



NLC Funded Projects Success Story Questionnaire - 2025

Section 1: Organizational Information

- Organisation Details:
 - ✓ Project Title: **COACH – Coalition of Anglican Children’s Home**
 - ✓ Project Number: **M56 991**

Section 2: Project Overview 2. Project

Summary: Brief Description of the Project:

COACH is a non-profit organization dedicated to providing a safe, stable, and loving home for children who have experienced neglect, abuse, or abandonment. The mission of the organisation is to nurture the physical, emotional, intellectual, and spiritual well-being of every child, equipping them with personal & socio-economic tools to increase their chances of reaching their full potential.

About the Project: COACH’s application to NLC was its work in two children’s homes and its Social Worker & Community Development Worker’s Training programs.

Children’s homes: These two homes have over 30 children who are placed in their care through court orders. They live in these facilities and attend school from there. The homes ensure that all their needs (educational, physical, emotional, and social) are attended to by professionals. Programs that are run to address these areas of need include: therapy sessions, one-on-one counselling sessions, life skills, sports and recreation, and parental empowerment training workshops. And adult education & economic development trainings and activities.

Social Workers & Child & Youth Care Workers’ Training Programs. COACH celebrated its centenary in 2025. Having been in existence for over a hundred years means that the organisation has accumulated a lot of experience in this field. This experience and capacity are now being ploughed back into communities through the training of Social Workers and Child & Youth Care Workers.

- Duration of the Project: July 2024 – July 2025
- Total of NLC Funding Received: R540,000

Section 3: Community Impact 3. Community Reach

- Geographic Location(s):

St. George's Children's Home is in Kempton Park (Ekurhuleni);
St. Nicholas Children's Home is at Sophiatown (City of Johannesburg).
The social worker's training program targets trainees from all over Gauteng.



- Target Population:

St. George's Children's Home

The St. George's Home serves young people between the ages of 14 and 18 years old who have **learning disabilities**. Historically disadvantaged communities and families generally do not have the knowledge and tools to support children with learning impairments. Almost all children who arrive at St. George would have spent years failing or performing badly in mainstream schools.

St. George has a Social Worker who starts by providing counselling and therapy that enable its beneficiaries to accept themselves and move to a point where their self-esteem is restored. This intervention includes family members of beneficiaries and other people who are part of his/her support structure.

The Social Worker organizes other experts who come and provide therapy and services that address other needs of children. Therapy seeks to help children discover their inner strengths, recognize their own potential, and know how to exploit opportunities for their benefit.

St. George Life Campus Program. St. George also offers a range of developmental training that helps beneficiaries grow as individuals and acquire the skills needed to become independent, productive citizens. The center runs an ABET Education Programme, which is available to all young people five days a week for four hours each day. The ABET program provides education from the foundation phase up to Level 4, focusing on seven learning areas: English Literacy, Math Numeracy, Natural Science, Social Science, Economics and Management Science, and Life Orientation.

The goal of this program is to reduce illiteracy rates within the communities we serve and to provide young people with ample opportunities to grow and develop into responsible, productive members of their families and communities. They are an essential part of society and are considered future leaders. Additionally, upon completing Abet level 4, each young person is offered further vocational training in a field of their choice. The purpose of vocational training is to empower young people with skills that can help them find employment.

In addition to this, in view of the practical nature of the Life Campus programme, young people are also equipped with relevant life skills and social skills to empower them to be able to cope with the demands of the workplace and to deal with challenges effectively. In this light, the Life Campus programme thus provides young people with structure and guidelines in terms of achieving their goals. Moreover, young people who have completed level four and show the ability and have an interest in studying further are then registered with outside colleges to do their Abet matric.

St. Nicholas Children's Home caters for Children between the ages of 5-18 years old, who are at risk and found to need care and protection according to the Children's Act are placed in the therapeutic residential care programme where they are provided with adequate accommodation, good nutritious food, clothing, education and basic health care within a safe, structured and empowering environment and where they are engaged in intensive therapy aimed at helping them overcome emotional barriers resulting from the abuse, neglect and abandonment they have suffered.



