Youth Health Africa is a youth development organisation with a unique model addressing the dual challenges of youth unemployment and public health.

WHO WE ARE

YHA is a registered Not for Profit organization which provides a one-year skills development program, empowering disenfranchised youth through comprehensive work experience. The youth are empowered with quality working experience and a stipend, as well as with in-depth knowledge and skills for employability, while making an impact in public health.

WHAT WE DO

YHA runs a one-year paid youth work experience or internship. Youth undergo various training programs not only to fulfill their roles as, inter alia, lay counsellors, self-screeners, patient facility navigators, research assistants, data capturers and filing clerks but to inspire holistic development as young ambassadors, leaders and societal agents for change. The program is unique in its focus on personal growth and development, and once a month all youth on the program attend Development Days. These sessions cover career strategy, mental health and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), amongst other thematic areas. The program is further integrated with Demand Creation Activities, Educational Digital Media Campaigns, Youth Zones Strengthening and Adolescent and Youth Friendly Services (AYFS) support, food security and entrepreneurship, as well as various other community based initiatives.
Vision

A leading African youth empowerment organisation harnessing the workforce of the future to create sustainable communities

Mission

To create holistic youth development opportunities to strengthen public health for empowerment and employability
YHA Values

01  Inspirational
02  Ubuntu
03  Pioneering
04  Resilient
05  Dynamic
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Board of Directors

Paula Fray
Board Chairperson

Bulelani Kuwane
Executive Director

Joshila Hari
Executive Director

Shakira Choonara
Non-executive Director

Thandiwe Nhlapo
Non-executive Director
In the short time since Youth Health Africa was registered, the organization has grown its geographic footprint and its programmatic support. With a clear focus on youth in health, YHA has enabled thousands of young South Africa to gain skills and experience at a critical time. In doing so, it has also played a role in South Africa’s COVID-19 response.

Youth Health Africa has vision to be a leading African youth empowerment organization harnessing the workforce of the future to create sustainable communities. It does so by creating holistic youth development opportunities to strengthen the public health sector for empowerment and employability.

While our mandate empowers young people, it also provides real support to our health sector.

The COVID-19 pandemic put additional stress on our health systems. Despite this, Youth Health Africa was not only able to grow but it played its part in combating vaccine hesitancy. Beyond COVID programmes, YHA also supported young people through entrepreneurship programmes, and it did so as it strengthened its internal processes in preparation for future growth.

Indeed, the year under review has not only seen the implementation of more programmes but also the deepening of its governance structures. This is a lean organization and board with a long-term focus on creating value for young people wanting to enter into the workplace.

Youth Health Africa is not alone in seeking opportunities for young people in the health sector. It has worked hard to expand programmes in a way that allow it to diversify funding revenues to achieve financial sustainability.

This is possible through the growth of corporate sponsors who continue to show confidence in the organization to deliver value programmes for young people. It is also possible due to the contribution of a myriad of partners who work alongside the organisation.

The board remains grateful for the work of the staff, the partner organizations who support the placement of youth and the sponsors who make these programmes possible. It acknowledges the support received from The Aurum Institute.

As Youth Health Africa continues to grow, the board must ensure a strategic focus aligned to its vision and mandate. And, in so doing, it will enable us to take an evidence-based model to the rest of our continent.

Paula Fray
Youth Health Africa
Chairperson
Creating a sustainable entity to address youth unemployment and public health challenges

Transforming the youth empowerment sector through focused interventions

Youth Health Africa is a leading youth empowerment organisation that harnesses the workforce of the future through holistic skills development that leads to opportunities for sustainable livelihoods. Since its inception in 2020, Youth Health Africa has grown from a budding youth employment organisation to a comprehensive skills development programme that has made key contributions in the public healthcare sector. Since 2020, we have employed over 3000 youth between the ages of 18 – 34, 82% of which are South African women. We have also diversified our reach into eight of the nine provinces thus far, which has afforded our organisation the privilege of advancing to a long-term goal of expanding our footprint across the globe.

