

# **Za FOUNDATION**

## **ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS**

**29TH APRIL 2010 TO 28TH FEBRUARY 2011**

**Registered Office: 36 High Street, Portishead, Bristol, BS20 6EN**  
**[www.zafoundation.org](http://www.zafoundation.org)**

### **Directors**

Lisa Penney (Chair)  
Jayne Morris-Thurgood  
Dawn Snape

Vusi Kubayi  
Cleopas Maseko  
Roxanne Gibb (to 20.10.11)

### **Secretary**

David Clarke

A Company Limited by Guarantee, incorporated by Memorandum and Articles of association since 23/02/2010  
Registered in England Company No 7166040  
Registered Charity No 1135748



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# Secretary's Report

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Welcome to the first annual report and accounts of Za Foundation.

Firstly, we would like to thank all our supporters for their generosity and their encouragement during the year. We are particularly grateful to those volunteers who give very considerable amounts of their time, their experience and their guidance to the Foundation. Without that support our work would be impossible.

A number of those supporters are also members of Za. During the year we have looked in detail at our governance arrangements and have put in place standing orders which have helped to clarify the distinction between members and Directors. This gives supporters the option of having greater involvement in our governance as members. Directors are recruited from our membership and we are keen to ensure that we have an appropriate range of skills at both member and Director level, as well as giving supporters the opportunity to become more involved in the day to day management of Za if they wish.

During the coming year we will strengthen our financial arrangements and in particular develop a policy for maintaining appropriate levels of reserves. This is something that we feel will become necessary as we grow as an organisation.

But what's most important is the work that we do to support our partners in South Africa, and particularly those affected by HIV/AIDS in that country, and to promote an understanding of those issues amongst young people here in the UK. We're doing that in a number of ways, and this report will tell you a little about some of the things we've achieved during the year. I hope that you will enjoy reading about them. If it encourages you to want to know more about us then please go to our website, [www.zafoundation.org](http://www.zafoundation.org).

David Clarke

Secretary



# Our aims and objectives

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Za Foundation aims to assist those affected by HIV/AIDS in South Africa and to work with local community partners in the Nkomazi area to provide holistic, sustainable support including assistance to relieve poverty, improve education and address healthcare needs.

Our primary focus is on the needs of children and young people in the rural Nkomazi region of South Africa. The area has one of the highest rates of HIV in the world and this has had a devastating impact on the lives of young people. Over half of the local population are under the age of 19 (53%) and there are now an estimated 12,000 orphans and vulnerable children living in Nkomazi. Za Foundation focuses on education and practical support as the best way to help young people change their future for the better.

Another key objective of our work is to promote greater understanding of HIV/AIDS and a greater sense of social responsibility, both here in the UK and in South Africa. We do this by building educational, supportive and mutually beneficial links between young people and their communities in the Nkomazi area of South Africa and North Somerset in the UK (where Za Foundation is based).

In reading this report, it is important to bear in mind that Za Foundation has its origins in the Youth in Action project which was initially envisaged as a one-off educational event bringing together young people from South Africa and the UK for a unique, performance based cultural encounter. That visit happened in June of 2009 and was so well received in the schools and communities of North Somerset that we set about creating a registered charity to take forward and expand upon this work. Although the 2009 Youth in Action visit precedes the period covered by this first Annual report as a charity, we would like to acknowledge it here as a major achievement and the catalyst for the creation of Za Foundation.

Since its inception, Za Foundation has supported a group of young educators and performers in the Nkomazi area who were originally called the Youth in Action group and are now known as 'Zakhele'. They use drama to teach other young people about HIV/AIDS and a variety of other key life skills issues. Every two years, we plan to bring Zakhele to the UK to provide drama-based workshops on HIV/AIDS to young people in secondary schools as well as a variety of performance-based global education workshops with children and young people at primary and secondary schools across North Somerset. The focus of this report is the year between the first and second visits of the group to the UK.

