SAILI
SA IMPROVED LEARNING INITIATIVE

2025

Annual Report

SA Improved Learning Initiative



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Thank you to funders

WHY WE EXIST

Talent Deserves Opportunity

Many young people lack access to the quality education and STEM subject choices they need to fulfil their potential.

For almost 30 years SAILI has helped bridge this gap.

SAILI was founded in the early years of our country's democracy, and since then we have supported teacher training, programmes, after school homework support, and whole school interventions with underperforming high schools, but it has been our scholarship programme that has stood the test of time.

Our scholarship programme operates in the Western Cape, supporting learners who meet our academic requirements and demonstrate strong potential. Through partnerships with government schools, we expand access to quality education.

South Africa has made real progress on access to education.

The national class of 2025 achieved an 88% matric pass rate, the highest on record. But access and quality have not moved at the same pace.

The top 200 high schools produce more Maths distinctions than the remaining 6,600 combined.

And the pass rate only counts those who reach the exam. Of every 100 children who started Grade 1 in 2007, only 51 reached matric and just 17 achieved a bachelor's pass.

Talent is evenly distributed. Opportunity is not

That is the gap SAILI works to close.

Who We Are



OUR VISION

A future where every child in South Africa has access to excellent education.



OUR MISSION

To increase the number of academically talented learners from under-resourced communities who qualify for and complete rigorous tertiary degrees, primarily through targeted Maths and Science scholarships and systemic school improvement.

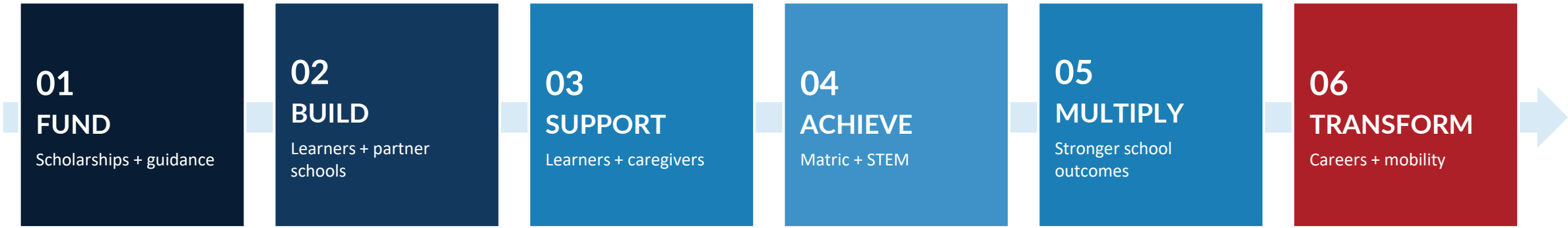


CONTRIBUTING TO GLOBAL GOALS

Our work contributes to United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 4: Quality Education.

Theory of Change — How It Works

Our Theory of Change shows how targeted investment in talented learners creates impact beyond the individual. Through scholarships, school partnerships and ongoing support, we help unlock educational success that strengthens families, schools, communities and South Africa's future workforce.



