

Ikamva Labantu Organisational Profile



Vision

Communities where people thrive

Mission

To work with active community leaders by following their direction, acknowledging their ownership and providing access to resources and opportunities.



The Ikamva Labantu Story

In the early 1960s, Helen Lieberman and other courageous activists responded to the unjust conditions of South African Apartheid by setting up survival initiatives in the Western Cape. This led to a groundswell of similar initiatives being established in other parts of the country. Over the decades, this work expanded in many different fields, including early childhood development, disability care, foster homes, shelters, elderly care, economic empowerment, food security and youth development. In 1992, the coordination of these initiatives was formalised and Ikamva Labantu, meaning “Future of The People”, was launched as a non-governmental and non-profit organisation.

Today, Ikamva Labantu works throughout Cape Town’s township communities towards a more just society where human rights can be fully actualised. Ikamva Labantu’s work focuses on early childhood development, the wellbeing of older persons and afterschool initiatives that keep children safe and off the streets.

Ikamva aims to create sustainable socio-economic change within Cape Town’s township communities.

We are proud to work towards the following Sustainable Development Goals:



All programmes are supported by the Ikamva Labantu Health and Family Services.



Early Childhood Development (ECD)

The first years of a child's life form the foundation upon which they build their future. But millions of children in Cape Town's township communities do not have access to quality early education. The ECD programme trains community principals and practitioners in best-practice techniques and supports them with educational equipment and learning materials so that they can implement their learnings at their preschools.

More than 400 small businesses (community preschools) are assisted with registering with the Department of Social Development to run successful and effective operations that serve their communities well. This process allows them access to government subsidies.

Annual operating budget for the ECD programme **R10.3m**



Seniors

Cape Town's elderly need urgent support. Many older persons live on their meagre pension of R1,890 per month, which usually supports their large extended families. They face social, health and financial challenges and are often subject to abuse, neglect and isolation.

Through the network of Ikamva Labantu's 21 Senior Clubs, active ageing is promoted and a supportive environment is created for older persons. Health and psychological support, daily nutritious meals, income-generating activities, home-based care and assistance with applying for government grants is provided. Umelwanes, 'neighbourhood friends', find and visit those too frail to attend the clubs. More than 1300 elderly people age with dignity every year.

Annual operating budget for the Seniors' programme **R17,4m**



Afternoon Angels

Afternoon Angels is a community initiative, supported by Ikamva Labantu, that aims to keep school children safe and off the streets after school. A group of 29 women have opened their homes to local children to provide a place of safety where they can receive a nutritious meal, emotional support, and a safe space to play with stimulating fun activities, while they wait for their guardians to return from work. This initiative helps to keep children away from the dangers of crime, gangsterism and substance abuse that they may otherwise be exposed to on the streets. Afternoon Angels currently reaches over 1600 children and Ikamva Labantu assists the mamas with food, resources and support.

Annual operating budget for the Afternoon Angels programme

R7.7m



Ikamva Ventures

Ikamva Labantu has a proud history of supporting local community projects called ventures. Ventures are either social development or income-generating community-owned activities.

Ikamva Labantu supports these thought leaders and change-makers with training resources and mentoring. Examples of ventures include: Group gardening for sale of produce, woodwork products, sewing design factory, Chess Academy, afterschool homework coaching to improve academics, teen moms to support young unmarried women, environmental and animal care and many more.

Annual operating budget for the Ikamva Ventures Programme

R617k

Ikamva Labantu's Annual Operating Budget is

R49.9m

*This includes capital expenditure costs, support infrastructure, special projects and new programme development.

Ikamva Design

Ikamva Design is a social enterprise initiative of Ikamva Labantu that creates job opportunities for senior citizens and women in the township neighbourhoods. An extra income to meet basic needs makes a real difference to their household. The dignity and independence this gives families means their children and grandchildren have a more stable upbringing. Ikamva Design is working together with community crafters to expand their range of designs and find relevant business opportunities both locally and internationally.

The heart of Ikamva Design is to create income for Senior Citizens through design creations. The seniors empower and teach each other through problem solving and design solutions.

Sustainability

Ikamva Labantu employs over 120 community-based staff who work with people daily to alleviate the unrelentingly harsh conditions that they face. We believe in the power of collaboration and often enter into partnerships with other NGOs and community-based organisations. A large and diverse donor base is the enabler behind the programmes and service centres which are well established within the communities that we serve. With the collective power of our donors support, the programmes will expand and strengthen to meet the growing need for critical services. The centres have been designed so that the infrastructure allows for the expansion of Ikamva's operation when the opportunity arises.

Ikamva Labantu has recently established the Helen Lieberman Community Development Trust, an Endowment Fund that aims to create a self-funding model for the future. A new Bequest Programme was launched in 2019.

Broad-based black economic empowerment (BEE)

The Ikamva Labantu Empowerment Trust (ILET) is a long term financial sustainability strategy for Ikamva Labantu. It takes up active shareholding in partner businesses helping them to meet their BBBEE shareholding regulations. It offers CSI obligation advice and analysis of the country's socio-economic and political conditions. For the duration of the BBBEE deals, Ikamva Labantu benefits from ILET distributions made possible by ILET's investments.

Since 2014, ILET has distributed a total sum of \$1m to Ikamva Labantu.

Governance

Ikamva Labantu prides itself on good governance and is fortunate to be supported by an extensive donor community- the real power behind the programmes. Our committed Board of Trustees and Protectors is made up of individuals who are dedicated to the Ikamva Labantu community. We are immensely grateful to the loyal Board of Trustees for Friends of Ikamva Labantu (FOIL) USA and UK for spearheading our international activities.

Ikamva Labantu Board of Trustees

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