# Ensuring our work delivers our aims

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Za Foundation works in partnership with a long established, local registered charity in the Nkomazi area (Themba lethu). This collaborative approach helps to ensure that our projects stay focused on local community needs in the Nkomazi area, are delivered effectively and with maximum positive impact on local people. Two of Za's Directors live in the Nkomazi area and are part of the senior management team of Themba lethu. Additionally, UK Directors of Za Foundation travel to South Africa to monitor delivery of our projects there at least twice per year. The Zakhele Group are employed by Themba lethu, with funding from Za Foundation.

In the UK, our workshops in schools are planned and delivered in collaboration with representatives from North Somerset Council's Children and Young People's Services and teachers from local schools. This helps to ensure relevance in the UK context.

Additionally, to ensure that our activities are meeting our aims, we regularly evaluate key programmes. This includes a focus on programme outcomes, implementation and delivery from a variety of stakeholder perspectives. Za Foundation's Directors use this information to guide decisions about whether to continue specific activities and to feed into ongoing programme development.

Up to the end of February 2011, we conducted evaluations of:

- The first 'Youth in Action' (now Zakhele) workshops in 13 UK schools (which took place ten months before Za became a registered charity); and
- Evaluation of the pilot 'Za Babies' project in South Africa (Spring 2010)

We are committed to sharing the results of these evaluations with others as well as learning from them ourselves. To this end, we sent a copy of the first evaluation to the National Institute of Clinical Excellence in response to their call for evidence on 'what works in sex education' (September 2009). A copy of the evaluation report is also available from our website ([www.zafoundation.org](http://www.zafoundation.org)).

We plan to evaluate each of the Zakhele visits to the UK and have developed a core module of questions on HIV/AIDS knowledge, awareness and attitudes to be used to monitor changes over time and across schools. Additionally, we are exploring the use of a series of questions on experiences of and attitudes to global education used by IPSOS/MORI in a national survey undertaken for the Development Education Authority. Wherever possible, we aim to use existing tested questions that will generate comparative findings with other studies thereby adding to the existing evidence base in the most effective way possible.

We also plan to evaluate the Zakhele workshops in South African schools as this is essential to informing our programme development.

# The focus of our work

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The following represents a brief summary of our work during the period covered by this report (29th April 2010- 28th February 2011).

## **'Za Babies' pilot programme focusing on mother to child transmission of HIV**

Our first substantive project as a newly registered charity took place during the spring and early summer of 2010 with the launch of a pilot project in South Africa called Za Babies. The project was introduced when HIV testing of pregnant mothers was voluntary and drama was used to demonstrate how HIV is spread between partners and from mothers to their unborn babies. The goal was to encourage pregnant mothers to be tested for HIV so appropriate steps could be taken to prevent mother to child transmission of the virus. The Za Babies programme extended the outreach work that the Zakhele group does in Nkomazi schools to local antenatal clinics as well. A nurse volunteer with extensive HIV/AIDS experience in the rural, native communities of Canada flew out to Nkomazi and developed the project on behalf of Za Foundation. He created solid partnerships with nurses working in local clinics and brought the Zakhele group together with the nurses to create a drama consistent with local best practice on HIV/AIDS education. Beyond this, the Za Babies programme encouraged male partners of pregnant mothers to attend both the dramas and the question and answer sessions afterwards so that they too could understand and take responsibility for avoiding the spread of HIV.

Since the Za Babies pilot, the situation in the Nkomazi area has evolved considerably due to new government initiatives. There is now much more widespread access to life saving anti-retroviral drugs and compulsory HIV testing for pregnant mothers. Consequently, and in keeping with priorities identified by our local partner charity Thembaletu, we have taken the decision to focus less on issues related to palliative care for those with AIDS and instead to focus more on educational initiatives aimed at preventing the spread of HIV in future. We are also concerned with equipping young people with the personal, social and practical life skills they need to deal with the very challenging circumstances they face. We see the Za Babies work as consistent with these priorities and will look for opportunities to adapt the drama to the new circumstances in the area and roll it out more widely.

