

THE EPWORTH FOUNDATION

A FOURTH REPORT



‘A good education is the foundation for a better future.’

~ Elizabeth Warren



EPWORTH INTO THE FUTURE





At Epworth, based in KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa, we have been committed for 124 years to ensure world-class, faith-based but not faith-biased education in Africa. Our school's registered PBO/NPO, the Epworth Foundation, significantly assists with providing additional bursary funding for more high school pupils to receive the excellent and harmonious education that has been our hallmark since 1898. This fourth annual report wishes to acknowledge our donors for their loyal support of our school and their generous social and financial gifts in support of education here in Africa.



EPWORTH INTO THE FUTURE



‘We educate women because it is smart.
We educate women because it changes the world.’

~ Drew Fuast



EPWORTH INTO THE FUTURE



Consistent progress



FOUNDATION DIRECTOR

Ingrid Roberts

(nee Bredenkamp, class of 1980)

Annually, it is a privilege to share this report on the consistent progress being made by our Epworth Foundation. From humble beginnings just a few years back, we give God the glory for a road well travelled and a journey ever-strengthening. Our notable endowment fund as well as our proud bursary track record bear testimony to the determination and commitment of the Foundation team and above all, to our remarkable donors.

These donors have defied a punishing economy, a global pandemic, recent devastating social unrest and floods with enormous financial loss to our battered home province. Yet in keeping with our

school's motto, their commitments have been a testimony to FAITH (FIDA), COMPASSION (HUMANA) and COURAGE (FORTIS). As we look to Epworth's 125th year in 2023, we pray for continued blessings upon the integrity of our work and the greatness of our cause: good and sound education. From a challenging past to a promising future, our distinctive school continues to inspire and deliver.

Here at the Epworth Foundation, we feel truly privileged to be accompanying EPWORTH into the future. Deo gratias!



2021: Key highlights

EPWORTH FOUNDATION TRUST CHAIR

Janet Channing
(nee Gray, class of 1981)

The business of investing

After all the policy making and drafting, the Trust implemented our investment policies and operations in 2021. The brokerage account was opened and the investment's rebalancing strategy with its diversified portfolio launched. Our newly appointed trustees: Neo Tshabalala, Carol Coetzee, Bea Croudace and Peter Keyworth are all to be commended for their dedication and commitment to achieving industry standard governance policies and operational routines. It is not only getting the job done, but getting the job done right. We bid a sad farewell to Bea when she relocated to Cape Town and resigned as a trustee. Bea's contribution to the Foundation Trust has been invaluable. Not only did she bring a wealth of institutional knowledge about trusts, but she understood the business of running a school having been the Bursar at Kearsney College for most of her career.

Alignment

The other key focus for the Epworth Foundation Trust's 2021 activities came under the banner 'Alignment'. This was implemented with both the School and, through developing a closer working relationship with the Epworthians, the School's alumni. At the request of the Trustees, our quarterly meetings include representation from the Epworth School Board and the Epworth School Trust.

Systems and innovations

While there was certainty in some arenas there was uncertainty in others:



KwaZulu-Natal was flung into turmoil with the civil unrest and looting in July 2021. The Epworth campus was unscathed but the impact of these events underscored how vulnerable we are to events beyond our control. We need to recognise the changeable environment in which we function and be deliberate about our ability to adapt with commensurate agility.

The Epworth Foundation Trust has implemented a customer relationship management system to maintain a record of all our contacts, whether these are Epworthians or friends of Epworth or generous donors committed to educating girls. Having a database is invaluable to any organisation but especially invaluable to a donor organisation.

The next milestone was the finalisation of the electronic Paygate for processing donations to the Epworth Foundation Trust. This platform is compatible with all major eCommerce platforms and enables the Foundation to accept credit cards, debit cards, EFTs, Zapper and more. An associated notable development was accessing the GlobalGiving platform so the Epworth Foundation Trust could receive regular foreign currency donations. GlobalGiving is the largest global crowdfunding community. It connects vetted nonprofits, donors, and companies in nearly every country around the world. Through GlobalGiving, Epworthians and other philanthropic donors residing abroad can donate to Epworth and receive their tax certificates.

