

# TSS KUSILE PAYING IT FORWARD

What a humbling experience it is to participate in Mandela Day initiatives. We are reminded, not only of how fortunate we are, but of the basic needs of the communities that surround us. It is also a reminder of how very little of our time and resources can actually make a huge difference in the lives of those less fortunate than us.

For Mandela Day this year, TSS Kusile planned an initiative under the theme, 'Supporting the Youth to Safeguard our Future'. In fact, we were fortunate enough to participate in two Mandela Day drives in our community.

We partnered with Eskom Generations and the Madressa Tul-umar Charity Home. Madressa Tul-umar was established when Ayisha Sonto started caring for the children of a family that had lost both parents in 2003. Soon after, the number of children increased. Madressa Tul-umar is currently home to 45 orphaned children aged between three months and 21 years. Some of the children at Madressa Tul-umar are victims of rape and abuse or were simply abandoned at birth.





TSS Kusile also contributed and took part in a youth gender-based violence (GBV) outreach campaign hosted by Men for Change, SAPS Women's Network, and Vosloorus SAPS. The campaign event was attended by children from various schools in Emalahleni. These are J Khanada Secondary School, Empucukweni Secondary School, Witbank Primary School, Sibukosetu Primary School, Kopanang Secondary School, Juntsha Secondary School, Klein Waters Combined School, P Ndimanda Secondary School and FH Mkabele Secondary School.

The outreach campaign, facilitated by Colonel Mahlangu and Sergeant Nhlabathi, addressed pressing matters such as GBV, bullying at schools, drug abuse and teenage pregnancy, with each speaker sharing their insights with the learners. The learners were also given information on the various platforms where they could receive assistance if needed. TSS Kusile provided 250 meals to all who attended both initiatives.



By taking part in these two initiatives, we at TSS Kusile wish to cast a spotlight on various, urgent needs within our communities and the work carried by organisations such as Madressa Tul-umar Charity Home, Men for Change, and SAPS Women's Network – all working selflessly and tirelessly to make South Africa a better and safe place. If anything, Mandela Day 2022 taught us at TSS Kusile that caring and making a difference is an absolute must.