WHAT SAILI ENABLES

WHAT IT UNLOCKS

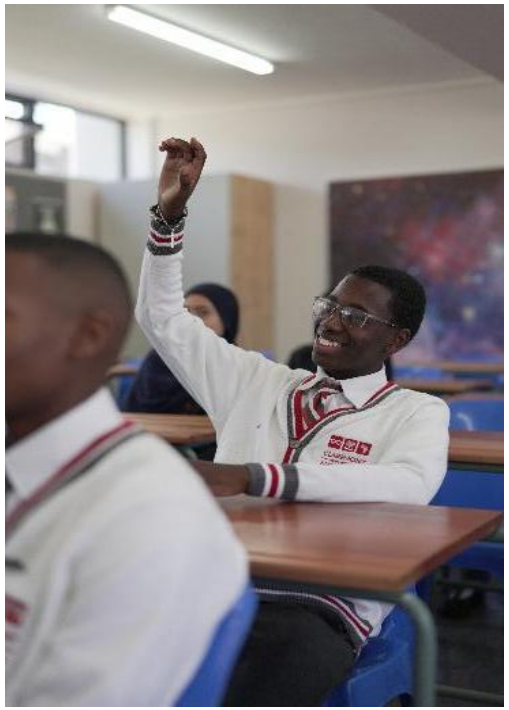
Our Scholarship Model

SELECTION SCREENING

Selecting Grade 7 learners who meet our academic requirements and demonstrate strong academic potential through two rounds of assessment in Maths, English, Science and Grit.

COMPREHENSIVE SUPPORT

Covering school fees, uniforms, stationery, textbooks, & psycho-social support.



WHOLE CHILD DEVELOPMENT

SCHOOL PARTNERSHIPS

Partnering with high-performing, low-cost government schools that offer strong Maths and Science programmes to expand opportunity and strengthen learner support.

MENTORSHIP & MONITORING

Providing workshops on study skills, goal setting, and career planning, quarterly academic feedback & parent engagement.

Impact and Outcomes



Helping learners reach their potential: with academic results that reflect their hard work and commitment.

Creating pathways forward: supporting learners as they take their next steps beyond school.

Investing in what comes next: giving talented young people the foundation to pursue their aspirations.

Celebrating Success

Class of 2025 NSC *Results*

15 learners

100% bachelor's pass rate

40 distinctions



Celebrating Success

2025 NSC *Results* — Top 3 Performers

8

distinctions

Madison Engelbrecht

Claremont High School

6

distinctions

Raadiyah Parker

Claremont High School

5

distinctions

Aaliyah Matthews

Claremont High School

2025

Message from Leadership

LANA BARON

Head of Scholarships

2025 was a year of groundwork. Our programme carried on as it always has, steady and dependable for our learners, but behind the scenes, we spent much of the year looking closely at who we are, as a team, and as an organisation.

SAILI became more visible across social media, sharing more of our story with the people who walk this journey alongside us. Our learners were part of it too, joining us for a video shoot and stock photography. It was a genuinely exciting time for them, being part of something a little bigger than themselves.

We defined our roles more clearly across the team, and worked through our systems carefully, tightening what needed tightening so that our foundations are solid enough to carry us well into 2026 and beyond.

Much of the year was spent refining, revising and reviewing. Re-looking at everything we do, and asking whether it still serves our learners and our organisation the way we want it to. I watched this team show its strength in the quiet, unglamorous work of simply getting things right.

Looking back, I'm proud of what this year was. Honest, careful work, the kind that makes everything after it possible.



Year in Review

We focus on more than just academics - we nurture the whole child.







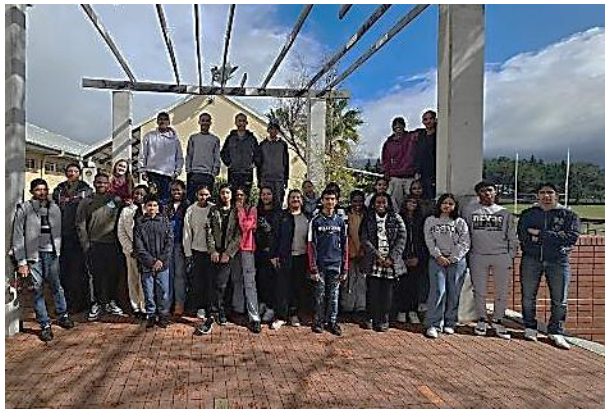



Year in Review

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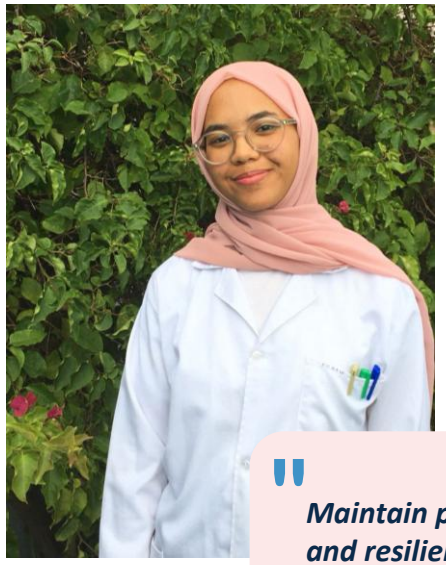