YHA 2021 Annual Performance

Newly onboarded youth

Program completion rate

Youth who are female

Geographic coverage

Training & Development

Number of people vaccinated against COVID-19

998

97%

82%

8 Provinces

+1300 youth trained

+8 000
JANUARY 2021
YHA reaches **2000** youth milestone across various programs

MARCH 2021
Training facilitators all receive competency as **SETA Assessors**

FEBRUARY 2021
YHA adds 1 more province to expansion: **EASTERN CAPE**

JUNE 2021
**Anglo Platinum** comes on board as YHA sponsor
Adds one more province: **LIMPOPO**

MAY 2021
YHA launches entrepreneurship incubation program with 36 youth

SEPTEMBER 2021
Embarks on **#ZWAKALA**
COVID-19 vaccinations partnership with Accenture, Aurum, CHAPS, UNICEF & UN Verified

DECEMBER 2021
YHA closes off achieving a **3000** youth milestone, with over 3100 youth opportunities
Senior Leadership

Bulelani Kuwane
Chief Executive Officer

Joshila Hari
Chief Financial Officer

Ntebeng Kabula
HR Manager

Farai Mzungu
Program Manager
Program Operations

Sarah Reeves
Project Manager
Business Development, Grants & Partnerships

Danai Nyagani
Project Manager
Training and Development

Rakesh Sewlall
Financial Accountant

Nelson Mudau
Project Manager
Community Projects

Mbali Mbatsana
Project Manager
Youth Work Experience
Chief Executive Officer's Statement

"YHA staff, who are mainly young people, continue to play an integral role in the growth of the organisation"

Bulelani Kuwane
Chief Executive Officer

Youth Health Africa achieved great success in 2021. Our flagship youth experience program saw us expand our geographic coverage from six to eight of the nine provinces in South Africa. A total of 940 new youth joined our various programs in the year including youth work experience (YWE), community projects and temporary work for alumni. This took our numbers of youth reached since the inception of the program in 2018 to over 3100 by the end of the year. 2021 was an exciting year for YHA, the organisation implemented a diverse range of projects and interventions. These projects and interventions included research projects, demand creation for COVID-19 vaccination, COVID-19 vaccination, food security through organic farming and entrepreneurship incubation for young business owners.

Our revenue tripled in 2021 compared to 2020. YHA was able to attain a surplus of approximately R8 million. We continued to diversify our funding revenues to achieve financial sustainability. Youth Employment Service (YES) continued to fund YHA and remains the biggest funding source of the YWE program. This was made possible by over 10 corporate sponsors with several recurring sponsors from 2020 returning to sponsor other programs in 2021. This is a good show of confidence in the ability of the organization and the team to deliver quality programs.

Our relationships with stakeholders strengthened. YHA increased the number of stakeholders and implementors in 2021. This allowed the organisation to increase its geographic coverage both in urban and rural areas. In 2021, YHA was able to place youth directly with the Provincial Departments of Health in Free State, Eastern Cape, and Limpopo. The following stakeholders and implementors played a key role in the placements of youth, The Aurum Institute, BroadReach Healthcare, Wits RHI, Jhpiego, Aids Foundation South Africa, Aurum Innova, CHAPS, TBHIV Care and CAPRISA.

YHA values the support it receives from The Aurum Institute. In addition to hosting youth in its operations, Aurum funds YHA for several youth development initiatives. Aurum is the second biggest funder of YHA after YES. YHA continues to benefit from Aurum systems, processes, and other infrastructure. YHA staff who are mainly young people continue to play an integral role in the growth of the organisation. YHA has a central team that is based in Johannesburg and this team supports the youth across the country. Their commitment and dedication is treasured. The team grew in 2021 in line with the growth of the program.