Audit outcomes and disbursements

Of interest to donors, especially corporate donors, is the Trust's audit outcome. The Epworth Foundation Trust is proud to advise that our annual financial statements for 2021 reflect a clean audit.

The Foundation Trust extended a R250 000 tranche of funding to Epworth as a contribution towards real and meaningful transformation and diversification. Epworth's choice to address and improve how people engage within our community, both on and around campus, is important to us and worthy of such a financial contribution.

Educating girls

Lastly, but certainly not least, is the contribution made by Andrew Pfaff, the Trust's co-opted technical advisor. Andrew has patiently educated the trustees on the requirements of diversified portfolios, the requirement to reduce volatility by managing risk and the effect of unnecessary draw downs on the compounding returns.

After a hugely successful series of lectures with the accountancy classes of the High School during 2021, Andrew has re-committed himself to a follow-up residency in June 2022. The Epworthians of tomorrow gain a thorough grounding in compounding returns and the basic tenets of financial investment, just enough to pique their appetites for learning more and being unafraid to ask the important questions.

Thanks

The work involved in the Epworth Foundation Trust is exciting, inspiring, and challenging. To serve my alma mater in this capacity is a privilege, to collaborate with colleagues who all give voluntarily of their time and expertise is rewarding and to witness the evolution of the Foundation as a keystone for the sustainability of Epworth is remarkable. Gratitude.



Towards greater harmony

From time to time, requests are made of the Foundation for financial support beyond bursary provision. Through the recent dark days of the COVID-19 pandemic, Epworth also needed to respond urgently and with open mind and heart to the #blacklivesmatter movement calling for global social change.

The School Executive, in consultation with governance, committed over the ensuing two years (longer, if required) to improve Epworth's understanding of the root causes of social tension and how best to navigate a way forward.

This financial investment made by the Foundation Trust during 2020/21, offered a range of aids to our Epworth pupils and the broader Epworth community, including professional workshops, certain financial hardship assistance upon request, and more.

Through this process, Epworth's culture, values system, characteristic thought processes and behaviours were revisited and deeply analysed. Whilst not a process that has a definitive starting or ending point, Epworth's commitment to change and to improve was seen as a non-negotiable priority.

Instead of denying or pushing back, Epworth chose to INVEST in ways of moving towards deeper understanding and greater mutual respect.

This is work-in-progress but we believe investment is key to help us acquire the skills to build a better and more diverse community for tomorrow.



Our school has been a pioneer in social transformation and a consistent deliverer of world-class education in South Africa for over a century. The Epworth Foundation consistently and diligently seeks funding to provide bursaries for talented and deserving high school pupils who could not otherwise afford an Epworth education.



Foundation trustees



Neo Shabalala, founder and CEO: Governance Management Consulting

I serve as a Foundation trustee to create an enabling governance structure that assists previously disadvantaged students to access quality education in Africa. As our youth will take over leadership roles that we currently occupy, it's imperative that we give them the tools they need to help prepare them. Through the Epworth Foundation Trust, we make it possible for talented and deserving young pupils to access these tools.



Carol Coetzee, Head Of Dept: KZN Provincial Treasury

Education is critical for the development of our country's future leaders. The quality of the education and the ethical culture of Epworth have been shown to shape impactful leadership for Africa and our world. Many pupils don't enjoy access to such an education. The Epworth Foundation seeks to close this gap. The leaders of the future have the potential to bring a much-needed shift to our societal value system. As a Foundation trustee, I am excited to play a small part in facilitating this.



Peter Keyworth, retired NCT (Forestry) General Manager

My involvement with Epworth is part of a long association our family has with the school. We presently have three fourth-generation grandchildren at the school. The Epworth Foundation is focused on raising funds to assist deserving candidates who could play a positive role in the future of our country.



Andrew Pfaff, founder of Coherent Commodities, with 30 years' award-winning experience in local & international financial markets

During 2021, my technical investment advisory role has included making the foundation investable from a donor's point of view and developing the governance structure to ensure appropriate operational oversight. This has been met by drafting policies and the creation of oversight roles to ensure the adherence to the recommended policies.



‘When girls are educated, their countries become stronger and more prosperous.’

