



# YEAR IN REVIEW 2022

**Wishing you a safe and restful holiday season from the Youth and After School Programme Office**

2022 has been a jam-packed year. In this newsletter we share some of the highlights illustrating just what a busy year it has been.

We have seen exponential growth in our YearBeyond Youth in Service Programme and continued support for learners in under resourced schools through our various After School initiatives and support.

Thank-you to all our partners. We celebrate your commitment and dedication to making a tangible difference in the lives of our children and youth.

## LIGHTS ON AFTERSCHOOL SOUTH AFRICA 2022

Celebrating After School Programmes supporting learner wellbeing and academic catch up  
 #LightsOnAfterSchool #AfterSchoolSA

### Shining the Light on After School

In October we celebrated the 3<sup>rd</sup> annual "Lights on After School" Campaign focused on celebrating After School Programmes supporting learner wellbeing and academic catch up. The global initiative started in the US aims to raise awareness of the importance of ASP and the impact they have on the lives of children.

The Lights On Poster Competition demonstrating the value of ASP was a new innovation in 2022. With more than 70 submissions from across the country, Maricia Fortuin, a grade 8 learner at Elsies River High School, was selected as the winner of the first prize. Maricia received a goodie bag, R10 000 for her ASP "Going for Gold", offered by the Equilibrium Centre, and a mini-library donation of 10 000 books for her school.



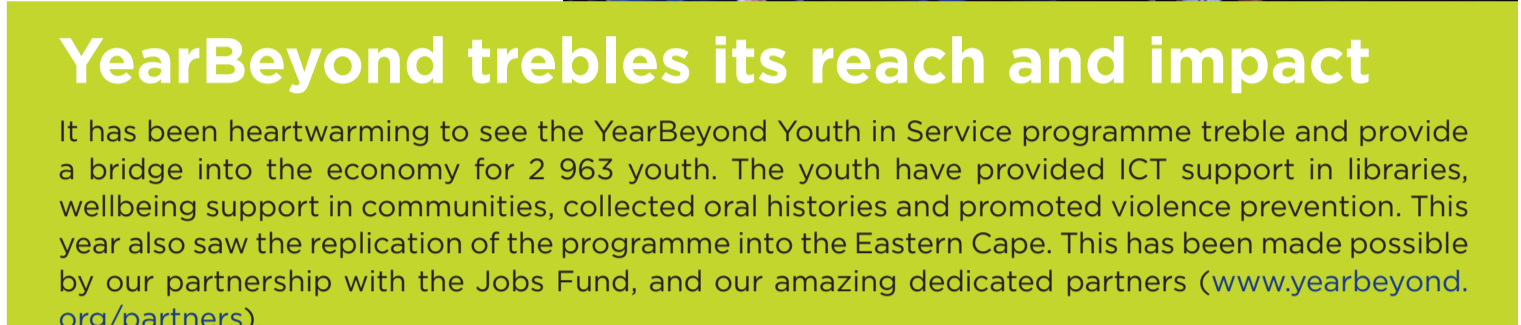
Learners were eager to share their interpretations of the LightsOn theme



Minister Marais and HOD Redman with some of the learners who take part in after school activities



Learners were excited to show their commitment to shining a light on after school programmes



### YearBeyond trebles its reach and impact

It has been heartwarming to see the YearBeyond Youth in Service programme treble and provide a bridge into the economy for 2 963 youth. The youth have provided ICT support in libraries, wellbeing support in communities, collected oral histories and promoted violence prevention. This year also saw the replication of the programme into the Eastern Cape. This has been made possible by our partnership with the Jobs Fund, and our amazing dedicated partners ([www.yearbeyond.org/partners](http://www.yearbeyond.org/partners)).