Bulelani Kuwane
Youth Health Africa
Chief Executive Officer
Youth Work Experience

- 998 newly onboarded youth
- 446 Youth supported through host coordination
- 2+ Provincial coverage
- 97% Program Completion rate
The youth work experience department is the core function of Youth Health Africa. YWE deals with the crucial processes of every YHA intern including recruitment, host coordination and human Resource management. As a department, YWE exists to provide support to each intern throughout their working experience at Youth Health Africa. In 2021, YHA achieved significant growth and expansion under the scope of Youth Work Experience as we welcomed a total of 940 youth onto the internship program.

Since its inception, we have now had a total of 3100 youth between the ages of 18-34 who have gone through the program. This is a great reflection of the dedication and commitment by YHA and its staff to alleviating the high youth unemployment rate in South Africa. 2021 saw 446 youth on the program supported through host coordination visits in 262 facilities across 5 provinces. Host coordination exists to support the youth's growth on the ground as they journey through the program. This is achieved through in-person site visits wherein support is offered to both the youth and host line managers to ensure that the youth's work experience is managed effectively, and their growth is measured in a successful manner. Another function of host coordination is to mediate any challenges between youth and their line manager as a means of ensuring that youth complete their 12 months of work experience successfully. We successfully conducted 32 interventions in the last year which helped contribute to an increase in the number of successful program completions overall.

The absorption division, as an arm of the youth work experience department, seeks to usher the youth into the world of work as they exit the program. The division ensures that youth are prepared to move into the next phase of their careers by preparing reference letters, updating their CVs, and sourcing relevant and potential entry level roles for youth in different industries. 2021 saw a total of 673 youth successfully offboard the program as they spread their wings into the world of work fully equipped with on-demand skills such as filing and data capturing. Of the 673 youth that offboarded the program, 7.4% secured fixed-term employment with some of our host partners such as JHPIEGO, CHAPS and the Aurum institute- with JHPIEGO having absorbed 10 of the 18 youth that had been hosted for work experience.

The division also helps contribute to improving the program experience for youth by conducting exit interviews with youth who resign from the program. We conducted 95 exit interviews with youth that had resigned from the program in the past year. While we strive for successful program completion, it is worth mentioning that a large fraction of the youth that resigned, did so to either pursue full time studies or permanent employment opportunities elsewhere.
In 2021, Youth Health Africa made a debut in the Eastern Cape and Limpopo provinces. This was an expansion of its footprint which saw YHA reach 8 of the 9 South African provinces. This was achieved in partnership with the Department of Health in both provinces and other projects that YHA implemented from February 2021 to date.

We empowered 10 young people with work experience through Anglo American and YES4Youth. The youth worked as administrators and filing clerks at the Northam clinic in Limpopo. The same was true for 19 youth that worked with the E.C department of Health from February 2021 until January 2022. We also piloted the first ever food security program, that saw 30 youth empowered with agricultural and farming knowledge and skills that they later implemented in their homes through subsistence farming. We also worked with the government in implementing the COVID-19 demand creation vaccination project in collaboration with the health ministry as part of the government’s response to the COVID-19. The youth on the program directly contributed to the vaccination of over 8000 within the districts that they were placed in.
Business Developments, Partnerships and Grants

- 21 host partners
- R73M worth of contracts
- 13 YES Corporate sponsors
- Geographic coverage – 8 provinces and 19 health districts
Partnerships

The partnerships team is responsible for stakeholder engagement, ensuring that all youth placed with our host employers (implementing partners) gain meaningful work experience and are adding value to the daily operations. They coordinate placements for youth to complete their 12 months learning journey. Engagements with host employers are conducted by means of a bi-monthly meeting; collecting KPIs which form part of the performance management tool used to track the progress of the youth placed with the host; as well as intervening when there are challenges and concerns raised by line managers or the youth and coordinating any HR disciplinaries if need be. Partner leads built and formed relationships with about 21 host employers in 8 provinces in South Africa in 2021.

