



SALESIAN
INSTITUTE
YOUTH
PROJECTS



Teaching innovation. Sharing skills.
Inspiring hope. Rebuilding lives.

OUR VISION, OUR MISSION, OUR WORK

Transformational Youth Development Programmes The Salesian Institute Youth Projects serves the Greater Cape Town area and offers four key programmes for at-risk youth. These initiatives are overseen by a dedicated and capable Board of Directors, Management Committee, and a team comprising Salesians residing on-site, as well as professionals from corporate and education sectors. Empowering young individuals with both lifeskills and the vocational skills needed to forge their paths into employment, and or their own future endeavours, is a central component of our comprehensive learning programmes.



The Learn to Live School of Skills

The Learn to Live School of Skills Programme provides a 4-year curriculum for at-risk youth aged 14 to 18. The Learn to Live School is dedicated to providing education to learners who come from at-risk backgrounds. Our institution employs an integrated approach, specifically designed for youth facing socio-economic challenges that hinder their access to, or ability to cope with, mainstream schooling.

At the core of our teaching philosophy is Project-Based Learning (PBL), a dynamic methodology that aligns seamlessly with workplace expectations.

This approach enables us to address the diverse needs of our learners more effectively.

The Learn to Live Programme, deeply rooted in vocational training, aims to empower and prepare students for the demands of the professional world. We aspire not only to facilitate immediate job placement but also to instil the confidence and skills necessary for creating their own employment opportunities. Our comprehensive four-year curriculum is in line with the Western Cape Department of Education for schools of skills. We believe in equipping learners not just with academic knowledge but also with the practical life skills essential for success. Upon completion of the Learn to Live Programme, our graduates have various pathways to choose from. Whether they opt for learnerships, secure employment, embark on entrepreneurship ventures, or enrol in one of our specialised programs, we strive to provide a continuum of opportunities.

Currently, our five vocational workshops encompass a range of practical skills, including **Hospitality, Hairdressing, Electrical, Woodwork and the Auto-Mechanical Workshop**. These workshops are designed to enhance hands-on experience and proficiency in real-world applications. We maintain a stringent Child Protection Policy that is diligently adhered to by all staff and volunteers within our institute. This commitment ensures a safe and secure learning environment for every student, fostering a sense of trust and confidence in our educational community.



The Waves of Change (WOC) Maritime Training Facilitation Programme

The sea fishing industry plays a pivotal role in South Africa, particularly along the Western Cape coastline. Recognizing the need to empower youth with limited education levels, the Salesian Institute Youth Projects has taken proactive steps to facilitate gainful employment, allowing them to contribute to the financial well-being of their families and communities.

Situated near the Cape Town harbour, we have strategically partnered with prominent sea fishing companies in the sector. Additionally, we have collaborated with accredited training institutions approved by SAMSA (South African Maritime Safety Authority) to offer comprehensive training programmes for young men

and women aged 18 to 35, hailing from disadvantaged backgrounds. Our participants undergo a transformative 10-day Lifeskills Programme before progressing to Safety and Familiarization Courses. These courses encompass crucial elements such as Personal Survival Techniques, and participants obtain essential certifications including SAMSA Medical Certificates, Seafarer's Record Books, and certificates of discharge. While the Institute endeavours to cover some of these costs if funding permits, participants may need to contribute in cases where resources are limited. The maritime industry provides a unique career pathway for these youngsters, a prospect often hindered by insufficient education levels and challenging socio-economic circumstances in other sectors. Through this project, we aim to prepare them for employment opportunities in the maritime industry, offering a tangible and sustainable means of livelihood.



“Our mission is to provide for the physical, educational, and spiritual needs of youth at risk through the provision of education, counselling, recreation, and training, in a professional, caring, and secure environment. We honour Don Bosco’s calling to serve the youth and to build hope open hearts and transform minds.”

– Salesian Institute Youth Projects Board & Management –



Stitch Ahead Sewing Programme

The Stitch Ahead Sewing Programme empowers vulnerable youth aged 18 to 35 through a SETA-accredited, impact-driven short course for aspiring machinists. This intensive 4-month programme equips participants with the technical skills, practical experience, and professional values needed to pursue careers in the textile and clothing industries.

Participants receive hands-on training in industrial sewing, focusing on the Cut, Make, and Trim (CMT) process, garment construction, quality control, and interpreting basic patterns for standard products. In the final incubation phase, students are encouraged to design and develop their own creations, promoting creativity and entrepreneurial thinking.

Graduates emerge with a solid foundation for formal employment or the ability to generate income through informal or freelance work—positioning them to thrive in the growing gig economy.

NEETs Youth Employability Programme

NEET, an acronym denoting youth aged 18 to 27 Not Engaged in Employment, Education, or Training, represents a critical demographic that demands targeted intervention. The Salesian Institute Youth Projects is committed to addressing this challenge by implementing a multifaceted strategy. This intervention combines Lifeskills Training with Vocational Skill Training, presenting an innovative approach centred on student engagement through a project-based learning methodology.

This initiative extends this platform to cultivate work readiness among at-risk youth who haven’t completed their basic education. The NEETs beneficiaries are purposefully selected from specific identified disadvantaged communities within the greater Cape Town area.

This intentional selection aims to create a tipping point of social change within the beneficiaries’ communities, fostering a ripple effect of positive impact. Our programme is underpinned by a SETA-accredited in-house curriculum leading to a **National Certificate in New Venture Creations NQF 2 and Further Education and Training Certificate NQF 4**. The overarching goal is not just to educate but to empower, equipping these NEETs with the tools and knowledge needed to break the cycle of disengagement and create meaningful pathways to personal and community success.

The NEETS Youth Employability Programme recognized the growing demand for skilled workers in the renewable energy sector and introduced a dedicated technical component to its training offerings. As a result, it now provides a standalone 6- or 12-month QCTO-accredited **Solar Photovoltaic Mounter/Installer Course**.

Designed for youth aged 18 to 27, the course requires a minimum Grade 11 pass with pure mathematics and equips participants with the technical knowledge and hands-on experience needed to install and maintain solar photovoltaic systems.

With the global shift toward sustainable energy solutions, this qualification opens doors to promising career opportunities in the rapidly expanding solar energy industry, empowering young people to build stable, future-focused careers.

YOU CAN SUPPORT US

Donating cash, Snapscan, EFT or as a Bequest (All are tax-deductible).

IN SPIRIT Your prayers are always welcome for those who struggle to make their way in life.

IN-KIND We have an extensive wish list of items our programmes need, please refer to our website.



NPO – 003-313

HOW TO CONTACT US

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BANKING DETAILS

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