



CHILDREN AT RISK

YEAR REPORT

2019 / 2020



YWAM MUIZENBERG

Cape Town, South Africa

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GODS HEART FOR CHILDREN

Children are a gift from God

God cares about all children in the world and He commands His people to care for them as well!

God has a plan and a purpose for every child that enters this world. Children are to be celebrated, welcomed, loved, embraced, provided for, nurtured, taught, and treated with respect. All children – no matter their background, nationality, or abilities.

All people, because of the nature of living in a fallen world, face difficult days. Many children have dealt with challenges far beyond their capacity to endure. Millions of children worldwide face hunger, poverty, abandonment, neglect, abuse, and even slavery. God calls His people to rise up and do something about this! As children of God, believers are supposed to show forth the character of our Father to the watching world. Because God is love, we are supposed to love one another and our neighbor. Because God is holy, we are supposed to hate our sin and seek to honor Him with our lives. And the list goes on and on. We are supposed to act like our Father. So how does our Father act toward children? Does He care about their hearts? Does His heart break when they face trials? Does He desire their good? Does he want justice for children in need?

The answer to these questions and more is what we have been engaging with over the past years in the Discipleship training school (DTS) and the Children at Risk school (CAR). We invite you to read this report, celebrate with us what has been accomplished and get involved in creating a child-safe world.

The true character of a society is revealed
in how it treats its children.

- Nelson Mandela -

VISION & MISSION

Children at Risk Hub

Youth with a Mission Muizenberg runs a 12 month Children at Risk track consisting out of a 6 month DTS (Disciple Training School) and a 3 month Children at Risk school (CAR), followed by the opportunity to do a 3 or a 6 month practicum.

The overall vision of YWAM is **to know God and make Him known.**

YWAM has 18 foundational values.

The vision (Children at Risk)

A child-safe world

The mission (Children at Risk)

Equipping, empowering, and engaging a generation to serve children at risk.



INTRODUCTION

WHO WE ARE

YWAM - Children at Risk

Youth with a Mission Muizenberg is a multi-cultural community of people who embraces, equips, and launches all people into all nations to reveal Christ and His Kingdom. The Children at Risk Hub runs a 12 month children's at risk track consisting of a 6 month Disciple Training School, (DTS) and a 3 month Children at Risk school (CAR), followed by the opportunity to do a 3 or 6 month practicum. These back to back schools with the same focus, will allow the students to transition from a first level - to a second level school. At the end of the year students will have gained theoretical and practical knowledge and experience which help them to come alongside children in a safe and sustainable way.



Join a global family reaching out to children

CHILDREN AT RISK

Discipleship training school (DTS)

The DTS is more than a school, it's a life changing experience during which students gain truth, grow in their faith, and develop godly character. During the 2019 DTS, 29 students from 14 nations arrived at the YWAM base in Muizenberg ready to start their discipleship journey. The journey involved learning to see God, themselves and others through a godly worldview. At the same time they were provided with opportunities to put what they were learning into action in local communities and during outreach phase in other nations.

The school covered a broad variety of discipleship topics all aiming towards knowing God and making Him known. Since the school had a specific focus on children at risk, students were once a week introduced to topics like, God's heart for children, compassion, child development, child evangelism, community development, project planning, human trafficking, and cyberbullying. These topics are covered more in depth in the CAR school - a second level school of YWAM. Part of discipleship is that students live on the YWAM training base, in a cross-cultural and multi-racial community during the entire lecture phase.



LECTURE PHASE

OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM

local outreach

During the lecture phase students also participated in local outreaches in order to gain practical insight in working with children at risk. These organisations included Klever Kids, Revelation Ministry, Beautiful Gate, Living Hope, and Hillview. Each of these ministries gave the students the opportunity to put into practice what they were learning in a class environment.

'The Children at Risk School has empowered me to look more holistically at critical issues surrounding those most vulnerable, and has given me the practical tools to take action and advocate.'

Kelsey, - CAR school graduate



Lecture Phase

DISCIPLESHIP TRAINING

OUTREACH PHASE

The main purpose of the outreach is for students to put into practice what they have learned during the lecture phase, to build their confidence as Christ followers, to work in multi cultural teams and use their gifting in cross-cultural settings.

After the 3 month lecture phase, students were assigned to different outreach locations. This year locations were Kenya and Tanzania, Philippines and Thailand, Greece, Albania, and the Eastern Cape (South Africa). During a period of two and a half months, they put into practice what they had learned during the lecture phase. They were invited by churches and organisations to share the Good News, pray for people, ran children - and youth programs and give information about dignity and hygiene. The goal was to serve and add value to existing programs. What was very encouraging is that two teams went to serve projects in Africa started by two of our previous students of the 2018 Children at Risk school.



Lecture Phase

CHILDREN AT RISK

Second level school

The 2019 CHILDREN AT RISK SCHOOL (CAR) gave practical tools to 17 students from 12 different nations who are passionate about reaching out to Children at Risk including street children, kids from broken families, orphans, children with HIV/AIDS, and many other categories of Children at Risk.

The purpose of the Children At Risk School is to train workers in initiating and maintaining projects and serving existing projects in working with children at risk, their families and communities.

The school covered a broad variety of topics like, God's heart for children, compassion, child development, child evangelism, community development, project planning, human trafficking, and cyberbullying. These topics are covered by professionals working in the field of children at risk throughout South Africa. The students also received valuable insight during site visits where they learned about different models of care. At the end of the course students handed in a detailed ministry project plan, to help them further their ministry goals in a practical way.