Our Health Implementing partners grew exponentially in 2021 which allowed YHA to expand its footprint in South Africa. Overall, we placed more youth across 8 provinces with existing and new host employers including Compensation for Occupational Injuries and Diseases support (COID), AIDS Foundation South Africa (AFSA), JHPIEGO, WitsRHI and Broadreach. Through these budding partnership relations, we were able to further empower our youth across the country and establish a dynamic support structure within the organisation.

The Performance Management of youth using the KPI tool monitored by the partner leads through KPI reminders and monthly analysis reports remains important in strengthening the program and the progress of the youth. All line managers are expected to submit a KPI for each youth they are supervising, detailing data on the targets achieved by the youth in the month and their responsibilities as well as their attendance, teamwork, and growth within the organisation. They are also responsible for ensuring hat the youth timeously complete the tasks that are handed to them. In 2021, the KPI compliance improved drastically with 4 outstanding partners maintaining just above 80% KPI compliance rate. For 2021, the team also managed to achieve a further 80% attendance across all partners for monthly engagements and interventions were coordinated for various partners.

Grants and Business Development

As a Not-for-Profit organisation, YHA depends on a consistent external funding stream to sustain daily operations. Consequently, the Grants and Proposals division of Business Development exists to secure funds to ensure that more employment opportunities are created for the youth. The team is responsible for the management of all successful grants in terms of liaising with funding stakeholders to ensure compliance and accountability.

In 2021, the grants department achieved about R73m worth of contracts that saw more young people finding employment opportunities. Youth Employment Service (YES) was the biggest funder through 13 corporate sponsors. The Aurum Institute was the second biggest funder through various projects that YHA implements. The other funders included BroadReach Health Care, Accenture SA, DG Murray Trust, Skills 123 and CAPRISA.
Community Projects

- +8,000 COVID-19 Vaccines Administered
- +20 Vaccine drives and activations supported
- Over 300 Youth onboarded to support demand creation for COVID-19
- Demand Creation projects in 6 districts
- Supported the ZWAKALA project which administered +2,000 vaccines
At its core, Youth Health Africa was developed under the guise of addressing youth unemployment and HIV/AIDS and TB as a direct determining factor for these high levels of unemployment amongst youth in developing areas. As part of community engagement, we launched #YouthDrive4Health in 2020 to increase HIV testing and TB screening in local communities with the help of our youth. As COVID-19 spread throughout the country and began to have a major impact on our public healthcare system, the need for COVID-19 related community interventions increased rapidly. In response to this urgent need, YHA expanded its department structure to include what is now known as Community Projects. In 2021, this department undertook several projects that have made great impact across the country.

**Accenture ZWAKALA Demand creation project**

In September 2021, YHA became one of many partners involved in the local community campaign – Zwakala. The Zwakala Campaign is a key youth-focused campaign supporting the National Department of Health’s vaccine demand acceleration strategy. The campaign draws on the support of UNICEF South Africa, UN Verified, USAID, Accenture, Aurum Institute, CHAPS, Youth Health Africa, and the Community Media Trust. As a key implementing partner, our role within this campaign is to recruit and manage the youth that will be responsible for demand creation and door-to-door initiatives in North-West, Gauteng and Eastern Cape. We have recruited a total of 263 youth between the ages of 18-34 under the Accenture group to educate and inform community members on the importance of COVID-19 vaccines. Since its inception, the Zwakala campaign has yielded exceptional results with over 2000 vaccinations being administered across 3 provinces.
When Vooma weekend was launched in October 2021 by President Cyril Ramaphosa, YHA became number one partner in Mass Demand Creation Support. In these campaigns which largely took place on weekends we would use the Promo Truck, fitted with Music and Incentives (Masks, Bucket hats, T shirts, and shopping bags) to distribute to those who would participate in these campaigns. Dancers from CMT would form part of these events to ensure and attract people to attend and subsequently vaccinate.
The agricultural farming project is a brand-new initiative under the scope of Food security within Community Projects. The project, which launched in December 2021, aims to empower the local community of Entsimekweni and its residents when it comes to producing their own crops. 16 youth from the village are equipped with work-readiness training and trained in how to clean, plant and harvest fruits and vegetables. The development of this project is a reflection of the importance of youth empowerment not only in a formal workplace, but also in their households and local communities.

