Vulindlela Educational Trust

Educate a child and provide lifetime empowerment

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 28 FEBRUARY 2026
FINANCIAL YEAR 2025/26

ANNUAL REPORT



www.vulindlelaeducationaltrust.co.za

REPORT GUIDE

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Chairperson's message

It is my privilege to present the Vulindlela Educational Trust Annual Report for the year ended 28 February 2026 (2025/26 financial year)

During the year, the Trust continued to strengthen the role of the Tsojana Resource Centre as an accessible platform for education, healthcare, civic services and community development. Our programmes responded to practical needs within the community while remaining focused on our broader purpose of expanding opportunities and improving the wellbeing of children, young people and families.

The year's activities reflected the value of bringing essential services closer to rural communities. Through mobile clinic visits and the annual Health Day, residents were able to access healthcare services and important health information locally. Our continued engagement with the community and the Eastern Cape Department of Health regarding the proposed establishment of a permanent clinic also represents an important step towards improving long-term access to healthcare in the area.

Education remained central to our work. Afternoon classes provided academic support to learners, while computer literacy training helped community members develop essential digital skills. Our Language, Reading and Spelling activities promoted literacy and encouraged learners to develop confidence in reading and language. The Early Childhood Development workshop further strengthened the capacity of practitioners responsible for laying the educational foundations of young children.

The Career Awareness Campaign continued to expose Grade 12 learners to university and TVET opportunities, while offering practical guidance on post-school pathways.

Through our partnership with the Department of Home Affairs, community members were also able to apply for Smart ID documents at the Resource Centre, reducing the distance and costs associated with accessing these services.

These achievements were made possible through collaboration. On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I extend our sincere appreciation to government departments, schools, educators, traditional leaders, community structures, partner organisations and volunteers who contributed their time, expertise and resources. I also thank the learners, parents and residents whose participation and support continue to give meaning to the Trust's work.

While we are encouraged by the progress made, we recognise that significant work remains ahead. The Trust plans to mobilise additional resources through a fundraising event aimed at sustaining and expanding its programmes and completing outstanding improvements at the Tsojana Resource Centre. We also intend to pilot a mobile resource centre that will extend educational, office and digital services to schools and communities beyond the Centre's immediate vicinity.

As we look ahead, the Trust remains committed to building on the foundations established during the year, strengthening existing partnerships and developing new relationships that will support the sustainability and wider reach of our work.

We thank everyone who continues to share in the vision of Vulindlela Educational Trust and look forward to another year of meaningful service and collective progress.

Sango Ntsaluba
Chairperson
Vulindlela Educational Trust

About Vulindlela Educational Trust

Vulindlela Educational Trust works to remove barriers to quality education in Tsojana and surrounding rural communities. The Trust recognises that learning is affected not only by what happens in the classroom, but also by access to information, technology, health services, safety and community support.

Vision

To ensure that, through education, every learner in Tsojana and surrounding communities develops the knowledge, skills, talents and sense of personal uniqueness needed to succeed in their chosen career.

Mission

To facilitate the breaking of barriers to quality education by working with learners, families, educators, community structures and institutional partners.

Our Values

The Trust's work is guided by integrity, compassion, excellence, sustainability and commitment to communities that are frequently underserved.

Our Approach

VET's programmes respond to educational and social barriers that affect learners and families. The Trust combines programme delivery, partnership-building and community-based infrastructure to bring opportunities and services closer to the people it serves.





Vulindlela Education Trust's programmes and delivery framework

VET directs programmes, builds partnerships, oversees governance and mobilises resources. Its four major programmes are delivered with partners, including through TRC.

VET's major programmes

Purpose, delivery and 2025/26 highlights

Gender Based Violence (GBV) campaign

- Promotes safety, awareness, prevention and access to support for GBV, abuse, mental health and substance abuse.
- Delivered with schools, villages, TRC, partner venues, community leaders and government departments; over 300 people reached in 2025/26.

Career Awareness

- Connects rural learners with universities, TVET colleges, financial support and post-school pathways through annual and school-based events.
- On 27 June 2025, two sessions reached 297 Grade 12 learners from eight schools.

