILITIES, THE DELIVERY OF COMFORT PACKS AND TRAINING, AND THE COMMENDATIONS RECEIVED FROM SAPS PROVINCIAL COMMANDERS. MAB UNDOUBTEDLY PUNCHES FAR ABOVE ITS WEIGHT WITH THE RESOURCES IT HAS AT ITS DISPOSAL”
 - ILIMALETHU TRUST

CEO REPORT (Continued)

CHILD-FRIENDLY REPORTING FACILITIES

Matla A Bana has been implementing child-friendly facilities since 2006. At the end of the 2022/23 financial year, 38 child-friendly reporting facilities were implemented in all the provinces except the Free State and KwaZulu-Natal. Some of these facilities come with a significant cost – fully implementing a container facility is R 250,000. One of the agreements made with the SAPS National Office when finalizing the MOU was that Matla A Bana would maintain the facilities implemented. This has not always been possible due to a lack of funding. We are happy to say that this year, we revisited three of our older facilities and were able to refurbish all of them. The partnership with Business Leadership South Africa saw the hosting of a pilot training project and the implementation of a container facility at the Moroka SAPS FCS unit. We also welcome the Rose Street Trust as a partner in our child-friendly reporting facility project. Once again, much of the successes would not have been possible without the help of large groups of volunteers who donated their time and talents to Matla A Bana and our large sponsors.

UNIQUE PROJECTS

Matla A Bana hosted a stakeholder session for a research project into the economic impact of GBV between the University of Johannesburg and the University of Mid Sweden. This collaboration results from the research done by Matla A Bana trustee, Prof Corne Davis. In February 2023, Matla A Bana was invited to participate in a consulting session hosted by Jelly Bean. The focus was on access to justice and legal remedies for child victims of sexual exploitation. Monique Strydom donated a motivational talk to Bellville Police Station for Women’s Day. Matla A Bana upgraded the victim room at this station a few years ago. Matla A Bana was also invited to partner with volunteer Madeleine Keyter in hosting a fundraising event at the Silverstar Casino Barnyard. It was the first fundraising event after COVID-19 brought us all to a standstill, and it was a joyous evening for all.

THANK YOU

We have to thank so many special people for their continuous support. From the ladies who knitted the beautiful bags for sanitary towels to the ladies who knitted bears, the little kids who packed comfort packs, the artists who did our murals, and the warriors who helped raise much-needed funds. Once again, thank you also to all our financial donors, with whom we have long relationships and whose continued support made it possible for us to continue. Lastly – to our small team of incredible people: Lizel Van Eeden (Project Manager Gauteng), Sandra Nieuwenhuizen (Administration and Social Media), and our incredible board of trustees – I value your support, passion, and dedication. May we continue to be the gatekeepers fighting with the enemy in the gate!

Monique Strydom

MEET OUR TEAM

“Individual commitment to a group effort - that is what makes a team work, a company work, a society work, a civilization work”
Vince Lombardi



A PRETORIUS (Trustee)
Business entrepreneur



A MOSTERT (Trustee)
Social worker and business entrepreneur



PROF C DAVIS (Trustee)
Senior lecturer and GBV activist



E EHLERS (Trustee)
Executive coach and business owner.



PASTOR N MAZABANE (Trustee)
Pastor and leader in the evangelical movement.



ADV V SRIKISON (Trustee)
Family advocate, speaker and mediator.