OUR ALUMNI

Voices of impact



> ***Maintain perseverance and resilience in the face of difficulties.***

RIZQAH BERNARD
Matriculated 2019

Holds a BSc in Biochemistry and Human Anatomy & Physiology, and a BMedSc (Hons) in Clinical Pharmacology.

Studying MSc (Med) in Clinical Pharmacology at the University of Cape Town.



> ***I can't believe that I am living my childhood dream.***

VIBREEZIA SOLOMONS
Matriculated 2021

Studying Veterinary Science (BVSc) at the University of Pretoria.

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> ***It is challenging at times but often, it helps to know that you are not alone***

AZRA ESAU
Matriculated 2022

Studying Health & Medicine at the University of Stellenbosch.

OUR LEARNERS

Voices of impact

> ***SAILI, you've made our load much lighter.***

> ***Your guidance helped me remain focused on my education, reminded me of my potential, and gave me the confidence to keep trying even on the hardest days.***

> ***This scholarship motivates me to work harder and achieve my goals.***

> ***Thank you for the constant encouragement especially during exams it really helps knowing that there are people looking forward to seeing you shine.***

> ***Being a SAILI learner means being part of a community that encourages discipline, growth, and resilience.***

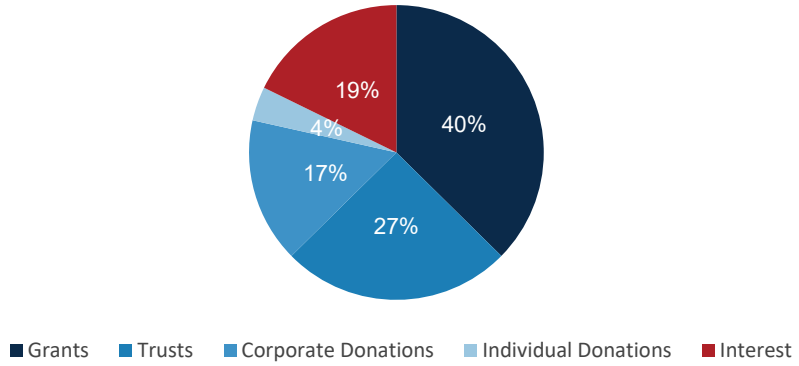
> ***THANK YOU so much for investing in my future.***

Financial Report

SCHOLARSHIPS: INCOME

The Scholarship Programme continued to attract funding for its activities – SAILI received **R4 912 381** in income from its supporters and interest on positive bank balances.

This was an increase of 35% from the previous year.



