



"Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world."

- Nelson Mandela



IKAMVA RECEIVES INTERNATIONAL AWARD

By the time you read this, Ikamva-Youth Director, Joy Olivier and National Coordinator Zamo Shongwe will have received a STARS Impact Award for Education at Kensington Palace, London. The gala event was held on 14th December. The award honours organisations transforming young lives in Africa, Asia and the Middle East. This international accolade tops a year of notable achievement at IkamvaYouth.

Established by the [STARS Foundation](#) in the United Kingdom, the award is a very special one, as IkamvaYouth is dedicating it to the memory of the late former president Nelson Mandela. "As Ikamvanites, we agree with Madiba that: 'Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world'. We keep saying education is the passport out of poverty – the youth pulling themselves and each other out of dire circumstances through education. In our vision for 2030 we have declared a dignified living for all youth through education as a basic goal," says Patrick Mashanda, IkamvaYouth's Gauteng District Coordinator.

We are proud to be associated to the STARS Foundation, an organisation which is providing innovative, directed

means of support to those most in need.

IkamvaYouth has made great progress, but there is still a long way to go. In 2013 we celebrate 10 years of change but also keep in mind the ideals of one of the nation's most illustrious sons:

"I have walked that long road to freedom. I have tried not to falter; I have made mis-steps along the way. But I have discovered the secret that after climbing a great hill, one only finds that there are many more hills to climb. I have taken a moment here to rest, to steal a view of the glorious vista that surrounds me, to look back on the distance I have come. But I can only rest for a moment, for with freedom come responsibilities, and I dare not linger, for my long walk is not ended." - Nelson Mandela



ALUMNI

IkamvaYouth's outstanding success rate relies on a strong return-rate of alumni – those who have come through the model successfully themselves and in turn volunteer their services to help replicate their success. As IkamvaYouth prepares to up-scale significantly, the organisation realises that this group of Ikamvanites is a critical component of the plan to provide critical support to the youth.

Lewis Mash – appointed Alumni Coordinator a year ago – recently supervised the publication of an alumni report. Data from a survey of approximately 500 ex-learners, shows that in comparison with the national average, Ikamva's alumni have a far greater chance of post-school success and an enhanced lifestyle. The figures show that Ikamvanites have a first-year university drop-out rate of 17.5% – less than half the national average. Each year, more than 60% of Ikamvanites enrolled for tertiary study graduate, or pass all courses, progressing to the next year of study.

Download our Alumni Report 2013 [here](#).



MATRIC 2013

South African matriculants have just written their final school exams. Ikamvante learners will know the outcome on 7 January 2014. Ikamvanites achieved a pass-rate of 94% in 2012, so good luck to learners as we await these important results!

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

Ikamvanites would like to wish you and your families a safe and restful holiday season and thank you for your generous and sustained support of the work we do.