## **Global School Partnerships Grant from the British Council and reciprocal visits**

Another significant milestone for us during the year was a successful collaborative bid with North Somerset Council for a Local Authority Global School Partnership Grant from the British Council. The grant was awarded in September 2010 and enabled Za Foundation to work with North Somerset Council and Ehlanzeni District Education Department in South Africa to broker equitable and sustainable learning partnerships between 17 schools in the Nkomazi area and 17 schools in North Somerset. A wide variety of schools from across the educational spectrum have been partnered between the two areas including nursery schools, infant and junior schools, primary schools, secondary schools and special schools.

In February 2011, a delegation of teachers from partner schools, staff from North Somerset's Children and Young People's Services and a Director of Za Foundation visited schools in the Nkomazi area with funding from the Global School Partnerships Local Authority grant. They had a chance to meet their counterparts and see firsthand the challenges faced by schools and teachers in the region. As part of the same programme, a reciprocal visit from teachers and Ehlanzeni Department of Education staff is planned for June of 2011. These visits will help to identify the ways in which schools in the two countries can work together to exchange practices and encourage global education for the benefit of learners and educators in both countries.

## **World AIDS Day Exhibition at the At-Bristol children's science centre in Bristol, UK**

A first joint learning project was also initiated by Za Foundation to get the school partnerships off to a flying start in the autumn of 2010. This focused on 'Young People's Wishes for the World on World AIDS Day'. An exhibition of artwork and poetry from children and young people in the partner schools of both countries was created and displayed at the At-Bristol children's science museum in central Bristol in December of 2010. We plan to take the exhibition to South Africa as well so that it can be displayed for the benefit of children and young people in Nkomazi. A selection of artwork from the exhibition is available from the gallery page of our website ([www.zafoundation.org](http://www.zafoundation.org)).

## **Planning for the 2011 Zakhele workshops in UK schools**

Throughout the year, Za Foundation has actively engaged with local primary and secondary school teachers in the UK in preparation for the Zakhele Group's second visit to North Somerset schools (in June/July 2011). The goal has been to learn lessons from the first visit in 2009 and refine the programme of the workshops by offering more varied options at primary level, and incorporating more issues focusing on personal and global social responsibility as well as HIV/AIDS at secondary level. Planning meetings have been held several times with teachers at each level. We have also built partnerships with a wide range of other charities and local organisations such as Engineers without Borders, the Fairtrade Foundation, Transition Portishead, Envision, Terrence Higgins Trust, the Bloodhound Project and Solar Sense. Each has agreed to freely contribute their own expertise to school workshops designed to engage local young people and those from South Africa in discussions about their own perspectives on a range of global issues highlighted by these organisations.

This highlights another crucial element of the planning process which has been to secure the necessary funding for the visit. Our key source of grant funding for the first Youth and Action visit was a 'Find Your Talent' grant from North Somerset Council. The funding for these grants was discontinued as part of central government cutbacks and it has been necessary to seek funding from a wider range of smaller grants as well as donations and in-kind support from local businesses, churches and schools. As is the case for other charities in the current climate, a great deal of strategic planning and partnership building has been required to enable us to 'do more for less'.

## **Zakhele workshops in schools in South Africa**

While these preparations have been the focus of our work in the UK, Za has also supported Zakhele's work in South Africa financially as they developed and refined new dramas in Nkomazi schools focusing on teenage pregnancy, drugs and alcohol and the connections between these issues and the spread of HIV. The group also recruited and trained several new members during the course of the year.

## **Development of Za Foundation's infrastructure**

Apart from this programme of activities delivered in South Africa and the UK, Za's Directors, members and volunteers also spent time on several essential tasks to develop the core infrastructure of the charity as an organisation. We secured premises on the Portishead High Street at no cost to the charity and created a new web site to highlight our work which was funded via a generous private donation to the Foundation. We also recruited a Company Secretary, established a range of new and ongoing fundraising channels and expanded our membership. All of Za Foundation's work in the UK has relied entirely on services donated freely by volunteers and as our overhead costs are negligible, this has enabled us to use our grant funding almost entirely for core programme delivery.

We are also planning and looking forward to the official launch of Za Foundation as a charity which is timed to coincide with the Zakhele visit to the UK in July of 2011.