~ Michelle Obama



EPWORTH INTO THE FUTURE



2021 impact measured



2021 investment secured through strategic partnerships



Epworthian (past pupils) bursaries provided assistance for 3 pupils



Standard Bank Tutuwa Community Foundation provided assistance for 3 pupils



SANRAL's scholarship provided assistance for 1 pupil

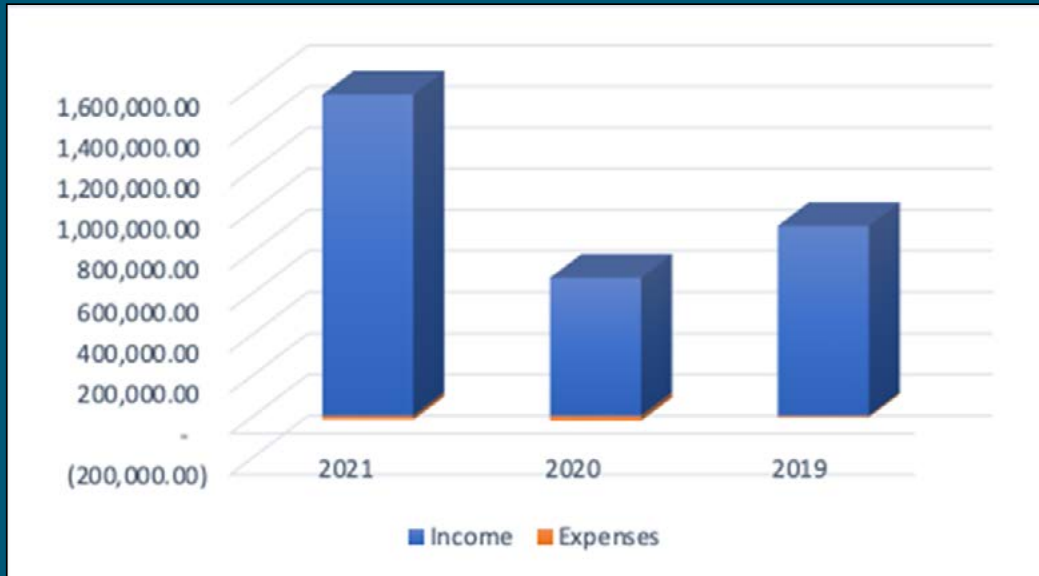


The Allan Gray Orbis Foundation provided assistance for 12 pupils

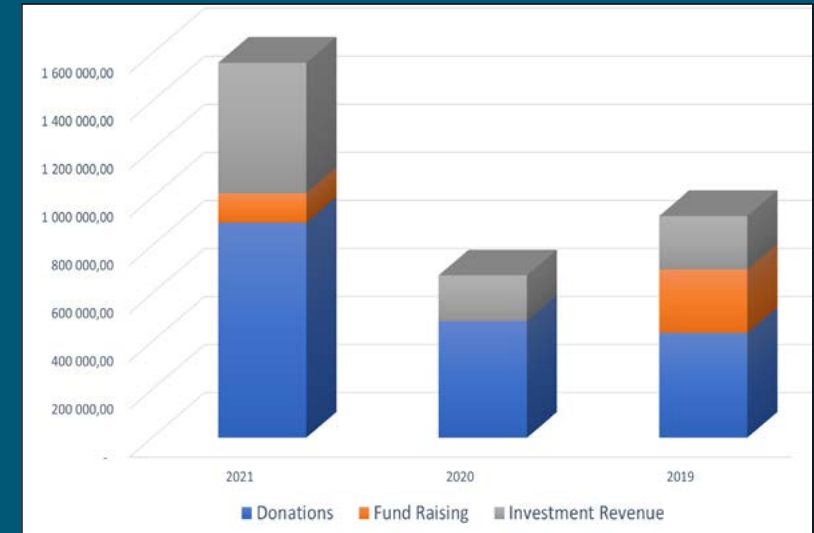
To our supporters, partners and friends,