- Number of Beneficiaries:
 - a) **St. George's Children's Home and Life Camps** - 16 primary beneficiaries (Children in the home). About 30 family members of children in our care are secondary beneficiaries.
 - b) **St. Nicholas** - 15 primary beneficiaries (Children in the home). About 60 family members of children in our care and people who act as their support network, are secondary beneficiaries.
 - c) **Training of Social workers** – between 25 to 30 Social Work students

- Notable Success Stories:

St. Nicholas Children's Home: From Silence to Strength

Naledi Khumalo arrived at St. Nicholas Home for Children feeling shy, withdrawn, and unsure of herself. Living with eczema and experiencing bullying at school had severely impacted her confidence. She often thought she was not good enough and avoided interacting with others.*

School was tough for Naledi, and she frequently went home upset after being teased about her appearance. Over time, she started neglecting her self-care and withdrew even more. The emotional pain became overwhelming, and she needed support to handle her anxiety and sadness.

The social worker at St. Nicholas intervened by addressing the bullying at school and making sure Naledi's safety was protected. At the Home, Naledi received counseling and joined group sessions focused on self-esteem and self-acceptance. The child and youth care workers also played a key role by encouraging her daily and reminding her of her worth.

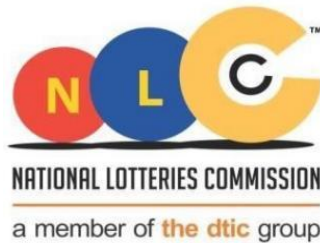
Over time, Naledi began to see herself differently. She gained confidence, started taking care of herself again, and became more engaged with others.

*Today, Naledi is confident and expressive. She speaks up for herself and helps other children who are struggling. Her journey demonstrates how consistent care, encouragement, and support can help a child heal and grow. *Not her real name*

St. George's Children's Home

Two young people (Thabo* and Lwazi*) completed their Level 4 subjects and achieved higher credits. This positive outcome can be directly linked to the acquisition of a projector screen and additional educational resources that were purchased with NLC funds.

These equipments enhanced the visual learning of Thabo and Lwazi, who previously struggled to see writing on a normal board. Level 4 subjects are equivalent to grade 9. The youngsters can register for courses at an FET college or register for their Abet matric. *Not their real names



- **Jobs Created (Number and Types):**

COACH staff complement is as follows:

Full-time staff (FT); Part-time & Outsourced staff & Consultants (PT/ OS)

Department	No. of staff member
St. George's Children's Home	15 (FT)
St. Nicolas' Children's Home	12 (FT)
COACH Administration Office	04 (FT)
Special services	05 (PT/ OS)
Total	36

COACH has multiple sources of income. Lottery funds contributed to the salaries of some of these staff members one way or another. Most COACH staff members would employ other people in their personal capacity. This means that NLC funds have contributed to other secondary jobs.

- **Plans for Sustaining the Project:**

COACH has been operating for over a century, developing effective strategies to secure resources for its children's homes, all of which are fully owned. The administration will be relocating to a property owned by the Anglican Church as part of their partnership, eliminating rental costs and focusing fundraising efforts on maintenance and services.

Recognized for providing high-quality support to children affected by abuse, neglect, and abandonment, COACH has built a strong base of sponsors who donate essentials like clothing, toys, and stationery. Sometimes, business people volunteer to do maintenance work at no charge.

The organization also raises funds from corporate sponsors, foundations, and limited government sources, with a professional fundraiser leading these initiatives alongside the Managing Director and board members. Diversifying income sources is vital for sustainability, and COACH's Section 18A status strengthens these efforts.

- **Income-Generating Activities:**

COACH is currently contracted by the Gauteng Department of Social Development to run Social Work training for Social Work students in the Province. COACH is paid for this service and will be looking for ways to attract more resources through this service.

The other area with potential is COACH's relationship with the Anglican Church. COACH often engages local parishes and urges members and different departments to support its work. This approach enables the two homes to receive both in-kind and financial donations. The church has members with business expertise who can assist COACH with ways it can initiate Social Enterprise activities and generate income. This will be explored soon.



- Future goals

Future goals come up as implementing teams and leadership look at risks and think of ways to mitigate them. They are also formulated to strengthen what works and change things that do not work. They include:

- ✚ Address issues of Future Independence & Transition Support of young people in our homes by creating a transition-to-adulthood program and independent living skills for teens.
- ✚ To find ways of creatively mobilising agencies that could address poverty in families of children in our care
- ✚ Raise funds for the “Life Campus” program and run it effectively
- ✚ Mobilise church members to step up and avail themselves to be trained to assist COACH in areas where it is difficult to do family visits because of distance and other challenges.
- ✚ Profiling individual kids and looking for supporters who can adopt them. This must be done within the confines of the law and in the interest of the child.
- ✚ Rebuilding the website and using social media to raise the profile of the COACH brand