



Meet Luke Levenberg

**Action Volunteers Africa
Mitchells Plain**

Luke Levenberg from Tafelsig, is an aspiring teacher who wants to positively impact the lives of youth and children in Mitchells Plain. He aims to live a life of love and prosperity. Luke has a dream of helping to address the unemployment rate, by connecting youth to opportunities. He recognises the good as well as the imperfections of Mitchells Plain. He sees himself as a *“rose that grew from the concrete”*. Both his parents did not attain Grade 12. This ignited a passion within him, to be the first in his family with a matric certificate.

What have you learned from YearBeyond and the YeBo Academy?

You need to be your authentic self and uphold the values you believe in. Something that will forever stick with me is emotional intelligence because if you cannot manage and regulate your emotions it's going to be very difficult to be a motivation to others.

What do you currently enjoy most about being in the YeBo Academy?

It is the ongoing Action Learning and the interactions with many different individuals. There is a lot of beauty in diversity when working with people who have different cultures and languages from your own. It is amazing to see all these leaders developing under one roof all with the same goal of becoming future YearBeyond Mentors.

What legacy do you want to leave one day?

The people in my community as well as my friends, must see my story as a motivation. I started from the bottom and achieved all my goals so far. The legacy I want to leave behind is that of courage. Even when you don't feel completely confident, just give it a try.

This interview was conducted and compiled by fellow YeBo Academy student, Ashton Solomons.

YeBo Academy Class of 2023