Lecture Phase

CHILDREN AT RISK

3 / 6 month Practicum

After the lecture phase, a 3 / 6 months practicum is optional with YWAM or other Christian ministries or organisations that work with children at risk. During 2019, 3 students successfully completed their practicum in South Africa.

"I completed my Children at Risk school in Muizenberg, Cape Town. The most impacting thing I learned during the CAR school is that childhood is the most important stage of development and who we are as adults is often directly related to our childhood experience. Therefore, if we can influence the most instrumental years of someone's life, then we change a person forever.

After finishing the school, I became much more aware of the importance of childhood and had a much greater appreciation in working with children, especially those who have experienced abuse and trauma. Because of the CAR school, I am much more passionate about empowering children and giving them a voice as the next generation. I realized that while I can impact children, children have a lot to teach me.

Through the CAR school and Practicum (which I completed in 2020), I now make every effort to influence a child when I have the opportunity to. Whether it is a smile from a car window, or a helping hand with homework, every child deserves real love and care and I want to make it my mission to achieve that wherever I can".

Sophie Trenholm

Children at Risk school graduate



Lecture Phase

IMPACT STORY

From student to a country director of an anti-humantrafficking NGO in Sierra Leone.

My name is Abdulai Bah from Sierra Leone. Born on in 1986 on Christmas Day. I lost my parents and sister to the civil war that waged in Sierra Leone from 1991 to 2001. I grew up with my uncle in a Muslim family. But due to accepting Christ I was disowned by my family and currently still under threat from other family members.

I did my Discipleship Training School (DTS) in Durban, South Africa and staffed two schools. My wife and I moved to Cape Town and while she did her DTS, I did the CAR school. I thought it was just going to be an easy school with basic information on children at risk but it turned out to be intensive school, one of the best in Youth With A Mission (YWAM).

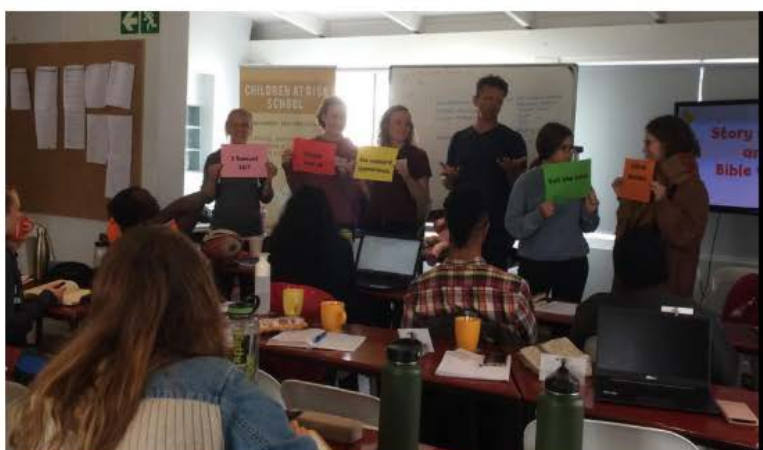
Since we returned back to Sierra Leone I have worked with an NGO dealing with children with disabilities. Many things I have learned in the CAR School I was able to implement during this time. In Sierra Leone these children are often called “the devils children” and many of them, with advice from witch doctors, are drowned in the forests across Sierra Leone. People fear children with disabilities they believe they bring bad luck and even bring death to families. With what I learnt from the CAR school I was able to help in sensitizing communities about children with disabilities.

Currently I am the country director for Love Justice International, an organization helping to stop human trafficking. All of this I would not have been able to do without having done the Children At Risk School. Therefore my wish is: one day to start this CAR School in Sierra Leone.



ACTION GALLERY

students 2019



TESTIMONIES

Previous DTS & CAR students

"Coming from a strict, suppressive, and broken family- I struggled seeing God as a loving Father. I thought I had to work for His grace and blessings. Being wrapped in His fatherly presence in worship, conversations, and quiet times has transformed my idea of family. It went from something painful and broken, to something beautiful and loving."

Jasia - Canada

"I realized it's actually not just about knowing the Bible. But it goes really deep here. It's about actually wanting to have a relationship with Jesus and not just using him as a bridge to get into heaven".

Brumando - South

Africa

"The Children at Risk school has helped me to see the sobering reality of the state of many children living in the world today. In the midst of this brokenness, i can do something - whether big or small - to help restore communities, families, and children at risk".

Adam - Singapore

"The Children at Risk School opened my eyes to see the needs of children and opened my heart to support them through community development. It equipped me to better advocate for children and to see the value "This school changed my views from a "save the child" mentality to "empower, support, and improve families and communities." It brought a holistic approach to child protection. Because of the Christian aspect, it proved that in God, there is always HOPE!".

Thato - Lesotho



THANK YOU

to everyone who made this year possible!



We want to acknowledge each team member for their commitment and zeal towards training the next generation of people reaching out to children at risk.

DTS team: Lunathi Joubert (school leader), Melissa Kreiser, Chasity Allman, Louise ten Wolde, Edward Theunissen, Eerika Lassila, Jay-Lee Damons, Mpumelelo Banzana, Stanley Mbowane and Toby Brouwer.

CAR school team: Toby Brouwer (school leader), Lunathi Joubert, Mireille Veijer, Melissa Kreiser, Sam & Amanda Shold (partime), Aukje Brouwer (partime).

We also want to say thank you to the YWAM Muizenberg leadership and training department for their guidance and support.

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Both schools are accredited with the University
of the nations of YWAM