

## Kanako Social Responsibility Programme Supporting Learners in 2025



The Kanako Social Responsibility (KSR) Programme stands as one of SIOC-CDT's key social investment initiative that responds timely to the everyday needs of learners, mostly in the under served communities across our beneficiary communities in the Northern Cape and Limpopo provinces. In 2025, the programme continued to grow in reach and impact, directly enhancing the learning experience for thousands of learners through essential, dignity

focused support. KSR was developed as a response to the invisible but deeply felt challenges that learners faces i.e. lack of basic hygiene, school supplies, and proper clothing. These issues are often overlooked in formal education strategies but play a critical role in learner confidence, attendance, and participation, and as such if not well addressed, they become serious impediments to the education of our communities.

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## Editor's Note



During the 2025 Africa Children Summit, a platform that brought together 1300 children from 17 of Africa's 54 states to discuss amongst themselves matters affecting children in Africa, held in Johannesburg from 4 – 7 April 2025, the continental delegates made a collective re-awakening statement, echoing a vision for a better future, one where every child has access to education, equality, safety and the chance to thrive. As SIOC-CDT we have several initiatives that seeks to contribute towards answering this collective call.

In this issue, you will read about our Kanako Social Responsibility programme (KSR), an initiative we use to provide timely response to the needs of learners from schools in our beneficiary communities to ensure that those who are most needy, have equal opportunity to be in class and have all the required learning material, and that all other hindrances brought about by challenging socio-economic circumstances of families are suppressed, to allow the focus of the learners to be on learning.

At the beginning of the 2025FY we launched the Beneficiary Communities Discretionary Grant Fund programme, an initiative aimed at encouraging community members in our beneficiary communities to engage in activities that foster self-sustainability, resilience and pride in their community. The initiative has been warmly welcomed by community members, with several applications being submitted from all our five beneficiary communities.

The initiatives undertaken by community members through the fund were also very inspiring, the stories are also contained in this issue. We are indeed moving intensified collaboration and co-creation with our beneficiary communities.

Another interesting story is on our newly introduced artisanal skills training with entrepreneurial and employability prospects for the youth. We are sharing more visual show of our initiatives to get you as close as possible to the work of the Trust.

I hope you enjoy the reading and invite you to continue the journey with us in the issues to follow.

**Editor:**  
**Mosimanegape Macomo**

## Kanako Social Responsibility Programme



The programme started in 2020 and has since grown from the then school shoes programme to now cover four critical areas of providing full school uniform, matric exam packs, sanitary towels and dignity packs. Through these four key interventions, the programme has touched 95 schools in the beneficiary communities of Joe Morolong, Ga-Segonyana, Gamagara, Tsantsabane, and Thabazimbi.

### 1. Shool Uniform and Stationery Drive

In 2025, over 1,140 learners received full school uniforms, including shoes and basic stationery. Identified schools across all five beneficiary municipality areas benefited from this support.

### 2. Matric Exam Packs

Recognizing the pressures of matric, SIOC-CDT distributed well over 2,200 exam support packs to Grade 12 learners from 24 high schools this year. Each pack included a calculator, stationery, and exam essentials.

### 3. Sanitary Towel Distribution

Quarterly sanitary towel distributions were rolled out to over 3,380 identified female learners across primary, middle and high schools. This intervention is acknowledged to impact-fully help reduce absenteeism, restore dignity, and promote menstrual health awareness.

### 4. Dignity Packs

In recognition of hygiene as a fundamental need, SIOC-CDT provided 900 learners with Dignity Packs — personal hygiene kits including soap, deodorant, toothpaste, and sanitary items. These were distributed across all beneficiary communities, with each identified participating school receiving packs for up to 30 learners.

The impact of the Kanako Social Responsibility Programme is visible not just in numbers but in the changed lives of learners who now attend school with confidence, dignity, and motivation.

It has Improved school attendance and learner participation and reduced stigmatization of learners from disadvantaged background while boosting learner morale and academic engagement. A further spin-off to this programme is its effort stimulating local economies through sourcing from community-based suppliers.

Kanako Social Responsibility Programme is a commitment to uplifting communities by ensuring that every learner has a fair chance at success — regardless of their background. As SIOC-CDT continues to walk alongside its communities, programme like KSR serve as a powerful reminder that dignity and opportunity must go hand in hand.

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

- Dr Nelson Mandela



# GRANT FUND

## *SIOC-CDT Launches Community Discretionary Fund to Support Local Initiatives*

SIOC Community Development Trust (SIOC-CDT) has launched the Beneficiary Communities Discretionary Fund Programme, an initiative aimed at supporting small but impactful projects that fall outside the Trust's main development focus areas of (1) Education, Training and Skills Development (2) Health and Wellness (3) Emergent Needs and (4) Enterprise Development. This fund is designed to encourage community-led solutions that build pride, resilience, and a shared sense of purpose. Since its introduction from the start of 2025 to date, sixteen (16) initiatives have already been approved and funded. The fund is equally distributed among the five SIOC-CDT beneficiary communities of Gamagara, Ga-Segonyana, Joe

Morolong, Tsantsabane, and Thabazimbi, and overseen by organization's Community Representative Trustees to ensure fair and transparent allocation.