Aquaponics Projects

Aquaponics is a combination of aquaculture, which is growing fish and other aquatic animals, and hydroponics which is growing plants without soil. Aquaponics uses these two in a symbiotic combination in which plants are fed the aquatic animals’ discharge or waste. In return, the vegetables clean the water that goes back to the fish. Benefits of aquaponics farming is that you are able to grow healthier and organic vegetables in a small space and actually require less water overall. (Source: Permaculture Research News)
Training and Skills Development

- +1,300 Youth trained
- 36 Youth led businesses in Entrepreneurship programme
- 116 youth completed 1st SETA programme
- +700 youth participants in CAPRISA research study
2021 was the year of learning for the training and development team. During the year, the team identified new learning opportunities for the youth which resulted in the creation of two new training programs, the Social Entrepreneurship Incubation Program and the Aquaponics technical training. The year also saw youth play a pivotal role in understanding the impact of COVID-19 on vulnerable groups in South Africa as data collectors. In addition, the training co-administered its first SETA program to a cohort of 116 youth based in Gauteng and there were many insights and lessons learnt. The year, however was not without its challenges.

In 2021, the team facilitated work readiness and developmental training to over 1300 youth. 86% of the youth onboarded received between 1-3 days work readiness training and 66% of youth in 2021 attended at least one development day training. Despite it being the third year of facilitating the development days training sessions, the youth are still adjusting to the program offering and this is evident in the attendance rate. The team wanted to find out what could be the factors contributing to the low attendance rates and started implementing monthly youth check ins with the youth. These check ins proved to be very insightful as the team was able identify cohorts that needed additional assistance and direct them to the relevant department. With the information provided by the youth, the team hopes to improve the quality of the training programs to ensure that youth get quality training.

**SETA Program**

In 2021, the training team co-facilitated the first SETA program to 116 youth who were sponsored by The Aurum Institute. Through the SETA registration of the Aurum 116 youth, the team has identified that there are 4 main stages to the implantation of a SETA program:

**Stage 1: Identification of SETA program**
**Stage 2: Document collection and registration**
**Stage 3: Class commencement and POE submission**
**Stage 4: Moderation and certification**

Throughout the year, the team recognises that youth who are interested in in the qualification tend to be more consistent with their attendance. Secondly, the kind of facilitator also impacts on how youth experience the program. Lastly, the team recognises that the more involved they are in checking in on the youth and the facilitator in class reinforces the importance of the youth attendance. Going forward, the team recognised that the following principles increase the success rate of the program;

- Recruiting youth who are interested in a Business Admin program
- Have biweekly check ins with the youth specifically regarding their participation in the SETA program
- Having block classes at the beginning of their program
Social Entrepreneurship Incubation Program

The Social entrepreneurship incubation program in a month long training program which equipped emerging and established youth businesses with business knowledge and key fundraising and operational skills. The biggest industry that youth businesses are currently located in is food and beverages. Many of the youth businesses either offer catering services, take-away options or pre-packaged food. What is interesting to note that there is a considerable number of youth businesses that are in the beauty and fashion industry and health and wellbeing. 51% of the youth businesses have been in operation for less than a year and 29% of the youth businesses have yet to be established. The location of the youth businesses coincides with the ratio of youth placements in YHA as the majority of the businesses are physically located in Gauteng, Eastern Cape and Mpumalanga. 45% of the youth businesses currently do not have a business plan and the majority of the youth indicated that they would like assistance with fundraising and financial management.