THANK YOU

Capital raised + expenses

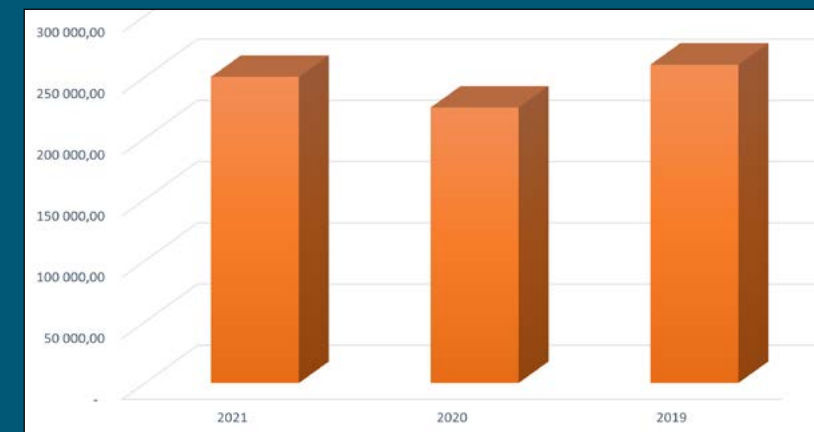


Capital raised - breakdown



The Foundation operates as a cost to the school. Donations are 100% for purposes of bursary provision and/or endowment (capital growth), unless a specific priority need is deemed essential. The Epworth Foundation Trust is a registered NPO 031-368/ PBO 930004892, Section 18A(1)(a) approved and independently audited.

Annual disbursement



Epworth's executive leadership

Our Foundation supports the school in ensuring greater access to Epworth's world-class schooling through additional bursary provision.

Mrs Tracey Munro **Principal of the High School**

'As Kavita N Ramdas, the President and CEO of the Global Fund for Women, said, "We need women who are so strong they can be gentle, so educated they can be humble, so fierce they can be compassionate, so passionate they can be rational, and so disciplined they can be free." This succinctly sums up what we strive for each day at Epworth and it is a privilege to be able to contribute to this journey in our current pupils, past pupils and staff.'

Mr Reynard White **Principal of the Preparatory School**

'It was apt that a recent Epworth chapel service focused on our diversity and respect for each individual and their culture, and the need to celebrate these differences and similarities. What a valuable and important lesson for all of us. Our diversity should be our strength and not a hindrance to the harmonious development of our beautiful country for future generations.'

Mr Emwee Zeelie **Epworth Business Manager**

'Looking forward, Epworth will continue to focus on building a school that serves our community while making it as financially viable and sustainable as possible.'



Mr Emwee Zeelie

Mrs Tracey Munro

Mr Reynard White



‘Education is everything- education is your power, education is your way in life for whatever you want to do.’

~ Ciara



EPWORTH INTO THE FUTURE



From our Benefactors



Zimbini Vazi-Hill

(Class of 1996)

Zimbini is a prominent Cape Town-based business woman and the owner and founder of Hluma Media. She holds numerous board positions in the private, public, and social sectors. Zimbini shines her light through reconciliation and inclusion within her consulting practice in South Africa. 'Epworth was a place where I felt seen, heard, and valued. There is no more significant way of creating an inclusive environment than where every individual is allowed to contribute and thrive. Growing up at such a school planted the seed of how to live out diversity and inclusion by honouring each person no matter their differences.'

Amanda Capucci Polzin

(Class of 2009)

The visiting Lecturer at the Westminster Business School attended Epworth as a Rotary Exchange student in 2009. This experience opened the door to a world she didn't know and gave her the opportunity to learn to speak a second language. Her year at Epworth and on exchange was lifechanging in many ways and she recalls often thinking how different her life would have been had she been at a school like Epworth from Grade 8.

'I have chosen to financially support the Epworth Foundation on a regular basis because education is such a worthwhile cause. It is a long-term investment in the future of a generation that has the power to shape and re-shape tomorrow.'





Disebo Makatsa

(Class of 2002)

Disebo Makatsa has held various technical positions in the mining industry with companies such as Central Rand Gold, Shanduka and Pan African resources. Completing her MBA at aged 26, she moved into business.

'I grew up in a township where opportunities to receive an Epworth education were slim to none. However, through the hard work of my single mother I was able to attend Epworth and became Head Girl in 2002. This speaks volumes about the school and the role it plays in empowering women from all walks of life. Epworth didn't see my background or upbringing as an obstacle. Instead I was encouraged to be the best I could be. I would love to see other disadvantaged girls from rural areas or townships receive the education I did and watch them excel. A great education opens so many doors to important rooms, but an Epworth education keeps you in those rooms to break the glass ceiling.'