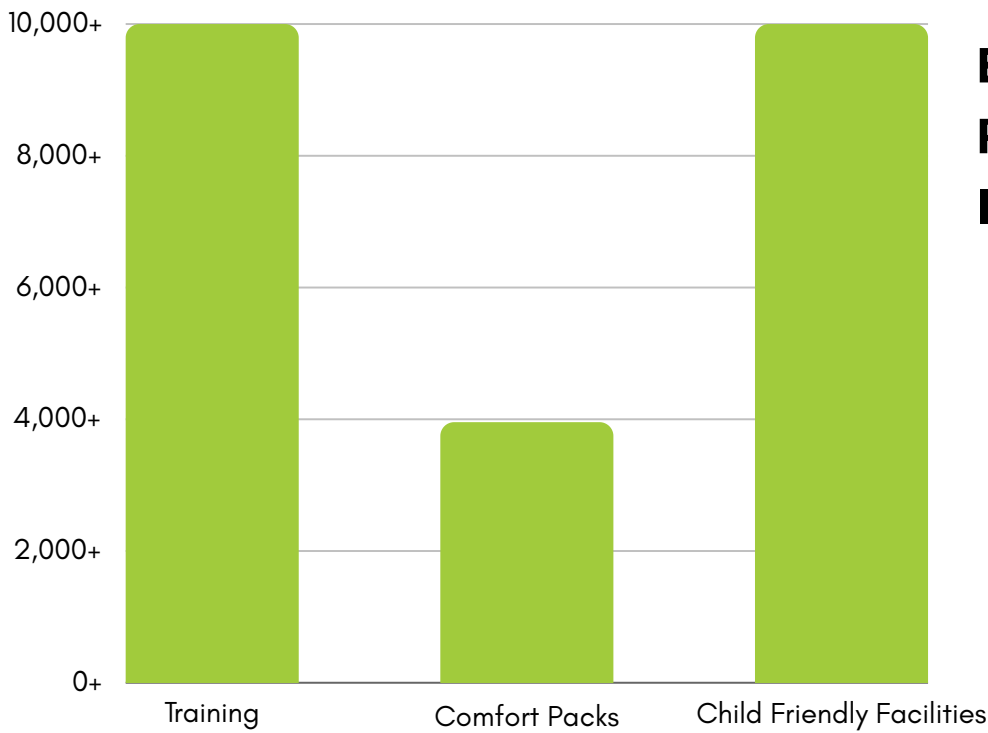
L VAN EEDEN (Project Manager)



S NIEUWENHUIZEN (Admin)



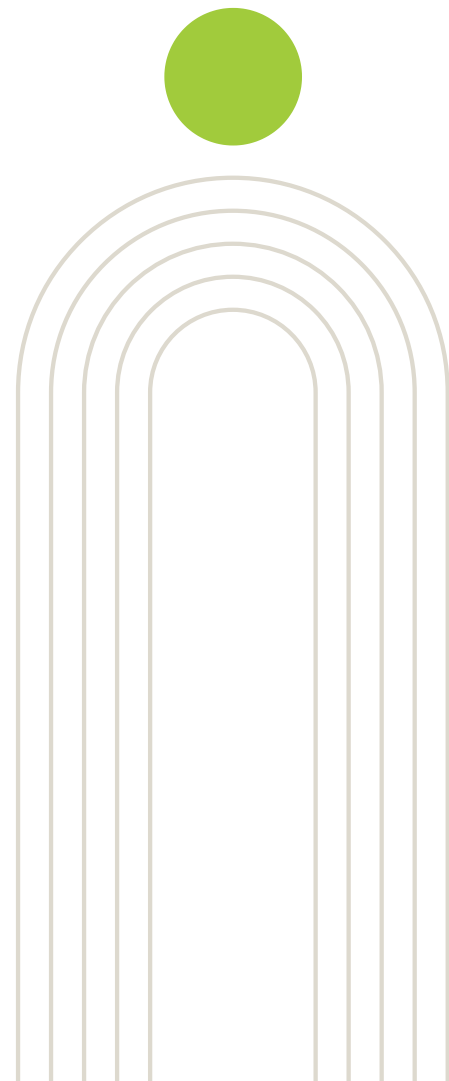
ABSA TRUST (Trustee)