<b>2963</b> YeBoneers	<b>67</b> Partners	<b>96</b> Mentors	<b>350</b> Sites

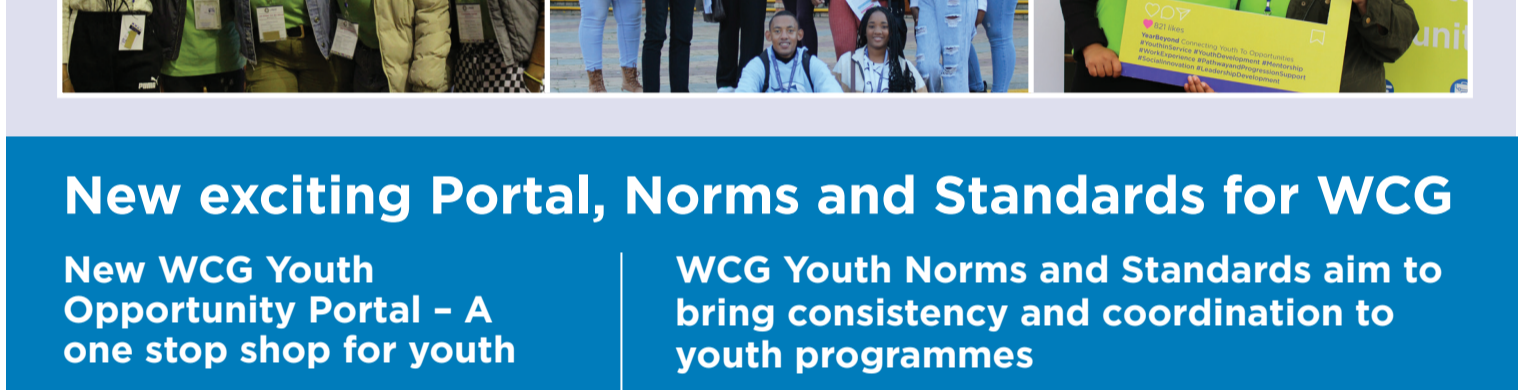


### YeBo Conference encourages youth to shape their future

In July this year, YeBoneers converged at the University of the Western Cape (UWC) at the first annual GoBeyond: Shape your future conference. The atmosphere was electric as YeBoneers were challenged to Go Beyond their fears, their comfort zones, their networks and imagine a different future for themselves.

Youth were then invited to choose six breakout sessions, from the 36 sessions offered. These focused on building your professional brand and preparing for your next step, emotional wellbeing and intelligence and agency. In the fringe events youth were able to get physical, tool-up their tech skills, experience a silent disco and compete in a quiz and musical bingo.

See highlights in the section below.



### New exciting Portal, Norms and Standards for WCG

#### New WCG Youth Opportunity Portal – A one stop shop for youth

The WCG has developed a new and exciting Youth Opportunity Portal which is a one-stop shop for information on all Western Cape Government youth programmes. Recently launched, the portal aims to reduce the amount of time youth spend searching for opportunities. The portal has information on available work placements and information on work readiness and wellbeing.

For more information visit [www.wcgyouthportal.co.za](http://www.wcgyouthportal.co.za)

#### WCG Youth Norms and Standards aim to bring consistency and coordination to youth programmes

Research shows that quality programmes are more likely to engage and retain youth and most importantly to impact their lives. They are also more likely to support young peoples' development such that they become productive and engaged citizens. The newly adopted Youth Norms and Standards developed by a transversal working group outlines the guidelines for the implementation and management of provincial Youth Programmes in line with the Western Cape Youth Policy. They are based on the provincial youth policy and research on best practice to cover all the core elements of a high-quality youth development programme.

The norms and standards create opportunities for common language and shared goals within a coordinated network of providers in the Province.

### YearBeyond Academy launched



As YearBeyond trebled this year it became clear that quality youth development requires quality mentors and managers. This became one of the constraints to growth in 2022 as partners turned to alumni to fill the role. The jump from YeBoneer to mentor is huge and not all alumni have the skills to transition. In response YearBeyond, with the support of the Michael and Susan Dell Foundation, launched a mentor academy with existing mentors to train YearBeyond alumni and create a sustainable pool of quality mentors. Piloted in 2023 the Academy is poised to transform the sector.

*"For me this was an amazing journey of skills development and growth, networking and building deeper connections with fellow Mentors who I have come to call family."*

Samantha Adonis, Mentor

### 2022 in pictures
