

2025 Impact Report

Early Life | Education | Employment

commongood

Supporting Grassroots Transformation Since 2005

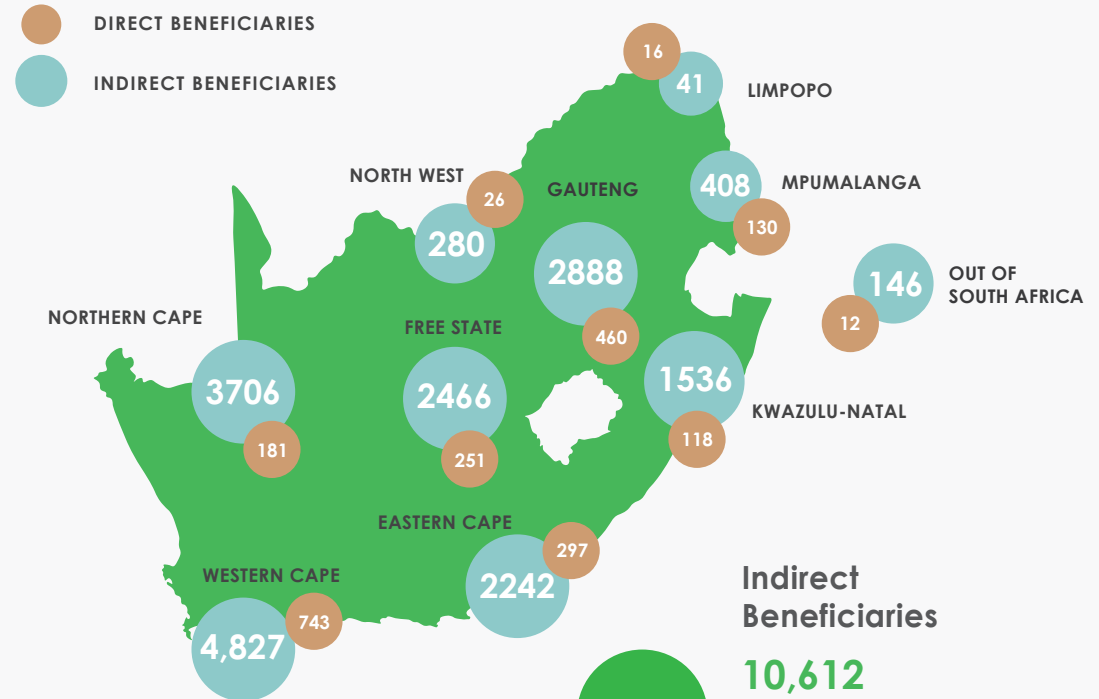
Impact Map: Showing Our Reach for 2025

In 2025, Common Good continued to walk alongside communities across South Africa, remaining deeply committed to our mission of advancing justice, expanding opportunity, and supporting lasting, locally led change. Through strong partnerships with churches, community organisations, schools, and government, we focused on equipping people with the relationships, tools, and support needed to build sustainable futures.

Our collaborative approach is bearing fruit. Across our early life, education, and employment programmes, we have seen encouraging growth, impact, and tangible progress. Parents and caregivers were supported during the critical early years of a child's life, learners received access to quality education within nurturing school environments, and individuals facing unemployment were equipped with skills, confidence, and pathways toward meaningful work. There is much to celebrate in the way communities are growing in resilience, dignity, and hope.

Together, we are contributing to a more just and equitable future — one shaped through relationships, shared responsibility, and collective action. Our impact extends to both direct participants and the wider communities they are part of, reflecting our belief that lasting change happens when individuals, families, and systems are strengthened together.

Common Good was founded in 2005 by Common Ground Church and formally registered as a non-profit and public benefit organization in 2006. Since then, we have positively impacted thousands of lives across South Africa. This includes both direct and indirect beneficiaries in each of our programmes.



Indirect Beneficiaries

- 10,612**
Early Life
 parents/caregivers + babies supported in the First Thousand Days by **663 new churches**
- 7,109**
Education
 learners received better education in **8 partner schools** through **370 teachers & staff**
- 819**
Employment
 Job Journey graduates through **54 courses** run by replication partners across **5 provinces**.

commongood
supporting grassroots transformation

Our Approach to Transformation

Common Good walks alongside communities across three critical stages of life: **Early Life, Education, and Employment**. Because we believe every person in South Africa deserves the chance to flourish.

We don't work alone, and we don't work from the top down. We partner with communities, churches, schools, NGOs, and government to learn from what's happening on the ground, share what's working, and build something that lasts.

Our programmes **form an integrated pathway**, walking with families from pregnancy through early childhood, in schools, and towards meaningful work. We equip families, churches, schools, employers, and communities to create change that outlasts us.

Our Justice and the Church programme runs through all of it, strengthening the faith-rooted foundations, leadership, and values that shape how every programme is designed, delivered, and sustained.