ESTIMATED PROJECT IMPACT

PROJECT IMPACT

We are often required to report back to sponsors on the number of direct and indirect beneficiaries of our project. A really tight blanket of security exists around the protection of minors under our law, with several branches of government having constitutional mandates that direct the rights and responsibilities of various interest groups. Foremost among them are the departments of Police and Social Development, with other departments such as the Department of Justice also having a role to play and all have their own recording methods. As such, there is real reticence about releasing any information which can invite criticism about how these mandates are being discharged. Matla a Bana enjoys a privileged working relationship with the South African Police as the only organisation serving child abuse with which the SAPS has an Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). Unfortunately, the MOU is subject to a confidentiality agreement which must be strictly observed. Because crime statistics are politically sensitive, no statistics on crime are available to members of the public unless officially released. It is also not possible to share nor even request information about child victims. All of the above make it very difficult for Matla A Bana to measure the impact (number of victims helped) or the long term impact of most of our projects. At the end of the financial year of 2022/23 we had implemented thirty nine child friendly facilities at police stations, SAPS FCS units, courts and hospitals. Our project impact is therefore based on estimations and in accordance to information obtained from our partners. In many of these cases they are used by forensic social workers, in others by detectives and in some cases by both. However, it is not possible to record how many victims, ages and race are being assisted at the child friendly facilities. This year we have trained 227 detectives, forensic social workers and prosecutors. We are unable to measure the impact this training has on victims of GBV as we do not know how many clients each of these officers assist every year. Our comfort pack project is mainly focused on supplying packs for girls between 5 and 12 years old. We are however unable to confirm race or disability. We can however confirm that just 3375 girls and boys were assisted.



TRAINING PROJECT

Training officers of the law to understand trauma and the impact of trauma in order to better assist victims of abuse.



BACKGROUND

The priority of the police officer and prosecutor is to solve the crime, arrest the perpetrator and secure a conviction. Police members and prosecutors receive training in this regard. There, however is often a lack in training in the life skills needed to deal with the child-victim and the trauma related to the investigation of such cases. The challenge comes when the public expect officers of the law to exhibit these skills when working with children and rape/abuse victims. Through the years of working with officers of the law and victims, we have gotten to understand what skills are needed and developed various unique training modules to address this need. Most of our courses are SETA accredited.



MODULE ONE : TRAUMA MANAGEMENT , NEGATIVE RESILIENCE AND AN INTRODUCTION TO STRESS MANAGEMENT (2 days)

This two-day workshop focussing on the management of trauma, stress and PTSD and is unique and is to assist officers of the law exposed to severe trauma. The first day of training was developed by world renowned trauma specialist, Dr Friedman, and focuses on Post Traumatic Stress, Negative Resilience and coping mechanisms and is hosted by Mike Sears. The second day of the course focusses on trauma and stress management and is hosted by Workhouse Communications and Maselouw.

MODULE TWO : SOFT SKILLS: EI, CONFLICT MANAGEMENT AND STRESS PRINCIPLES (3 days)

A three-day training course focussing on Emotional Intelligence, Stress Management and Conflict Management hosted by partner, Maselouw.

MODULE THREE : PERCEPTION, CLIENT SERVICE (EI) AND VICTIM EXPECTATION (2 days)

In these two sessions, staff are taken on a journey of discovering self-awareness. The first module, Perception, is a basic self-discovery where staff has to investigate their motives, influences and are being made aware of different perceptions. Also how own biases can influence their perception. In the second module, Client Service and Victim Expectation, staff are taught to develop emotional intelligence, to have greater empathy with victims and offer professional client service.

MODULE 4 : NEGATIVE RESILIENCE, PERCEPTION 1&2, TRAUMA INFORMED POLICING AND CLIENT SERVICE (3 days)

This new training module was developed to form part of our holistic response to victim support in Gauteng and was presented as a pilot project. It is a shortened version of our first three modules with an additional module hosted by Luke Lambrecht. This course was developed for SAPS client service centre management and staff with the aim of understanding victim trauma and responses to that. Hosted by Maselouw and Workhouse Communications.

COURSE FEEDBACK

"This course has improved my communication skills and I believe that my victims will benefit from this."

"Be more aware and be in tune and present."

"Greater insight into the experience of the victim and more sensitivity to that."

"It's always good to know yourself first before you can help or assist the next person."

"Our victims need us to be present at all times and the course helped me understand the importance of that."

"More understanding of how trauma affects victims and how to approach victims with trauma informed approaches and by doing so, eliminate secondary trauma."

"I will be able to manage anxiety and depression better, be able to focus on completing my admin duties and keep my files up to date."

