



THE FUTURE BEGINS HERE

# BOKAMOSO YOUTH FOUNDATION

## ANNUAL REPORT JULY 2015 – JUNE 2016

*"We will never, never, never, never, never, never, never, give up!" is the soundtrack behind the story of the Bokamoso Life Centre (BLC) in Winterveldt, South Africa. Bokamoso means "future"—and the youth strongly affirmed their hopes and dreams for a better future in 2015-2016. The Centre and the Bokamoso Youth Foundation (BYF) in Washington, DC, continued a strong partnership to help the youth lay the groundwork for that future, reaffirming the mission in the development of new, more resilient structures.*

### A Resilient Youth Centre in Winterveldt, South Africa

The Bokamoso Life Centre is alive with positive energy. In 2016, dozens of young South Africans participated in the Centre's Adolescent Development Program (ADP) and served as mentors, leading life skills and AIDS awareness programs in the LoveLife program.

- After exploring vocational opportunities and with the scholarship support of the BYF, 38 youth enrolled in colleges and vocational educational schools in South Africa in 2016.
- Many of the youth participated in activities of their choice, including the Centre's drama group, where they practiced to present plays in South Africa and in the annual arts tour to the United States.
- BLC youth coordinated a 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary commemoration of the June 16<sup>th</sup> Soweto uprising, walking through Winterveldt singing and celebrating with games at the Centre.
- Through ADP, they participated in monthly writing workshops and vocational counseling led by instructors from the University of South Africa.

### A Vital International Partnership

The widening circle of Bokamoso supporters in the U.S. continues to find new ways to aid the youths' efforts to transform their lives. Creative ideas in 2015-2016 included an initiative by youth in the International Development Course at St. Andrew's Episcopal School to raise funds in support of specific projects in Winterveldt; a DC area yoga fundraising event, creatively marketed from South Africa with the Bokamoso youth in a yoga "tree pose"; and a U.S. June 16<sup>th</sup> commemoration featuring "Dinner and a Movie"—showing "Snakes and Lizards," a movie shown on South African television that was directed by Kenneth Mdluli and featured Pearl Mdluli, Mandla Sibanda, and Sipho Mokoena, all Bokamoso alumni.



***Bokamoso youth and children of St. Andrew's Episcopal School at the annual Bokamoso Dream Brunch***

In January-February 2016, 12 youth, led by Centre staff members Doreen Mnisi and Steve

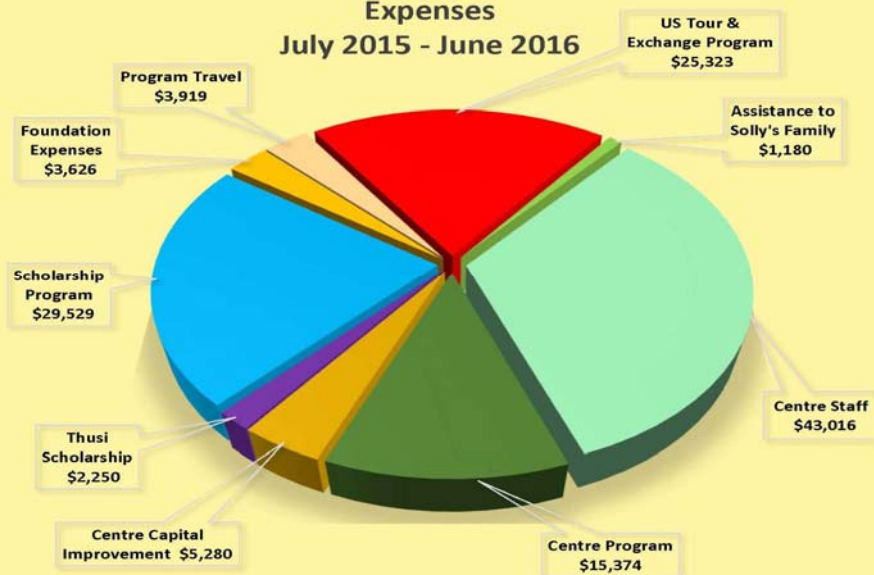
Baloyi, performed their plays, music and dances in the Washington DC area on the 15<sup>th</sup> annual U.S. tour (photo above). They participated with supporting organizations including **St. Andrew's Episcopal School (SAES), Seekers Church, George Washington University (GWU), Metropolitan Memorial United Methodist Church, All Souls Church, Westminster Presbyterian Church, and InterPlay.** With the Bokamoso Youth Foundation's support, they successfully raised funds to support the Centre operations and the scholarship program in South Africa.

To support Bokamoso, donate online at [www.bokamosoyouth.org](http://www.bokamosoyouth.org). Click on Support and select Donate. Or mail a check made out to the Bokamoso Youth Foundation to 3927 Military Road, Washington, DC 20045. The BYF is a U.S. tax-exempt 501C(3) charitable organization dedicated to transforming the lives of youth and empowering community leadership in Winterveldt, South Africa.

# **Bokamoso Youth Foundation Financial Statement July 2015 - June 2016**

Net Assets Beginning of Year	\$ 35,705
General Contributions	\$ 127,372
Contributions to Support Solly's Family	\$ 250
Thusi Scholarship Fund	\$ 2,500
Other Revenue	\$ 6,804
Expenses	\$ 129,497
Net Change	\$ 7,429
Net Assets End of Year	\$ 43,134

## **Bokamoso Youth Foundation Expenses July 2015 - June 2016**



**Number of students who have benefited from Bokamoso scholarships since 2008** **190**

**Number of scholarships awarded in the program since inception in 2008** **338**

**Number of host families who welcomed the South African youth into their homes in 2016** **14**

**Number of students who welcomed Bokamoso youth as guests at GWU in 2016** **12**



**The support of the Bokamoso Life Centre** has evolved as a creative partnership of a number of DC area groups and individual volunteers. Long-time supporting institutions include St. Andrew's Episcopal School, Seekers Church, George Washington University, Metropolitan Memorial United Methodist Church, All Souls Church, Westminster Presbyterian Church, First Baptist Church of North Brentwood, and a number of other local churches. The BYF Board of Directors: President, Roy Barber; Vice President, Dr. Constance Sullivan; Secretary, Stacy Kincaid; Treasurer, Charles Vance; Artistic Director, Prof. Leslie Jacobson; James Cawley, Dr. Louis Jacobson, Elese Sizemore, Kathryn Tobias.