Early Childhood Development

- Builds the skills of ECD practitioners and caregivers through workshops and training to improve early learning.
- On 1–2 October 2025, 36 practitioners from 18 preschools trained at TRC with The Unlimited Child.

Access to Technology

- Improves technology access and digital skills through computer literacy classes and practical support at TRC.
- Sixteen participants completed training. Competing learnerships interrupted attendance, highlighting the need for coordinated timetables and consistent records.

Tsojana Resource Centre

TRC is VET's flagship project. It implements digital access and selected VET activities, and hosts additional education, health, civic access and community support services.

The planned mobile resource centre pilot at Tsojana Primary School will test how to extend services beyond TRC's immediate vicinity.



1 MARCH 2025 TO 28 FEBRUARY 2026

Reporting period at a glance

During 2025/26, VET delivered its major programmes while TRC continued to develop as a practical access point for learning, healthcare, government outreach and community mobilisation.

588 attendances at five mobile clinic visits

Residents accessed essential healthcare and chronic medication locally through mobile clinics.

297 Grade 12 learners from eight schools

Interactive Career Awareness Campaign sessions gave practical university, TVET, bursary and career guidance from higher education representatives and alumni.

Over 120 participants at Health Day

Screenings, consultations and talks on chronic illness, mental health and healthy living were delivered by a 19-member clinical team.

Approximately 50 learners supported weekly

TRC afternoon classes helped learners with homework and exam preparation.

36 practitioners from 18 preschools trained

Early Childhood Development workshops improved practitioners' skills and confidence, strengthening early learning for young children.

140 Smart ID applications processed

Home Affairs outreach let first-time applicants, elders and other residents access civic services locally, saving time and travel costs.

More than 300 people reached through GBV awareness

Campaigns addressed GBV, mental health and substance abuse, providing prevention information and access to support.

16 participants completed computer literacy training

Community members gained essential digital skills at TRC; many used a computer for the first time.

What the year demonstrated

- VET's programmes continued to reach learners, practitioners and families through partnerships and locally accessible delivery.
- TRC supported both VET programme implementation and additional services required by the wider community.
- Government and community partners remained essential to specialist service delivery, mobilisation and local legitimacy.

Gender-Based Violence Campaign

Programme purpose

The GBV campaign's purpose is to promote awareness, prevention and access to support where gender-based violence, abuse, mental-health challenges and substance abuse affect learners, families and educational participation.

Delivery approach

- Campaigns were delivered in partnership with the Department of Social Development, South African Police Service, schools and traditional leaders.
- Activities took place in schools and community venues, with the Tsojana Resource Centre (TRC) providing additional support.

Activities and reported reach

Awareness campaigns were held at least once every two months throughout the year. Partners also used these platforms to explain other services available to community members and how support could be accessed.

Over 300 people participated in GBV awareness activities during the year, including learners and parents. Mobilisation was supported by schools and traditional leaders, ensuring broad community engagement.

Contribution to VET's mandate

The programme directly supports VET's goal of removing barriers to education by addressing violence, fear and untreated trauma, which are significant obstacles to learning and participation.





Career Awareness Programme

Programme purpose

The career awareness programme connects rural learners with practical information about universities, TVET colleges, financial support and post-school pathways.

Delivery approach

The annual campaign was delivered in partnership with the Department of Education and participating institutions at school-based venues in Tsomo.

The Career Awareness Campaign was held on 27 June 2025 as part of the Department of Education's Winter School Programme. Two sessions reached 297 Grade 12 learners from eight high schools: 135 learners in the morning and 162 in the afternoon.

Presenters included Ms Palesa Beja of Ikhala TVET College, Mr Luzuko of King Hintsa TVET College and Dr Malgas of Sol Plaatje University. Mr Vuyisani Nkwenkwezi, a third-year University of Johannesburg student from Tsomo, spoke about student life and the first-year experience. Learners engaged through question-and-answer sessions covering career opportunities, applications, bursaries and entrepreneurship.

Session	Host school	Participating schools	Learners
Morning	Tsomo High	Gobinamba, Tsomo, Mangelengele and Ndyebo Ntsaluba	**135**
Afternoon	Zwelivumile S.S.S.	Zwelivumile, Zwelixolile, Ndema and Jongizizwe	**162**



VET PROGRAMME PERFORMANCE

Early Childhood Development Programme

Programme purpose

To strengthen the confidence and practical capacity of ECD practitioners and improve the learning environments available to young children.