TRAINING IMPACT 2022/23

3 & 4 March 2022

Module 1 - Western Cape Sexual Offences Courts prosecutors (28 members)

31 March & 1 April 2022

Module 1 - KwaZulu-Natal SAPS FCS detectives and forensic social workers (28 Members)

7 & 8 April 2022

Module 1 - Gauteng SAPS FCS detectives and forensic social workers Group 2 (28 Members)

5 & 6 May 2022

Module 3 - SAPS FCS Free State SAPS FCS detectives and forensic social workers (30 members)

22, 23 & 24 June 2022

Module 2 - Gauteng SAPS FCS detectives and forensic social workers Group 1 (30 members)

20, 22 & 23 July 2022

Module 2 - Gauteng SAPS FCS detectives and forensic social workers Group 2 (30 members)

28 & 29 July 2022

Module 3 - Gauteng SAPS FCS detectives and forensic social workers Group 1 (30 members)

4 & 5 August 2022

Module 3 - KwaZulu-Natal SAPS FCS SAPS FCS detectives and forensic social workers (28 Members)

24 & 25 August 2022

Module 3 - Western Cape Sexual Offences Courts prosecutors (28 members)

22 & 23 Sept 2022

Module 3 - Gauteng SAPS FCS detectives and forensic social workers Group 2 (30 members)

10 - 12 October 2022

Module 4 - Gauteng SAPS Client Service members Moroka, Protea Glen & Dobsonville Police stations (31 members)

17 & 18 November 2022

Module 1 - Western Cape SAPS FCS detectives and forensic social workers (27 members)

DEBRIEFING SESSIONS

22 March 2022

An art therapy session with SAPS FCS WC senior management hosted by artist, Glendine.

26 & 30 November 2022

Two groups of 36 prosecutors each based at sexual offences courts in the Western Cape took part in self-awareness, trauma informed sessions focussing on understanding trauma, befriending the nervous system, the brain and trauma and the polyvagal theory.



COMFORT PACK PROJECT

Supplying emergency packs in the hour of need to child abuse victims.



BACKGROUND

In some cases it can take up to 12 hours for a child victim of rape to be processed, from statement taking to the medical examination. During this time the child often does not eat, drink or has other support. Matla A Bana has been supplying comfort packs to the SAPS Family Violence, Child Protection and Sexual Offences units (FCS) and courts. These packs contain small and medium girl emergency goods and is handed over to children when they report the crime. The packs include comfort items (teddy, colouring book and crayons), food items (energy bar, cold drink, soup) and emergency goods (panties, sanitary towels, soap, facecloth, deodorant, toothpaste and toothbrush). We supply packs as Small Girls (5 to 8 years old) and Medium Girls packs (9 to 12 years old). Unfortunately, due to lack of funding, we cannot supply in the much needed demand for boy packs.

PACKS SUPPLIED**MARCH**

- 450 packs - Gauteng SAPS FCS Province (Small girls)
- 150 packs - Free State SAPS FCS Province (Small girls)
- 150 packs - North West Province SAPS FCS Province (Small girls)
- 150 packs - Limpopo SAPS FCS Provincial Office (Small girls)
- 150 packs - Mpumalanga SAPS FCS Provincial Office (Small girls)

APRIL

- 79 Packs - Honeydew, Vereeniging, Moroka & Krugersdorp SAPS FCS (Small and medium girls)
- 20 Packs - Roodepoort Children's Court and Carletonville and Fochville Regional Courts (Medium girls)

MAY

- 150 packs - SAPS FCS Gauteng Province, Honeydew, Krugersdorp, Carletonville (Small and medium girls and boys)

JUNE

- 50 packs - Mamelodi & Pretoria Central SAPS FCS (Small girls)
- 40 packs - Krugersdorp SAPS FCS (Small and medium girls)

JULY

- 520 packs - Gauteng SAPS FCS Province (Small and medium girls)
- 150 packs - Free State SAPS FCS Province (Small and medium girls)
- 150 packs - North West Province SAPS FCS Province (Small and medium girls)
- 150 packs - Limpopo SAPS FCS Province (Small and medium girls)
- 150 packs - Mpumalanga SAPS FCS Province (Small and medium girls)
- 56 packs - Roodepoort Sexual Offences Court and Honeydew SAPS FCS (Small girls)

AUGUST

- 60 packs - SAPS FCS Western Cape (Small and medium girls)

SEPTEMBER

- 100 packs - Mpumalanga Sexual Offences Court, Honeydew and Moroka SAPS FCS (Small and medium girls)
- 50 packs - Roodepoort Sexual Offences Court (Medium girls)