Linda Heath

(Class of 1978)

Linda, a law graduate, has spent 33 years in the financial services sector in Europe. Her work has included extensive fraud case investigations with Scotland Yard and the Danish financial crime squad. Currently she spearheads financial anti-crime strategies with the Danish security police on money laundering and anti-terrorist financial programmes.

'Epworth instinctively and distinctively prepared us to take our rightful place in the world even before women occupied significant space in the commercial world. This guiding principle, which we assumed to be the norm, was Epworth's far-sighted approach to educational and gender parity even back in the 1970s. Education is the path to improvement on a personal level as well as for society as a whole.'





Keletso Totlhanyo

Member of the Epworth Board of Governors, businesswoman and former General Manager of the Comrades Marathon Association.

'The Epworth Foundation plays a major role in supporting education for girls from disadvantaged communities to attend the school and receive its world-class education. Educating girls helps reduce poverty, reduce childhood pregnancies, reduce childhood marriages, reduce infant mortality rates and the list goes on. Educated women make deliberate and decisive choices. Educated women create educated nations. My monthly contribution to the Epworth Foundation is not huge, however, I believe that it hugely adds to another girl child's life. In Setswana there's a saying that goes: "lemme ga le fete molomo" - meaning my contribution may be little but still, it will help make a difference.'

Dr Jessica Fryer

(Class of 2012)

'Epworth provided me the support and space to be who I wanted to be. It cultivated in me a desire to respect and care for other people. This allowed me to grow both academically and emotionally. It also made me try to pass on that respect and care to others. I have nearly a decade of memories of those Epworth halls and fields! Since leaving I've spoken to people about their schools and childhoods and have only grown exponentially more grateful for what I received. That I was able to go to a school where I was supported, heard and respected is a true privilege in this world. I've been extremely blessed by family and friends and good health and I count Epworth as one of the greatest blessings of my life. I am also fortunate enough to be in a position to help give someone else the opportunity to be nurtured in the same way and so this is what I have chosen to do.'



Strategic partnerships



Another recent partnership benefiting a young Epworth high school pupil came as the result of a number of years of relationship building between the Epworth Foundation and SANRAL (South African National Roads Agency Ltd) - Eastern region. It has always been SANRAL's broader intention to support areas local to their nationwide office network in meaningful ways. Since Epworth has offered an outstanding level of high schooling for girls since 1898, it is easy to see why these two entities sought to combine their resources and empower deserving young talent through education at Epworth. Their latest beneficiary will matriculate from Epworth in December 2022.





Epworth was selectively and distinctively chosen eight years ago to be a partner high school of highest standing with the Allan Gray Orbis Foundation. The Allan Gray Orbis Foundation programme supports pupils who are in financial need, have an entrepreneurial mindset and the potential to excel academically. The Epworth Foundation is proud to assist with this almost decade-long programme by additionally funding these scholarship recipients.

MAHLE

Through the Epworth Foundation, a distinctive scholarship opportunity emerged in 2018 with the international company MAHLE, a leading supplier to the global automotive industry. Epworth matriculant Katja Vonkeman was awarded the opportunity to study

engineering at the company's German base and she is now close to graduating as part of the growing cohort of stellar young global women engineers. In a recent email to our Foundation, Katja wrote excitedly: 'I am just loving my degree! With every new module, I become even more convinced that this is the perfect course for me. I wish I could study forever and am eternally grateful to the Epworth Foundation for opening this door of opportunity for me.'

The Epworth Foundation is grateful to its corporate and parastatal partners who are supporting further educational success for South African talent.



OUR MISSION

Uplift our nation through quality education.

OUR VISION

A South Africa where deserving talent is educated and inspired to serve our country and its people.



(The Epworth Foundation Trust
is a registered NPO
031-368/ PBO 930004892 /
Section 18A (1) (a) approved)

www.epworthfoundation.co.za



95 Golf Road, Scottsville,
Pietermaritzburg 3201
Tel: 033 846 2587
foundation@epworth.co.za

EPWORTH INTO THE FUTURE