



Global Camps Africa

Help Empower South African Youth to Stay in School, Make Smart Choices and Have a Real Chance at a Better Life

Dear Parent,

As our children grow up in a society that offers a great deal of support and opportunity, there are teenagers in South Africa who are at high risk of contracting HIV, as well as having to deal with the struggles that come from living a life of poverty. Most of these teens will continue this path without any hope of a better future.

That's where Global Camps Africa comes in. Through our eight-day camp program at Camp Sizanani, we combine life skills courses with traditional American camp activities, like music, arts and crafts, and sports. Through our life skills courses, we teach these young people how to prevent contracting HIV, how to avoid and handle abusive relationships and other situations that result from living in a high-risk community. Just like your children, these kids get the joys of attending camp, but with additional skills to empower them in a way they never thought possible.

The support doesn't stop there. It continues through biweekly Youth Club meetings where former campers can attend a Saturday program in their own communities. Most of the same counselors are there to provide support and encouragement. If a student is struggling to stay in school, they help and empower the student to stay on track. If there is concern about abuse, the counselors offer advice on what to do and refer the child to professional support services.

Here Are Some of our Camper Success Stories:

“If it wasn't for camp, I probably would have studied something small, with the thought that I just want to make money quickly. Not realizing that spending more time at university and studying further will actually make you more money at the end of the day. You just need to be patient.” Today Phili is pursuing a Master's degree in communications at the University of Johannesburg, after completing her undergraduate degree in corporate communication. She's working on her thesis and plans to seek a career in media relations for a large corporation. Her advice to all campers is, **“The best thing you can do for yourself is o be you.” Philisiwe Mthinkulu**

“Without camp I'd be in Sun City Prison, if not 6 feet under. When I see [my old friends] today, some of them, they're smoking drugs, nyope. But I do tell myself I deserve better. If not for camp, I don't know where I would be now. I changed my ways.

Camp Sizanani, they did change my life a lot, because **now I can see the light. Unlike before, I was in the darkness.**” Carvela now runs a small photography business with some friends, taking photos at weddings and other events, and is exploring opportunities in documentary photography. **Carvela Nhlapo**

“Camp found me at a point where I think I was getting lost. I think probably if I wasn't at camp, I'd be having a baby now. I think I would also be a drug addict.” Zandile got an undergraduate education and is now a teacher. **Zandile Dhladhla**



Global Camps Africa

Nearly 7,000 campers have attended Global Camps Africa's Camp Sizanani. Many have been able to get good jobs and give back by becoming a counselor at Camp Sizanani.. They are living proof that learning how to believe in themselves opens the door to young people achieving their dreams.

Full Sponsorship \$500

Will you sponsor **one** child to attend camp, which includes:

- The eight-day camp program – traditional residential camp with life skills courses
- Weekend sessions after camp, where students continue to get support and encouragement to stay on the right path

What You Get in Return for Your Generous Donation of \$500:

With this generous donation you will be sent a **thank you note** from your sponsored camper along with a **picture of the camper** after he/she finishes the eight-day camp session. You will also get a **thank you video** where your camper expresses how camp has made a significant difference in his or her life.

Co-Sponsorship \$250

Will you contribute to **half** a camper's tuition, which includes:

- The eight-day camp program – traditional camp with life skills courses
- Weekend sessions during the school year, where students continue to get support and encouragement to stay on the right path

What You Get in Return for Your Generous Donation of \$250:

With this generous donation you will get a **thank you note** from a camper expressing his/her gratitude and explaining how camp has made a significant difference in his or her life.

We thank you again for your support in making a difference in these teenager's lives. With your donation, we can continue to empower young people to stay in school, make good decisions, and work towards a better life for themselves and their communities.

Sincerely,

Emily Crowder
Executive Director