Delivery approach

VET works with specialist partners and uses TRC as an accessible venue for practitioner training and collaboration.

On 1 and 2 October 2025, VET and The Unlimited Child hosted a two-day follow-up workshop at TRC. Thirty-six ECD practitioners representing 18 preschools participated in hands-on learning, collaboration and skills development.

Why this matters

Support for practitioners strengthens the quality of early learning available to children in rural communities. The workshop included practical learning aids and toys provided by The Unlimited Child and supported continuity between early childhood settings and the formal school system.







VET PROGRAMME PERFORMANCE

Access to Technology Programme

Programme purpose

To improve access to technology and help community members develop practical digital skills needed for learning, communication and everyday participation.

Delivery approach

The programme is implemented through the Tsojana Resource Centre, which provides computers, a local learning space and facilitator support.

Computer literacy

Basic computer literacy classes reached 16 participants. For some, the programme provided their first opportunity to use a computer. Training was non-accredited and focused on practical skills and confidence in navigating basic computer operations.

Participation was later interrupted when another learnership began. This highlighted the need for future timetables to account for competing programmes and for attendance and completion records to be maintained consistently. Digital-skills support will remain an ongoing area of work because these skills are increasingly important in daily life.







TSOJANA RESOURCE CENTRE

Education programmes and learner support

In addition to implementing VET's Access to Technology Programme, TRC operates education-support activities responding to the needs of learners in the surrounding area.

Afternoon classes

TRC provided afternoon academic support in Mathematics and English. Learners received homework assistance and revision support in preparation for examinations. The programme supported approximately 50 learners per week, although attendance varied. Learners from the local school were the main beneficiaries, while participation remained open to learners from other schools.

Language Reading and Spelling activities

On 16 October 2025, VET, the Department of Education and Intsika Yethu Libraries hosted an inaugural Language, Reading and Spelling Competition at TRC. The event brought together 35 learners from seven primary schools. Learners received prizes for excellence, while all participants were recognised for their effort and participation.

A second Language Day activity took place on 18 February 2026 during South African Reading Week. Twenty-four participants representing at least eight primary schools took part. Leading participants were selected to represent the district at a provincial spelling competition in Cradock. The activity is intended to continue annually.



Health access and wellbeing services

TRC provides a safe, accessible venue through which the Department of Health and other partners can bring healthcare services and information closer to surrounding communities. These activities are TRC services rather than separate VET programmes.

Mobile clinic services

TRC hosted five mobile clinic visits during the reporting period. Across these visits, 588 attendances were recorded. Residents accessed basic health services and chronic medication collection, reducing the need to travel for routine support.

Date	People served
28 May 2025	143
6 August 2025	55
15 September 2025	159
4 December 2025	84
19 February 2026	147
Total	**588**





TSOJANA RESOURCE CENTRE

TRC Health Day

On 7 April 2025, the Trust hosted a Health Day under the banner 'Global Action for Universal Health'. More than 120 participants attended, including learners, elders and families from Tsojana and surrounding communities.

More than 120

participants attended

19-member

Department of Health clinical team

A 19-member Department of Health clinical team provided consultations, vision screening, cervical and prostate cancer screening, blood-pressure and glucose testing, and TB and HIV testing supported by TB HIV Care.

Health talks covered chronic illness, teenage pregnancy, substance abuse, mental wellbeing, healthy living and medication adherence. Chief Zulu and Chief Nkwenkwezi attended in support of the initiative.





Civic access and practical community support

Home Affairs outreach

On 9 September 2025, the Department of Home Affairs delivered a Smart ID application service at TRC. A total of 140 people applied. Applicants over the age of 60 and young people applying for an ID for the first time at age 18 received the service free of charge; other applicants paid the prescribed fee. Bringing the service closer reduced the time and travel costs normally required to access Home Affairs.

140

people applied

Support during electricity interruptions

Because TRC operates almost entirely on solar energy, community members were able to charge mobile phones and rechargeable household lights free of charge during electricity interruptions. At least 40 individuals accessed the service during a single interruption, helping residents remain connected.