# How our activities deliver public benefit

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In South Africa and the UK, our activities during this first year as a registered charity have benefited children and young people primarily by adding value to existing provision.

For example, schools in the Nkomazi area are over stretched and are dealing with a very high ratio of learners to staff (eg, about one staff member to 90 learners at primary level). Zakhele workshops have gone beyond the basic compulsory teaching of the Life Skills curriculum that most schools offer. They engage learners directly via drama-based scenarios and make lessons more accessible, enjoyable and thought-provoking. This is especially important in a context where many learners are orphaned and vulnerable and are unlikely to learn at home about issues like drugs, alcohol, teenage pregnancy, violence, bullying and HIV transmission.

Our evaluation of the Youth in Action workshops in UK schools (2009) demonstrated that this is an effective approach to teaching. The evaluation findings showed a statistically significant increase in knowledge of HIV transmission after the workshops and a significant decline in negative attitudes towards people living with HIV/ AIDS. Although learning about HIV transmission is part of the PHSE curriculum in the UK, young people felt that it was more meaningful and interesting to learn about these issues from other young people whose lives had been directly affected by HIV and via the medium of drama. Increased knowledge and understanding of how transmission occurs and a reduction in the stigma associated with HIV (thereby potentially increasing willingness to be tested) are essential to combating the spread of HIV and improving quality of life for people living with the virus, both here and in South Africa.

The Za Babies project enhanced the education that nurses in antenatal clinics were able to provide and, for the first time, included male partners of pregnant mothers in HIV education. The evaluation found that nurses in the antenatal clinics felt that this was a valuable addition to the basic education that they could impart during the brief time they had available with each woman. They were especially positive that fathers were participating in these activities as well. Pregnant mothers also described how the use of drama helped them to understand more clearly how transmission occurs between partners and from a mother to her baby and what they need to do to avoid it. Nurses recommended that this approach should be rolled out to more antenatal clinics in the area as well as to other public venues where people disinclined to attend clinics would also be able to benefit from this information.

# Who used and benefited from our services?

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The following provides a brief summary of who used and benefited from the services of Za Foundation during time period covered by this report.

- Teachers and pupils from the 34 schools involved in the North Somerset- Ehlanzeni Global School Partnerships. The 17 schools in Nkomazi have also benefited via support for the development of internet access and basic internet training to enable them to participate in the Global School Partnerships on an equal footing with North Somerset schools. Improved internet access should also impact positively on teachers' ability to access educational resources available via the web.
- Teachers and pupils from five further schools in North Somerset and Bristol that are not part of the Global School Partnership programme but had Youth in Action workshops during the first visit of the group to the UK (Backwell School, Backwell Junior School, Gordano School, Clevedon School, Cotham School).
- 122 pregnant women and 91 men in Nkomazi who took part in the Za Babies pilot programme.
- Approximately 5,600 young people in five secondary schools in Nkomazi participated in Zakhele workshops and school assemblies on HIV awareness, alcohol and drug abuse, teenage pregnancy and other life skills issues.
- Za Foundation provided a stipend, lunch and travel costs for 14 Zakhele members to attend training and rehearsals at the Thembaletu community centre throughout the year. This was the only source of income for many of these young people in an area with an extremely high unemployment rate (over 70%). It also gave them valuable work experience and free access to computers and the internet at Thembaletu's community centre.
- Children and young people from 10 schools in Nkomazi and North Somerset participated in the At-Bristol World Aids Day Exhibition. Additionally, two art students from the University of the West of England benefited from practical work experience in helping to curate the exhibition. We do not have specific information about how many members of the public saw and learned from the free World AIDS Day exhibition during the week it was on display in the windows of the At-Bristol science centre, but a rough estimate based on the average number of school pupils attending the museum in a week would put the figure at approximately 770 school children and young people. This does not include members of the public who saw the exhibition as they walked through Millennium Square (the exhibition panels were visible both from within the museum and from the exterior).

Appendix 1 provides a summary overview of Za Foundation's aims, how we have addressed them during the course of the year and the public benefits associated with our activities.