South Africa is a country of remarkable resilience. And yet millions of children, learners, job seekers, and families still face overwhelming odds. Through **Sikunye** (Early Life), **Education, Job Journey** (Employment), and **Justice and the Church**, we serve as a backbone for local partners: equipping them, building alongside them, and connecting people, organisations, and resources for long-term transformation.

In practice, **that looks like three things:**

Scale Up

Partnering for National Change

We don't set the national agenda. But we do work closely with government, funders, and civil society to strengthen how key priorities are carried out, in the First Thousand Days, in education, and in employment.

Scale Out

Spreading What Works

When a programme changes lives in one place, we help it reach the next. Through partnerships with churches, schools, and community organisations, we carry proven tools, training, and relationships into more communities across South Africa.

Scale Deep

Going Deep Where it Matters.

Through hands-on training, coaching, and lasting partnerships, we strengthen the people closest to children, learners, young people, and families. Not just with skills, but with confidence, trust, and a deep sense of belonging.

Early Life

The cycle of intergenerational poverty can be interrupted! Parents hold the key to their child's flourishing - and Sikunye is equipping local churches across South Africa to walk with caregivers in this crucial role.

the village grows to
2000 churches!

Reached and mobilised new church communities

- Through 35 Church & Early Life workshops, 1,334 people discovered the importance of the first thousand days and the vital role their church can play.
- 663 churches made a commitment to care for families during this crucial stage, bringing our total FTD-friendly churches in the Sikunye network to over 2,000 churches.

Equipped churches to increase their impact

- Practical workshops covered topics on nutrition, brain development stimulation, supporting families through grief and loss, and creating child-safe churches (including child-protection policy writing).
- Our Lunchtime Connect with Sikunye sessions fostered peer learning and shared encouraging stories across the network. This community of practice helps to bridge our various online offerings. We hosted 8 events, with 220 attendees.

Mobilised volunteers for home visits

- Khathalela training equipped 125 volunteers to visit mothers at key moments in the First Thousand Days.
- Fatherhood in the First Thousand Days training empowered 23 volunteers to reach and strengthen dads in their important role to be present, positive, and involved fathers.

Launched FTD Month (Mother's Day to Father's Day)

- Churches used customisable resources to rally their congregations around treasuring young children and supporting parents and caregivers.

Expanded internationally

- Richard Lundie, Sikunye's programme director, presented Sikunye's research and programme offerings at two global conferences, receiving strong interest from diverse contexts.

Piloted Build the Village Academy

- An intensive capacity-building journey with Zoom training, personalised coaching, manuals, and videos.
- 10 churches and 24 participants completed the 2025 pilot, proving this is now a cornerstone offering for sustainable, wide-reaching grassroots transformation.

2025 Highlights



663
New Churches



A window into
the churches
who joined in 2025



91
Events
Awareness Raising: 35 Events
Equipping and Supporting: 56 Events



In all 9 South African
Provinces



2559
Total Attendees
Awareness Raising: 1334 Attendees
Equipping and Supporting: 1225 Attendees



5306 new families in the
First Thousand Days
reached in these
churches



10 churches and 24 people
completed Build the Village
Academy



Pastor S'bongile Bellina Thwala from Christ Bless Us Ministry in KwaThema, Springs, completed Sikunye's Khathalela home visitor training. When a young Zimbabwean woman in the community discovered she was pregnant for the first time, she was turned away from a local government clinic and left without support.

Through her training, Pastor S'bongile recognised the urgency of the situation and stepped in. She connected the mother to a private clinic that welcomes foreign nationals, ensuring she received the care she needed. The baby was safely delivered, and both mother and child continue to receive ongoing health support.

What began in fear was transformed into hope through timely, relational care.

S'bongile Bellina Thwala

PASTOR FROM CHRIST BLESS US MINISTRY



Education

Turning under-resourced schools into centres of excellence through long-term coaching, leadership development, and systems strengthening.

lasting
foundations have been laid

In 2025, we organised our work into “Home Game” schools (Western Cape) and “Away Game” schools (Northern Cape and North West), enabling more focused and effective support across all eight partner schools.

Our Western Cape schools have shown strong growth over the past five years and are now close to graduating from intensive support.

- School leaders & management teams are independently managing staff development and training.
- Most are now conducting their own school learning walks with minimal involvement from the Common Good team.
- We continue to support HR and financial management, which will taper off as internal capacity strengthens.
- **Silikamva High School delivered outstanding matric outcomes in 2025:**
100% pass rate (up from 94.3% in 2024).
76% bachelor's pass, indicating strong quality.
100% pass rate in 8 subject, including Physical Sciences.
- In the Northern Cape, **our three Lesedi Trust schools are showing encouraging progress**, supported by three full-time Common Good staff working onsite.
- We **expanded into the North West Province**, launching work at Makgophe Primary, where early engagement has been positive.
- The **Collaboration School Assessments** and follow-up error analyses have strengthened teaching across all partner schools, with targeted reteaching leading to clear learner improvements confirmed through Systemic and Common Good assessments.
- Our annual **Collaboration Schools Conference, co-hosted with DGMT's Public School Partnerships programme**, gathered 120 leaders nationwide and featured both the **National and Provincial Ministers of Education**, highlighting the growing impact of this partnership.
- Common Good's Education Team is proving that patient, grassroots-led school improvement delivers lasting results.

