

2020 Regional Report

SOUTH AFRICA



impact one. together we can impact many

OVERVIEW

2020 has been a year like none other. As government restrictions were put in place to slow the spread of COVID-19, ministry has been impacted, and Young Life staff and leaders have had to adapt. New ways of reaching teens have been developed through online clubs, video call campaigner groups and old-fashioned phone calls.

While traditional Young Life camps could not take place once shutdowns occurred, Young Life leaders were still reaching teens in South Africa, sharing the hope that Jesus offers.

THANK YOU for your partnership that spurs on this ministry. We are so grateful to have friends like you who are covering us in prayer and sacrificing time and treasure to impact teens in this part of the world! Read on to see how God worked in South Africa during the past year.

FROM THE STAFF

This year we had change how we do ministry. When we were not allowed to meet in person, we went digital. Our leaders met on Zoom, Facebook, and WhatsApp. Leaders held prayer meetings, planning meetings, campaigners, and clubs online. Leaders had to find innovative ways to reach teenagers.

In April leaders started calling teenagers they were walking alongside and shared the gospel with them over the phone. It was not easy at first since most of the teens do not have phones, but we persisted for the opportunity to share Christ with our friends. It has been a joy to see many of them accept Jesus as their LORD and SAVIOR!

Ezra Matthews
AREA DIRECTOR, SOUTH AFRICA

THE IMPACT...

2,093 teens known by name



CLIMBING AND PRAYING

In Young Life Africa, prayer is always first. The Young Life staff and leaders decided to climb and pray together. They climbed a mountain in South Africa called Modimolle, which loosely translated means "God has eaten". The mountain is surrounded by many myths, one of them being that if you climb it, you won't come back! At the top, they spent hours praying together over the ministry and specifically their maps as they prepare to start back up with in-person ministry.



THE NUMBERS



GOSPEL PHONE CALLS

When in-person ministry stopped due to COVID-19, leaders and staff started calling teens and sharing the gospel with them. They boldly asked these teens if they would like to accept Christ right there over the phone. The impact was incredible and in many cases eternal.

589 teens have been reached since April. In total, 22 teens have given their lives to Jesus over the phone because a Young Life leader extended the invitation. And regardless of their response, leaders continue to reach out to every teen they have called, pursuing them with the love of Jesus!

18

TOTAL MINISTRIES

4

STAFF

68

VOLUNTEER
LEADERS

805

KIDS IN
CLUBS/WEEK

457

KIDS IN DISCIPLESHIP
GROUPS/WEEK

IN HIS WORDS

"Young Life changed me. I no am longer a disrespectful gang member. I am now a responsible, respectful, believer of Jesus Christ."

- SAM, VOLUNTEER LEADER