Through the program, 50 youth businesses participated in the weekly training sessions with 20 youth business successfully pitching their business ideas in the Bizz Nest to a panel of YHA employees to stand a chance to win R10 000 in seed capital. The winning business was Pusoetsile Gonkang Tradings, a poultry farm based in Winterveld, Gauteng that aims to produce affordable chicken and eggs to its local market. The business is owned by Boitumelo Mbale, a youth research assistant based in Tshwane who worked on the ASCENT program at The Aurum Institute. The seed capital helped Boitumelo purchase new technology that would increase efficiencies within her business thus increasing its competitive advantage.

Food Security

At the beginning of 2021, YHA conducted a study to understand youth’s lived experience relating to food security and understand if there was appetite amongst the youth for a food security program. 196 youth participated in the survey with 32% of the youth residing in Mpumalanga. Based on the results, 64.3% of youth indicated that they have worried about when their next meal would be in the last 12 months. Moreover, 98 youth participants indicated that they have skipped either one meal or have not eaten the whole day at least once in the past three months due to lack of food or money. When asked about the household spend on groceries, 40.8% of youth indicated that their household spends between 26-50% on the grocery. Moreover, over 75% of youth indicated that the cost of healthy food is a deterrent for them eating a balanced diet.

This information illustrated the need to explore options for youth be upskilled more on different methods they can use to increase their food security. During the course of the year, the training team developed a training program on Aquaponics and how this technique can be used to overcome the agricultural challenges currently faced by farmers. Moreover, the team supported the first cohort of youth placed in the agricultural program in the Eastern Cape. This was done through skills transfer and upskilling about how to use subsistence farming to generate household income whilst promoting community service.
YHA participated in a study conducted by CAPRISA in a partnership with UNAIDS, the Department of Health and other key partners in understanding what the impact of COVID-19 was on women and girls at high risk of or living with HIV in South Africa. 137 YHA youth based in Ekurhuleni and eThekwini were upskilled on ways to create a good rapport with community members and on how to ethically collect research data in the field.

As field data collectors, they played an instrumental role within the research and through their engagement with over 700 participants, researchers were able to gain meaningful information that would better inform how healthcare services are distributed to this vulnerable population.

Aquaponics and Design Course

The training team participated in an intensive two-day technical training with Ichthys Aquaponics to understand how aquaponics works and how to use effective plant, fish and system management to yield the desired produce output. The team then evaluated the training and modified it to best suit the needs of the YHA aquaponics project and simplify many of the technical terms.

The final YHA facilitated technical training on aquaponics consisted of 8 sections which included post section quizzes to assess the youth’s understanding of the new concepts. The team piloted the training session to various department to determine its appropriateness especially amongst youth who did not have prior knowledge of biology. The team will continue to evaluate the training program once the project has kicked off to ensure that it is capable of adequately preparing the youth.
Boitumelo Mbale (26), from Arcadia Pretoria is the first winner of the YHA Bizz Nest programme which launched in 2021.

Boitumelo joined the YHA internship programme in 2020 as a research assistant intern. Some of her daily tasks included administration and customer service towards patients - a skill that she notes as valuable in starting her business.

Tell us more about your business?

Pusoetsile Gonkgang Trading is a poultry business that is based in Winterveld, Gauteng. I farm chickens and produce eggs at affordable prices to the community. My business also supplies other needs such as sanitisers, face masks and relevant cleaning equipment.

What motivated you to start this particular business?

The lack of job opportunities and unemployment in my area, really. I used my social relief grant to start my business off the ground. It is really hard to get a job these days in South Africa, so I decided to venture into entrepreneurship to sustain myself.

How will winning this business positively affect your life and your business?

Not only change my life, but it will benefit my community because I will now be able to expand my business and potentially create employment within my community.

Why do you think the youth are struggling to start businesses within their own communities?

The reality is that youth are dealing with serious issues such as drug abuse. And as a result, they lack the necessary skills and mindset needed to start a successful business.