98

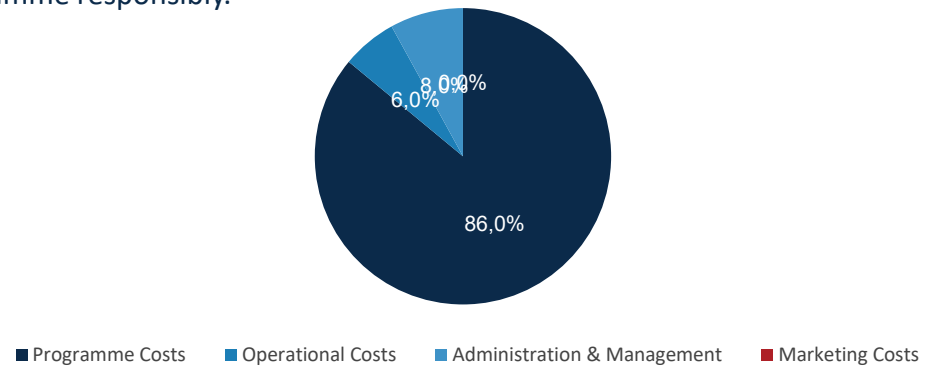
learners supported in 2025, up from 97

SCHOLARSHIPS: EXPENDITURE

SAILI supported 98 learners in 2025, compared with 97 in 2024. Scholarship Programme expenditure totaled R3,822,521, compared with R3,323,930 in 2024.

SAILI provides access to quality education through a cost-effective model encompassing scholarships, learner support, school engagement, administration, financial oversight and the organisational infrastructure required to deliver the programme responsibly.

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86%

of spend on direct programme costs

HUDDLE PROGRAMME

SAILI incubated Huddle Education in 2023, and proudly continued to partner with Huddle Education in 2025. Huddle strives to supercharge and scaffold teachers and learners in high schools through a high quality, low cost, scalable structured pedagogy intervention.



Huddle Education's footprint in the Western Cape

1 991
LEARNERS

7
SCHOOLS

67
TEACHERS

The WCED endorsed Huddle for all grade 8 and 9 subjects and they are confident that Huddle's resources will contribute meaningfully to improved teaching and learning in the Western Cape.

Huddle continues to grow, with its annual budget far exceeding that of SAILI - we're proud of the part that we have played in Huddle's success!

Early research is encouraging:

- 50% average improvement in teaching quality
- Increased teacher confidence and subject knowledge
- Higher learner engagement in supported classrooms
- Evidence of meaningful learning gains

Financial Report

Huddle Blended Learning

SAILI is proud to have incubated Huddle Education. The Blended Learning Programme continued to attract funding for all its activities.

SAILI received a total income **R32 936 381** from various income streams of which **R28 024 000** was earmarked for Huddle.

This was allocated for 1991 learners, 67 teachers and 7 principals in 7 schools.

Further information on this Programme can be found here: ***Huddle Education****.*

Note

- *Huddle income in the SAILI AFS includes R1.5m of share capital.*
- *The income for Huddle is reported in the SAILI AFS and that Scholarships and Huddle are split for ease* of *reporting*.

Our Board

SAILI has continued to strengthen its governance and strategic oversight through the addition of 2 new board members.

CURRENT BOARD MEMBERS

- Liesel Dower (Chairperson)
- Karen Gabriels
- William Frater
- Fredeline Muller
- Ian Schroeder

FM

Fredeline Muller

Fredeline Muller brings more than 20 years of financial expertise across a range of sectors, including Tobacco, Fashion, Home & Personal Care, and Food. Her experience extends across Mozambique, Ghana and the Southern African region, with a career focused on empowering businesses and people with purpose. As the founder of FUTURE X Consulting (Pty) Ltd, based in Cape Town, she partners with small businesses to unlock strategic value through venture development, financial analysis and mentorship. She holds an MBA and a Postgraduate Diploma in Futures Studies from Stellenbosch University. She is also a registered Associate General Accountant (AGA)(SA), combining strong financial expertise with a focus on long-term growth and development.

IS

Ian Schroeder

Ian Schroeder is a lecturer in the Extended Curriculum Programme within the Physics and Astronomy Department at the University of the Western Cape. His work explores Computational Thinking in science contexts, and he has taught Computational Modelling from first-year through to Honours level. In addition, he has introduced Grade 10 learners to Computational Modelling through the use of sensors, helping make abstract scientific concepts more visible and accessible. His approach to teaching has been shaped by experience in the manufacturing industry, as well as his involvement in the university-wide Teaching with Technology project at the University of Cape Town. His contributions to teaching and learning have been recognised through multiple University of the Western Cape Excellent Innovative Lecturer Awards.