OCTOBER

- 40 packs - SAPS FCS Province Western Cape (Small and medium girls)
- 40 packs - Krugersdorps SAPS FCS (Small and medium girls)

DECEMBER

- 200 packs - Gauteng SAPS FCS Province (Small and medium girls)
- 100 packs - Free State SAPS FCS Province (Small and medium girls)
- 100 packs - North West SAPS FCS Province (Small and medium girls)
- 100 packs - Limpopo SAPS FCS Province (Small and medium girls)
- 100 packs - Mpumalanga SAPS FCS Province (Small and medium girls)

JANUARY

- 20 packs - Krugersdorp Magistrates Court (Medium girls)



CHILD FRIENDLY REPORTING FACILITIES

To implement standardized victim friendly reporting facilities at all SAPS FCS units, courts and hospitals in high child sexual abuse and rape reporting areas.



BACKGROUND

Visiting a police station to report a crime can be traumatic for any person, especially children. Sixteen years ago, Matla A Bana identified the need to create child friendly environments for children at police units, courts and hospitals. Together with SAPS, Family Violence, Child protection and Sexual Offences Unit, Matla A Bana developed a blue print for a reporting facility at police units. This facility includes: a child-friendly assessment room for interview and assessment of the child (including murals designed for assessments) linked to an monitoring room fitted with audio-visual recording facilities in order to record interviews with children. Where there is no office accommodation at the SAPS FCS Unit and if the site allows it, a container facility will be implemented. As a last resort, a child friendly room (assessment room) will be implemented.

FACILITIES REFURBISHED:**NYANGA SAPS FCS UNIT (December 2022)**

The child friendly facility at Nyanga SAPS FCS was implemented in 2009. The unit is stationed in Mitchells Plain and shares the building with Mitchells Plain SAPS FCS unit. During the 2023 year, Matla A Bana upgraded the facility to the current approved blueprint. The facility was repainted, floors retiled, all furniture replaced and new audio-visual recording equipment was installed. This facility was done in partnership with the Rose Street Trust.

KRUGERSDORP SAPS FCS UNIT

Matla a Bana implemented a child friendly facility at this unit in 2010. This unit was relocated to new offices and in 2013, Matla A Bana implemented a child friendly facility at the new offices. During this reporting year, a group of volunteers under the guidance of Luci De Gouveia, undertook the refurbishment of various areas in the facility. This included the painting and beautifying of the passage way, entrance and the office of the Commander. Curtains and blinds repaired and new furniture was donated.

HONEYDEW SAPS FCS UNIT

When the Honeydew child protection unit were decentralised to Honeydew Police Station, Matla A Bana assisted in creating a child friendly room at the station. With the reinstatement of the child protection units this unit was moved to a private building in Krugersdorp where Matla A Bana once again assisted in creating a child friendly room. The unit was relocated to new offices in Roodepoort. Matla A Bana responded by implementing a child friendly reporting room in 2013. This year a group of 77 staff members from Keller Williams Realty painted and beautified the walls in the following areas - passages, office of the forensic social worker, waiting area, commander office, outside building and main entrance.

NEW FACILITIES:**MOROKA SAPS FCS UNIT**

One of the first facilities implemented by Matla A Bana was at the then child protection unit in Dube, Soweto during 2006. The unit was moved out of this facility and in 2008, Matla A Bana implemented a full child friendly facility at Moroka Police Station. A year later this unit was relocated again to Protea Glen Police Station and the facility was at Moroka Police Station was no longer in use. Supporting units in this area remained a high priority and the SAPS FCS Moroka Unit was earmarked to receive assistance. A partnership between Business Leadership South African and Business against crime saw the opening of a full reporting container facility at Protea Glen Police Station in July 2022.



**"THANK YOU VERY MUCH MATLA A BANA.
WITHOUT YOUR SUPPORT WE ARE
DOOMED. YOU BRING HOPE"**
SAPS POLICE OFFICER

THANK YOU

To all the volunteers, sponsors and our officers of the law who made our successes possible.



GATEKEEPERS

"Behold, children are a heritage from the Lord,
Happy is the man who has his quiver full of them;
They shall not be ashamed, but shall speak with their
enemies in the gate."

Psalm 127:5

MAIN PROJECT SPONSORS



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Thank
 you!