As a youth in entrepreneurship, what advise would you give to others struggling or wanting to start a business?

Start now by planning what your business would look like and deal with. Also try and identify a need within your community, and then implement your strategy from there.
Youth Health Africa NPC (YHA) was formally gazetted in March 2020. The financial year ended 31 December 2021 is the organisation's second year of operations. Despite the exceptional circumstances around the Covid-19 induced lockdowns and the negative economic impact, the organisation had a successful year with an increase in revenue of 185% from the previous year and nett surplus reported at R6,9m. This is attributed to the generous and continuous support by our various donors.

At a Group Level, it was decided to embark on an Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) journey during 2020 and started the implementation of Microsoft D365 during the latter part of 2020/21.

To ensure the successful implementation of the ERP, and ensure that it is embedded within the business, prioritisation was given to two modules within D365 namely Finance and Operations (F&O) and Customer Engagement (CE). These two modules fitted neatly with the finance business processes as well as the grants management processes. The prioritisation was also based on one fundamental principle which was to ensure that the foundational elements of the system be implemented first that would build towards sustainable grants management and finance processes that could address funder requirements. A decision was made to include all Aurum subsidiaries in this journey to ensure that all business processes and financial reporting could be standardised across the business and the value of the investment therefore realised by all parties. As such, this directly impacted YHA and required the team to be all hands-on deck to ensure the successful implementation at YHA without disruption of operations.

During the month of November 2021, the organisation (YHA) went live with the system implementation which enabled decision making across the business. I extend my sincere appreciation to the Finance team members for achieving this milestone and for working with such commitment and dedication to this process whilst still providing the necessary support to the organisation.

YHA cash balance at December 2021 was R28,3 million, of which R16,5 million was restricted for commitments to various grants it has received. The remaining cash is retained to sustain our operations and meet the ongoing operational commitments.

YHA ended the financial year 2021 in a strong position, which enables the organisation to continue to execute on its mandate to create holistic youth development opportunities, to strengthen the public health sector for empowerment and employability.

Joshila Hari
Aurum Group Affiliate
Chief Financial Officer
## Statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income

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<td>Total comprehensive income (loss) for the year</td>
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## Statement of financial position as at 31 December 2021

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Nthabiseng Moabelo (24)  
originally from Kempton Park and currently based in Parktown, Johannesburg, joined the Youth Health Africa programme as an intern in 2020.

Based in Aurum Innova, her daily tasks as an intern included invoicing, preparing quotes, and sending statements to debtors. She was also tasked with filling reports and statements as well as debt collection. Due to the nature of the work that she was required to do, Nthabiseng learned the importance of people skills within the workplace. Having to contact various clients requires patience and emotional intelligence and she soon learned the value in professional communication in order to complete her work tasks while maintaining healthy client relationships.

Nthabiseng notes her greatest highlight as being given more responsibility as she developed within her internship. Her colleagues and superiors began to trust her with more tasks that went beyond her original job scope and in turn was able to build a strong relationship at her workplace. Because of the excellent work ethic and commitment that Nthabiseng displayed during her time as an intern, she has since been absorbed on a full-time basis at Aurum Innova where she is now a financial administrator on Debtors.
Magata Kola (30)  
from Zebediela village in Limpopo and currently based in Johannesburg South, joined the Youth Health African internship programme in 2020.

During his internship, Magata was involved in the training team as a facilitator assisting with inhouse training and ensuring that new Youth Health Africa interns received training and development ahead of commencing their learnerships.

The valuable skills that he learned during his internship include communication and interpersonal skills which he believes are key elements to learn within any working environment. Magata also gained experience and training in conducting facilitation sessions as well as creating and conducting presentations. Since completing his internship with YHA, Magata has grown and improved immensely within the organisation. As a recently appointed Youth officer in within the YHA training and development team, he was awarded an assessor certificate and is currently awaiting accreditation.
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