The programme supports a wide range of non-infrastructure projects. These include activities that promote community pride and resilience, such as cleaning campaigns, food gardens, and support for vulnerable groups mainly women, youth, children and people with disabilities. It also welcomes awareness and education-driven events, particularly those aligned with national or global causes like poverty eradication or environmental campaigns. Additionally, the fund supports initiatives in sports, arts, and

recreational activities, helping to foster active lifestyles and celebrate local talent and culture. With a straightforward application process, a maximum grant of R50,000 per initiative per year, and a fast turnaround time, the fund empowers communities to act on the issues that matter most to them, "one impactful project at a time". Through this initiative, SIOC-CDT reaffirms its commitment to inclusive development by enabling grassroots action and investing in the heart of its communities.

For more information or to apply, please visit our website: [www.sioc-cdt.co.za](http://www.sioc-cdt.co.za) or one of our offices nearest to you (see addresses on the last page).





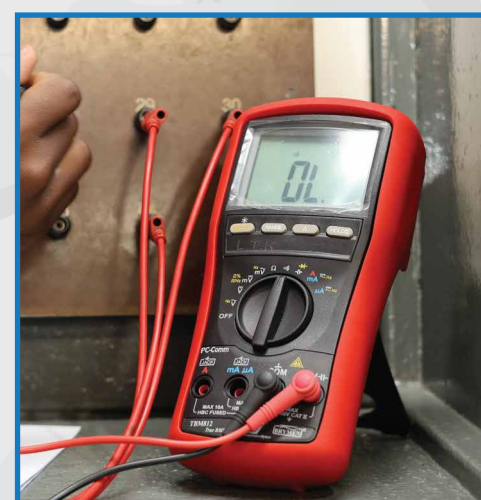
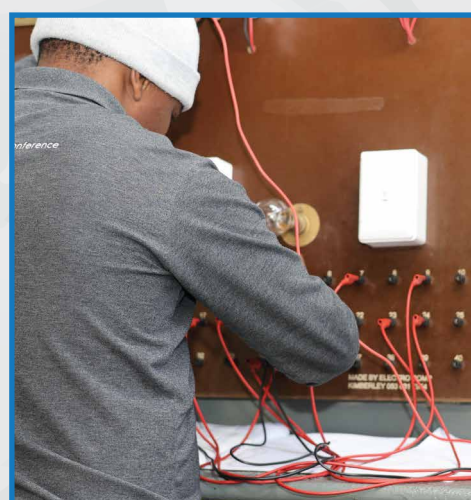
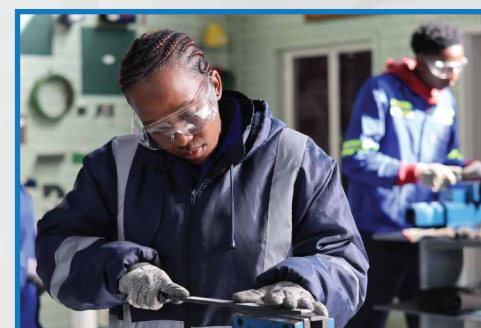
## SIOC-CDT Artisanal Skills Programme Aims to Open Employment Doors for Youths

Many young people are unable to access funding to continue their studies, find access to alternative forms of education or access to skills to either take them into employment or become self-employed. Women seem to be more disadvantaged in terms of access to the economy through employment.

While SIOC-CDT and the Department of Education are continuing with the collaboration to strengthen the public-school education system by embarking on sustainable long-term initiatives to strengthen the education system in the beneficiary communities it serves, an apprenticeship training programme was deemed necessary as an alternative initiative which serve to give exposure to deserving learners who have the passion and aptitude to develop much needed artisanal skills for the country.

Through this programme, it is aimed that 50 identified unemployed learners from the Northern Cape and Limpopo will be trained and with the skills that they acquire, it is expected they will be enabled to become employable, to enter the job market and become income earners in their communities. This will contribute to alleviating poverty and reducing the high level of youth unemployment in beneficiary communities. The learners will further be afforded the opportunity to obtain their learners and drivers licenses (those who would not have by the time of enrollment into the programme) which has become a requirement for most job opportunities for artisans in the workplace and also enable them to move more freely where distances can be a challenge. It is anticipated that all 50 learners will be identified and placed onto the programme to obtain their trade qualification over the 24-to-36-month period.

The programme for the various trades is highly structured both theory and practical, with specific entry level requirements and offers various industry work opportunities per trade. The skills obtained also vary across the various trades. On the 7th June 2025, the first group of 22 learners descended at the Artisans Training Institute in Kimberley to start with the programme. A further 28 learners began on 14 July 2025, making a complete cohort of 50 learners in the programme. "We hope this initiative will push boundaries and open doors for these youth for opportunities in the employment or entrepreneurship market", says Moloko Malahlela, Programme Manager-Education, Training and Skills Development.



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