2025 Highlights



7019

Learners impacted by our programme



370

Teachers supported across 8 schools



4700

Collaboration Schools Assessment Papers Written



A deeper dive into the 2025 **Silikamva Matric Results**



100%
Pass Rate



76%
Bachelor Passes



100%
Pass rate in 8 Subjects

Disa Primary Steps Into *It's Strength*

Disa Primary School in Bonteheuwel has been part of our Education programme for several years, and we're beginning to see the **kind of progress every school dreams of**. Their systemic test results have been climbing year after year, a clear sign that teaching and learning are improving. Over the past six years, Grade 3 maths has increased by 19.5%, Grade 6 maths by 37.5%, Grade 3 Home Language by 50.3%, and Grade 6 Home Language by 51.7%.

As we've walked alongside the school, offering coaching, training, and practical support, we've noticed something significant: **Disa's team is gaining real confidence and capacity**. They're taking ownership of the work, make strong decisions, and lead the school forward with growing independence. It's exactly what we hope for when we partner with a school.

In 2025, Disa was selected for an external evaluation by the Western Cape Education Department's School Evaluation Authority, a rigorous review that only happens once every five years. **The outcome was incredibly encouraging**. The evaluators highlighted the school's strong performance and specifically noted the positive role Common Good has played in their growth.

For the staff at Disa, **this recognition was a huge boost**. For us, it was a moment of deep encouragement, a reminder that steady, **long-term investment truly shifts** what is possible in our schools and communities.

Employment

Every South African deserves the chance to access and sustain meaningful employment. Through Job Journey, we train and equip grassroots organisations to run work-readiness courses in their own communities – helping people seek and sustain meaningful employment and restore hope and dignity.

refining the
journey to employment

- Officially **launched the refined 9-day Job Journey course**, consolidating years of testing and aligning content with new PowerPoint resources.
- Conducted **exemplar course pilots** and **updated the facilitator guide** to ensure consistency and improved learning flow.
- Ran a **two-day Job Journey for Business pilot** with Bridges Retreat Centre - the first corporate-facing version of the course, designed to boost retention and workplace resilience.
- **Job Journey for Schools** workshop held for coaches from multiple partner organisations, developing content for **Grades 8–9** on work readiness, self-awareness, and career planning.
- Began development of a new **digital CV Builder platform**, to help participants generate professional CVs quickly and accurately.
- Enhanced the **Job Journey website** with clearer partner onboarding sections, downloadable tools, and data-capture tutorials.
- Continued replication in **Western Cape, Eastern Cape, and Limpopo**, with interest growing in **KwaZulu-Natal and Gauteng** via partner networks.
- Continued to build professional networks with replication partners such as **U-Turn, Bridges Retreat Centre, HopeTown, and Embark in Knowledge** - showcasing multi-sector collaboration.
- Improved **data collection and M&E systems** - guiding partners on accurate graduate tracking and reporting for stronger impact evidence.
- Hosted three Facilitator Onboarding workshops – supporting coaches to unlock employment pathways for unemployed South Africans – creating ripple effects of dignity, opportunity, and long-term change.

2025 Highlights



819

Graduates through
54 Courses



12

New Partners joined
the Network



53

New Coaches
trained in 2025



69%

of tracked graduates
are employed
or in further study.



Job Journey Graduate to Job Journey Coach

Zayaan "Zaza" Stevens from Manenberg never imagined that walking past a Job Journey replication partner each day would one day change her life. After completing the 9-day work readiness course in 2023, she discovered her passion for facilitation and gained confidence to overcome social anxiety. Now training as a Job Journey coach, she says, "I want people to see that not every door is locked - you just need to show up and be willing to find yourself."

“ Before Job Journey, my life was stressful, and I felt completely hopeless. After Job Journey, everything changed: it gave me direction, purpose, and a brighter future. I'm so grateful and now want to help others find that same hope.”

Khanyisa

JOB JOURNEY GRADUATE

“ The programme was exactly what I was looking for to create space for the Sparks to engage with their new roles as employees. They're feeling more confident and prepared for this adventure.”

Janine

SPARKS COHORT

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Founded in 2005 by Common Ground Church

Non-Profit and Public Benefit Organisation
(062-229-NPO | PBO 930026077)
able to issue 18A tax certificates for charitable donations

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