At least 40

individuals accessed the service during a single interruption





TSOJANA RESOURCE CENTRE

Community-led clinic advocacy

Access to permanent healthcare remains a challenge for surrounding communities. Existing clinics are far away, travel costs are unaffordable for some residents, and poor weather can make roads difficult to use. TRC supported community engagement with the Eastern Cape Department of Health regarding a proposed local clinic.

Following engagement with the Department's infrastructure leadership, the community established a six-member committee with two representatives from each area. The committee will lead the application and site-identification process, with the Trust providing support where necessary. Traditional leadership supported the proposal and the matter progressed through the Tribal Authority process for endorsement.

Community consultation	Date	Attendance
Zantsi and Ngojini	12 November 2025	28
Mission and Ngali	19 November 2025	64
Nowane and Qwili	21 November 2025	77
Total	Three meetings	**169**

Next steps

1. Site identification and agreement by the community.
2. Site verification and endorsement by the Department of Agriculture.
3. Formal submission of the proposal to the Department of Health.







THE YEAR AHEAD

Looking forward

In the coming period, VET and TRC will focus on strengthening the sustainability and reach of their work through two priority initiatives.

VET fundraising initiative

VET plans to host a fundraising event in the first quarter of 2026. The event will mobilise resources to sustain the Trust's programmes, expand existing initiatives and complete outstanding improvements at TRC.

Priority improvements include the purchase and installation of water tanks, replacement of the perimeter fence, installation of a suitable gate and upgrading of the entrance area, reliable internet connectivity, and the furnishing and equipping of the building.

The event will seek support from corporate partners, individuals and Friends of Vulindlela Educational Trust, helping VET build a broader network committed to education and community development.

TRC mobile resource centre

TRC recognises that the communities benefiting most frequently from its daily programmes are those located within its immediate vicinity. To extend these services, TRC plans to introduce a mobile resource centre operating according to a scheduled programme at surrounding schools.

The mobile service will provide afternoon classes, access to office and digital resources, and other educational and community-support activities. It will initially be piloted at Tsojana Primary School, with lessons from the pilot informing gradual expansion to other schools and communities.



Board of trustees



Busiwe Maqungo

Trustee



Maphelo Malgas

Trustee



Nomfesane Dinga

Trustee



Sango Ntsaluba

Chairperson



Partnerships and collaboration

The year's achievements depended on cooperation between VET, TRC, public institutions, schools, traditional leadership, specialist organisations and community members.

Eastern Cape Department of Health

Mobile clinic services, Health Day and engagement on the proposed clinic.

Department of Social Development

GBV, mental-health, substance-abuse and general abuse awareness.

The Unlimited Child

Capacity-building for ECD practitioners and teachers.

Intsika Yethu Libraries

Language, reading and spelling activities.

Department of Home Affairs

On-site Smart ID application services.

South African Police Service

Community awareness and prevention activities.

Eastern Cape Department of Education, schools and educators

Learner mobilisation, venues, learning support and career awareness.

Traditional leadership

Community mobilisation, venues, legitimacy and support for the clinic proposal.

Community committees and residents

Consultation, representation, participation and stewardship of local initiatives.

health
Department:
Health
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

basic education
Department:
Basic Education
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

THE UNLIMITED Child
Unlimiting Dreams Together



Financial performance in summary

A summary of the Trust's results for the year ended 28 February 2026.

FUNDING PARTNERS

R188,000

(2025: R341,900)

Total donations received
Funded entirely through donor contributions

TOTAL EXPENDITURE

R201,393

(2025: R334,545)

Program, operating and admin costs
Lower spending on events, marketing and reimbursements than in 2025

HOW EXPENDITURE BREAKS DOWN

Operating		**R146,950 | 73.0%**
Program		**R51,820 | 25.7%**
Admin		**R2,623 | 1.3%**

1.3% of total expenditure went on admin.

Figures summarised from the Trust's Annual Financial Statements for the year ended 28 February 2026, prepared in accordance with IFRS for SMEs. The full statements are available on request.



Stay connected

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Vulindlela Educational Trust

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