# Looking to the future

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Highlights of our current and future plans for the next three years are summarised below.

1. Evaluate the impact of the Zakhele Group's work in South Africa.
2. In the light of evaluation findings, refine the format of future Zakhele Group visits to the UK and associated school workshops.
3. Plan and deliver successful Zakhele workshops to schools in North Somerset every two years (including the next visit in June/July 2011).
4. Plan and deliver a fundraising charity launch during the Zakhele Group visit in July 2011.
5. Continue to broaden our funding base, particularly seeking grant funding and corporate sponsorship for Zakhele's educational work in South Africa and for the two yearly visits to UK schools.
6. Develop and implement new projects to support educational provision in Nkomazi including: sending books for schools; and arranging for the Childrens' Wishes for the World exhibition to travel to South Africa to be displayed for the benefit of children and young people there.
7. Continue to provide support to Global School Partnership schools including practical support and guidance to support schools in both countries; and practical and financial support to enhance internet access among the Nkomazi Global School Partnership schools.
8. Purchase a mini-van to transport the Zakhele Group to schools and other venues in Nkomazi to extend their capacity for educational outreach work.
9. Provide funding for the Zakhele Group to organise and deliver high profile awareness raising events in Nkomazi targeted at young people at least once per year.
10. Analyse options for the Za Babies programme and consider rolling out more widely among antenatal clinics.
11. Develop further strategic partnerships with businesses and charities in the UK and SA to enhance our impact.

# Fund Account as at 28th February 2011

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	£
<b>Assets</b>	
Donations Receivable	2,171.89
Gift Aid receivable	1,323.75
Bank and cash	11,848.61
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	15,344.25
	-----
<b>Liabilities</b>	
Payables	- 12,030.70
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	-----
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>3,313.55</b>
	=====
<b>Reserves</b>	
Transferred from Income and Expenditure Account	3,313.55
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<b>Total Reserves</b>	<b>3,313.55</b>
	=====

- For the year ending 28th February 2011 the company was entitled to exemption under section 477(2) of the Companies Act 2006 relating to the small companies regime.
- The members have not required the company to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.
- The Directors acknowledge their responsibility for:
  - i) ensuring the company keeps accounting records which comply with section 386; and
  - ii) preparing accounts which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of the financial year, and of its profits or loss for the financial year, in accordance with the requirements of section 393, and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act relating to accounts so far as is applicable to the company.
- The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

Approved by the board on: 13.11.2011

And signed on their behalf by:

J Morris-Thurgood, Director

## 1. Accounting Policies

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Small Entities effective January 2005.

**Appendix 1: Overview of Za Foundation's aims, activities and public benefits,  
29th April 2010- 28th February 2011**

<b>Za Foundation's aims</b>	<b>How aims have been addressed</b>	<b>Public Benefit</b>
<p>Assist those affected by HIV/AIDS in South Africa by relieving poverty, improving education, addressing healthcare needs.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Za Babies pilot programme used drama and facilitated discussions to improve understanding of mother to child transmission of HIV.</li> <li>• Zakhele drama workshops in schools in the Nkomazi area focusing on key issues in the life skills curriculum</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 122 pregnant women and 91 men in four villages in Nkomazi took part in the pilot project which was positively evaluated by local nurses and participants.</li> <li>• 5,600 young people participated in Zakhele workshops and assemblies in five schools in Nkomazi</li> </ul>
<p>Promote greater understanding of HIV/AIDS and greater social responsibility, both in South Africa and the UK</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• World AIDS Day exhibition</li> <li>• North Somerset/Ehlanzeni Global School Partnerships support</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Children and young people from ten schools in Nkomazi and North Somerset submitted work for the World AIDS Day exhibition. Two local university students gained work experience by curating the exhibition. 770 school children and young people as well as members of the public had free access to the exhibition in central Bristol.</li> <li>• Teachers, children and young people from the 34 schools in the UK and South Africa that participate in the Nkomazi/North Somerset Global School Partnerships programme and have access to advice and support from Za 'ambassadors' in each country.</li> </ul>