Our Funders

Thank You for Investing in Potential

We are grateful to the individuals, foundations, companies and partners who support SAILI's work. Your investment in education creates opportunities that reach far beyond the classroom, helping talented young people realise their potential and pursue their aspirations.

Mapula Trust

FUTUREGROWTH / ASSET MANAGEMENT

K&T KANTEY & TEMPLER CONSULTING ENGINEERS ESTABLISHED 1953

Granate ASSET MANAGEMENT

Investec

...and to every individual donor whose generosity makes this work possible.

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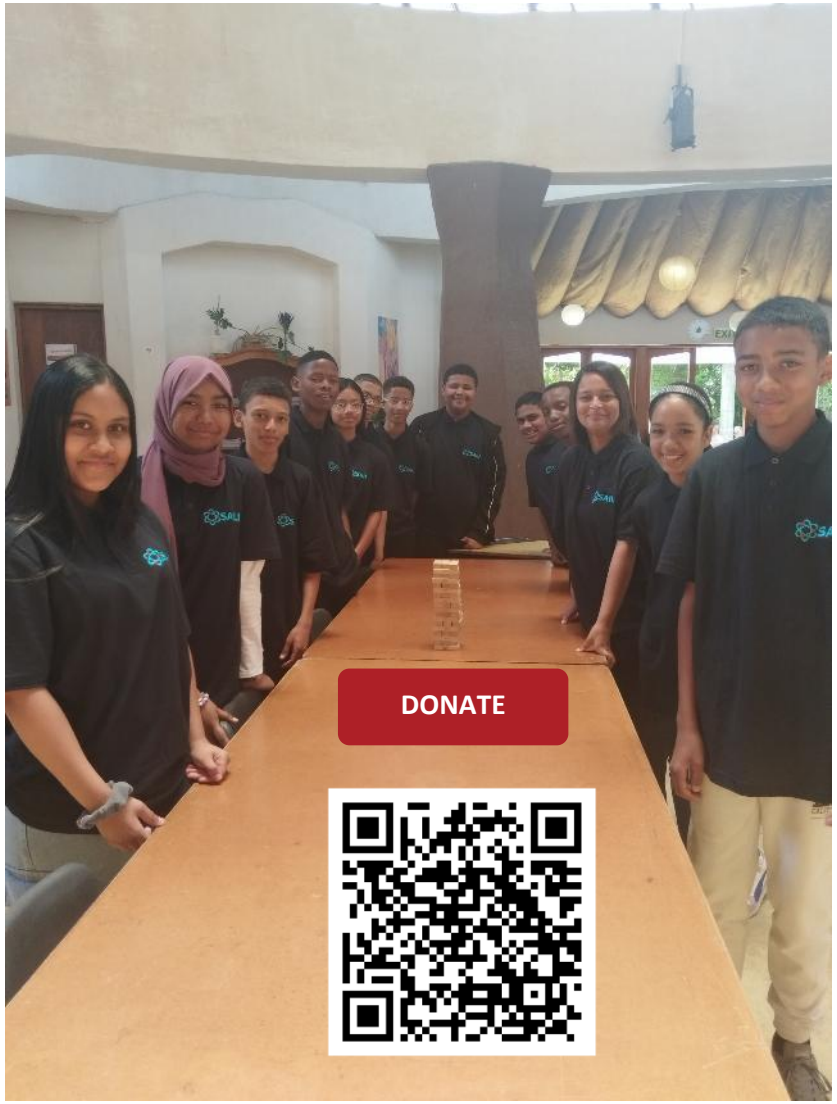
www.saili.org.za

BANKING DETAILS

SAILI

Nedbank 198765

Account 1226853986



Board of Directors: Liesel Dower | Karen Gabriels | William Frater | Fredeline Muller | Ian Schroeder

Registered with Department of Social Development as a Non-Profit Organisation (068-856-NPO)

Registered as a Public Benefit Organisation (PBO No. 930-030-535) • Independently certified as a B-BBEE Organisation