Tereo School: Theory of Change

A process for thinking about and describing; the change we want to see; and our plans for achieving that change.



Tereo School: Theory of Change

- Children who live in an environment where the abuse and rape of women and children is commonplace and death by physical assault an everyday occurrence, often results in these children falling out of the formal education system or never forming part of it.
- In the Helderberg areas of Sir Lowry's Pass, Macassar, Chris Nissan, Lwandle and Nomzamo a significant portion of the population aged 20 and under has no education, while this area also has the highest proportion of adults over 20 who are unschooled. (URDR Study, University of Stellenbosch).

Our Mandate is to:

- Special purpose school for street children and children at risk (Gr 1 – 6) Gr 7 commences 2024
- Build the gap between the current unschooled state of the children and mainstream schooling
- Offer teachers and teaching methods which understand their circumstances
- Offer learners free access to education
- Encourage on-going self development through psychological support and extramural activities
- Provide a Biblical approach to life skills and development

These investments in communities result in sustainable outcomes that:

- Break the cycle of poverty caused by little or no education
- Build resilient young people who realize their own potential who work productively and fruitfully to make a contribution to their families and communities
- Give them an alternative to turning to crime or prostitution which so many are forced to do so due to circumstances.

The Journey to Mainstream Education and Academic Success

From Environmental Input....

Adverse home experiences

- Poverty
- Witnessing
 Psychotic episodes
 brought on by
 Alcohol and/or
 drug usage
- Mental & Emotional Abuse
- Physical Abuse
- Sexual Abuse
- Violence
- Loss
- Neglect
- Separation

Effect

- No funds for schooling
- No parental or adult support to encourage education
- Lower learning ability or desire to learn

Outcome

- Little or no school attendance
- Poor academic achievement
- Increased School drop out rate after Gr 4 and 5
- Poor self esteem

Impact

- Substance abuse
- Gang membership
- Crime
- Prostitution
- Violence

Repetitive Cycle

- Learned helplessness
- Lower expectancy for future success
- Diminished initiative to respond positively to life's requirements





The Journey to Mainstream Education and Academic Success



To successful integration in mainstream schooling....



Tereo School Approach

- Baseline assessment prior to placement in grade
- Small classes with individual attention
- Experienced Teachers
- Teaching customized to learner
- Bridging Classes
- Learner Support Programme
- Scholastic and psychological assessment to address learning and/or developmental and Psychological issues.
- School Nutrition and feeding programme
- Extramural Programme
- Child Protection Programme
- Christian Guidance and Values

Result

- Strong learners fast tracked into mainstream schools
- Assessment identifies learners requiring skills or remedial schooling
- More time to focus on the learners who require help.
- Individual strengths identified:
 Eg: scholastic, artistic, music,
 dance, drama, computer and
 technology
- Counselling Support for abuse (psychological, physical and sexual), neglect
- Placement in care (where required)

Effect

- Motivation
- Self Esteem
- Learning difficulties addressed
- Positive Life choices
- New Thought Patterns
- Realize Own Potential

Outcome

 Children prepared and ready for Gr 8 (High School)

Children placed in either:

- Mainstream School
- Skills school
- Remedial School
- Care Centre for Profound Intellectual Disability (PID) where required

Tereo School Outcomes

- Education in all different forms is key to breaking the cycle of poverty. Education can be the catalyst needed to pull families and communities out of the cycle of poverty. Knowledge gives children the power to dream of a better future and the confidence needed to pursue a full education, which in turn will help generations to come. It has an uplifting effect on other aspects of society that may seem totally unrelated, such as girls' education lowering the number of prenatal deaths.
- The relationship between poverty and education is complex, but we know that education helps people make healthier and smarter decisions about their children, their livelihoods and the way they live.

24 years of impact since inception in 1999

Since inception 1260 children have been enrolled at school

70% of the scholars exit
Tereo school into
mainstream learning
environments

A safe place where learners can receive personalized education from teachers who understand their circumstances

2022 - 85 children enrolled

2023 – 92 children enrolled

Bridging class which we established in 2016, is ensuring an easier transition to the formal education process

KEY FOCUS OF TEACHING STAFF

Grade 1, have a 50% pass rate as the learners are raw coming in, often with no formal or informal education.

They know the list of swear words but not colours and shapes.

Grade 1 teachers often need an assistant to cope with getting them used to the routines and even formal learning.

Competent and Qualified Teachers focus on getting the stronger learners into mainstream schools from grade 2 onwards so that there is more time to focus on the learners who need help getting used to routines & formal schooling.

Being adequately socialized is also an area that teachers need to address, as a lack of socializing is also often a challenge.



Academic Impact

- Due to no Early Childhood development learning i.e. Pre-School, learners arrive at Tereo unable to recognize colours, shapes r-or able to hold a pen and scissors. Often with very poor or underdeveloped find motor skills.
- Poor support structures at home or exposure to extreme violence or neglect results in the emotional state of the learner being impaired.
- This environment necessitates learners often having to repeat Gr 1 to catch up with their counter parts who have been exposed to ECD learning or a supportive home environment.

Psychological & Scholastic Support – Past Year 2022

- 1 child removed from parents due to neglect
- 1 Child expelled due to drug use and place in a drug rehab centre
- 12 Learners in Play Therapy
- 2 Learners undergoing counselling with PATCG for rape/sexual abuse
- 1 Child placed under a protection order with the court
- 2 Learners on accelerated scholastic programme
- 4 Learners assessed by an Educational Psychologist for placement in LSEN special needs school
- 2 Learns successfully place in Axios School of Skills
- 2 Learners Placed in Rusthof LSEN school
- 3 Learners awaiting placement in Rusthof LSEN



Extra Mural Programmes – Past year 2022

- All learners take part in Extra Mural Activities:
- 81 Learners: Computer Training Stimuzone
- All Gr 3 5 attend Greenshoots Computer based Maths
- 16 Hip Hop dance
- 16 Drama Class
- 12 Art Class
- 24 Lego Play
- 8 Music
- 8 Pottery
- 4 Needlework
- 35 Learners in Cross Country 1 learner obtained Western Province Colours
- All Learners attend cultural outings

Family & Medical Support

- All families are visited at home minimum once per term by Child Welfare Officer
- Each Learner has a on-on-one session with the Child Welfare Officer per term
- Those requiring more attention are scheduled more frequently
- 17 Learners received glasses
- 1 Learner received hearing aid
- 1 Learner involved in a motor vehicle accident is being treated by Red Cross. This was facilitated by Tereo School