

## DITP: CHAIRMAN'S REPORT 2019

Greeting Moms and Dads,

What an incredible journey we've had over the last 7 years, a journey that resembles life itself with plenty highs and lows. Noteworthy as it is, the real journey to ensuring that our children, women and men alike receive the best possible influence through nurturing is in its infancy.

Welcome to all our founder members, our current executive committee members, our members, donors, sponsors and our guests. We hope that the information that we will be sharing with you this morning is of use to you, hoping we will afford you the opportunity to see a clearer picture of where the organization comes from and where we intend to steer it. Your presence here today is valued and we welcome all forms of input and comments forwarded to the managing team through all the available channels. Let us all join hands and continue to turn tide of fatherhood to be a more positive and effective one for our children, their mothers, our spouses, our families and peers alike.

Today is yet another opportunity to shape our organization into a well-managed, well operated and accountable institution. We continue to be a registered non-profit organization, looking to be transparent to our members, donors, sponsors and partners as governed by our constitution. An electronic copy of the constitution is available for you to peruse should you so wish.

The era 2018-2019 has been an awesome time both for the organization and myself personally. Our growth over the years has been slow yet steady as we:

- ✓ Managed to grow our email database by 5% with mainly new partnerships formed with like-minded organizations and individuals.
- ✓ Our Facebook Group has grown by 10% to the current +2800 men and we have over 1,750 friends on our Facebook profile.
- ✓ We have gone to create a Pro-Fatherhood Moms (Moms In the Picture) group to allow all mothers supportive of our efforts to interact as well as to communicate directly with us.
- ✓ Our twitter following has seen a 20% growth to over 900 followers over the last year.
- ✓ We have gone on to create an Instagram account that seek to bridge our media presence especially in line with the ever evolving landscape.
- ✓ Our website has also received a much needed update recently and we hope to continue using it as an effective tool to showcase our work.

We are humbled with the amount of **MEDIA EXPOSURE** we continue to enjoy in the form of print, radio and television:

- ✓ We have been hosted on SAFM, Metro FM, Thobela FM, Ligwalagwala FM, Motsweding FM, Moretele Community Radio, Hope FM, Alansaar Radio, Massiv Metro and Power FM.

- ✓ Our organization has appeared on various SABC and DSTV channels respectively and it's been for all the right reasons if I might add.
- ✓ We have been profiled in publications such as Pretoria News as well as a number of community newspapers namely Rekord in various cities, The Advertiser in Ekurhuleni, The Beat in BelaBela, as well as The Sowetan.
- ✓ Our insight and expertise has been featured on various podcast platforms as well as YouTube channels.

We aren't short of notable **ACHIEVEMENTS** as well. These include:

- ✓ Being founding members in the industry wide collaborative efforts on matters of positive Fatherhood namely #JustDadIt [www.justdadit.co.za](http://www.justdadit.co.za)
- ✓ We are an active member of a very beneficial Fathers Network. This network has given us great exposure and access to a number of locally-based organizations. The highlight of this relationship saw the organization playing a pivotal part in the Father's Network Strategic Conference in March 2019. We we're entrusted with providing a speaker for the event as well as the master of ceremony. This was indeed an opportunity that not only sure cased our value to the industry but also increased our following as the event was streamed live on Facebook.
- ✓ As the follow up to receiving the 2018 Man of the moment bestowed on the founder of the organization, a number of invitations continued to stream in seeking our services.
- ✓ Department of Social Development in partnership with AbInBev (SAB) honoured us with an invite to their very powerful, empowering and rigorous Pretoria University Certified NPO training held in Johannesburg. Two members of the organization were invited to take part in the training and we believe they will share the learning.

We took part in various **PARTNERSHIP** engagements in line with our plans:

- ✓ US Embassy Roundtable on GBV was held at Moyos, Johannesburg Zoo Lake and we were among the 10 organizations who honoured the invitation and really influenced the conversation. The follow-up Roundtable hosted by the US Ambassador to SA Lana J Marks at the ambassador's official residence proved to be a notable invitation to wrap-up the year.
- ✓ Suid-Afrikaanse Vrou Federasie (SAVF) invited daddy Meshack Kekana as a key note speaker during their 2018 Annual General Meeting. This was an honour that not only cemented the 7 year long relationship but also got us excited in that we have solid relationships with partner organization.
- ✓ Families South Africa (FAMSA) in Secunda invited us to make a presentation on families at their Annual General Meeting. We most certainly honoured the invite and delivered a well thought and researched position on families.
- ✓ Numerous religious grouping have welcomed Dads in the picture and are looking to learn from us and support our efforts in their congregations. We continue to be open for all religions believes and will engage for the greater good of our nation.

- ✓ Men's Dialogues were held on GBV in partnership with the Office of the Presidency in their Pretoria, Durban and Cape Town offices respectively.

We continue to enjoy partnerships with our **INITIATIVES** that are strong and gaining strength year on year.

- ✓ Our partnership with Department of Justice and Constitutional Development has continued and extended to the launch of our annual Men Engage Summit. This summit aims to bring together all our efforts in an annual sitting with partner organization. The initial summit was held in Ekurhuleni, Gauteng. The follow-up summit will be taking place in Vryheid, KwaZulu-Natal in January 2020. Partners involved also include SAVF, FAMSA, DSD as well as civil society.
- ✓ The annual Pre-Spring Dad and Child camp-out was also held in Hartebeespoort and was a rousing success. The team has agreed to increase the frequency of the camp-out with the introduction of the Pre-Autumn camp-out, the 1<sup>st</sup> of which to be held in BelaBela in February 2020.
- ✓ The annual Youth Engage Summit to be held in the month of June was launched in Soshanguve hosted by Phuthanang Primary School. The aim of these is primarily to address the challenges faces by educators and pupils alike in an open forum. Plans are being made for the follow-up session in 2020.
- ✓ The need to interact with members on a 1-on-1 basis has been identified and as such the introduction of Coffee Meet-UP sessions to be conducted by the chairperson quarterly across Gauteng as a pilot. We can only hope that the dads take this opportunity to grow and get to know each other.

A lot of work remains to be done and we are committed to continue the journey by supporting our chosen **OBSERVANCES** as well as all efforts from government and civil society in advancing social cohesion. We continue to ask for commitment from all our members. This commitment will be in the form of:

- ✓ lobbying for the organization,
- ✓ making time to perform organizational tasks where required and
- ✓ supporting all the efforts made by the office bearers in advancing our cause



**Thanks you all for your commitment, support, donations and for making the difference in the lives of our children. We continue to become visible as an organization that isn't fighting for mothers nor fathers but for the Best Interest of Children irrespective of the living arrangements or the relationship statuses of their biological parents.**