

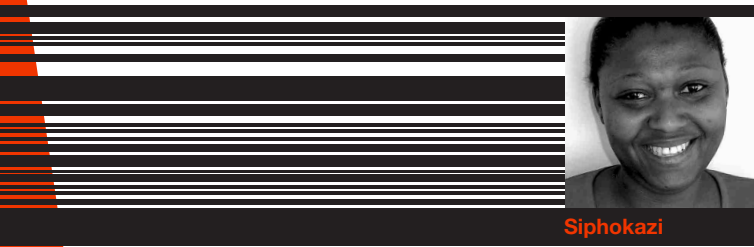
Paula

**A NOTE FROM PAULA** For the past three years, with Susannah George at the helm, OIL has been pioneering its adolescent Peer Education model within the Fish Hoek Valley. It has been an exciting and challenging season where we have seen many young lives positively impacted. The true magic of peer education has been watching our peer educators impacting others and making a genuine difference in their schools and communities.

Although Susannah remains on the Board of Directors, she will not be as involved in the day-to-day running of OIL as in the past. Although she'll be sadly missed, we know this in no way spells the end of her work with OIL. Over the past few months, besides my new role as Managing Director, there have been some significant structural changes within the organisation. OIL has moved into a new phase of refinement and consolidation to ensure long-term sustainability as well as continued excellence in service delivery.

We've certainly come a long way in a short space of time – and this next season will be about continuing the excellent work that is being done, finding out how we can be even more effective, and how we can become a reference point to serve other community organisations.

**ON THE FRONTLINES** The OIL peer educators had a second term that was packed full of activities. The academic side of things at school was also intense, with the mid year exams being a heavy burden at the end of an already hectic term.



Siphokazi

**MASIPHUMELELE HIGH** The Masi classroom sessions have seen a great improvement in group work as teens worked well together. The peer educators are getting more involved in their community. Many of them went to the Ocean View police station to volunteer in the Masiphumelele area on weekends to counter the high crime rate. The Track One's did a survey to help clinics become more youth friendly. They have also volunteered at the recently launched Masakhane Pre-school. We have been so excited by the real community-mindedness of all the Masi peer educators. They will continue to be great agents of change in their community.

**OCEAN VIEW HIGH** This term has been a busy one for the peer educators. We had a fantastic discussion time at the parents evening on the 12th of May. The Track One's are growing into their responsibilities and starting to dream about their futures, which we are excited about. The Track Two's created a room at their school called the O-zone. At the follow up day the two tracks got to know one another better and the Track One's and Two's are planning how they will implement activities and decorate the O-zone together. We are very proud of them for taking such initiative.



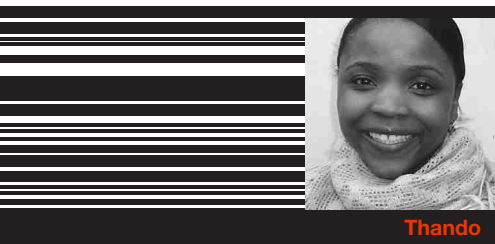
Shan

**SIMON'S TOWN HIGH** The Peer Educators have been a fun and lively bunch despite their small numbers. They have really made an effort to make a difference in their own lives and those of their friends. The Track One's planned and delivered a presentation at their school assembly in which they reported on what they had learned at the Orientation Camp. The Track Two's are working hard, committing time to OIL activities, while at the same time holding leadership responsibilities at school. The parents evening held on the 3rd June yielded valuable ideas to ensure the continued growth and development of our peer educators.



Michelle

**FISH HOEK HIGH** Being the vocal group that they are, the Fish Hoek Track Two peer educators took part in some lively discussions around topics such as Substance Abuse and Communication and Listening Skills that were addressed this term. Although many have had significant schooling and sporting demands they continue to remain committed to their role, showing much growth and maturity. The Track One's are a very strong group showing plenty of eagerness to get involved. Our times with them have been great fun as we tackle topics like Setting Healthy Boundaries. The leadership skills in these young people are being developed quite noticeably.



Thando

### ADVOCACY

Advocacy has seen an amazing quarter! We started off at the CHAIN Imbizo (Children's HIV/AIDS Network), which brought together over 100 organisations working in the children's sector. Jesse Beukes,

Loraleigh Huskisson, Kurt Hendricks and Thulkifl Meyer, who head up Advocacy projects, were selected to be the teen voice in the conference. Later in May we enjoyed a teen advocacy debate day and the Lube Lounge on the 28th of May saw our highest attendance ever! Our guests, Haydn Daw and Sam Marshall were both entertaining and inspiring.

Finally, we must applaud our peer educators who volunteered to assist in an externally organised Youth Day celebration in Ocean View. When none of the organisers arrived our peer educators swung into action, not only keeping the crowd of 85 entertained with song, dance and soccer but also given them a factual account of how the HIV virus works and how to get tested. We are so proud of you!



Ocean View

### COUNSELLING

OIL counselling for students continues in the Ukhanya Room at the Fish Hoek Clinic, where OIL counsellors are available every Tuesday afternoon. Since the beginning of this term OIL counsellors have also been available every Tuesday afternoon at the CWD building next to the Masiphumelele clinic. At both of these sites students can come and chat about any issues that are bothering them. HIV testing and counselling are also offered for those who are concerned that they might be at risk of having contracted the virus.

### MEDIA

Media is currently in a transition phase. We were unable to publish a second issue of WallMag due to a lack of funding, despite the great acclaim with which it was received. In order to overcome the funding hurdle we are taking a look at what restructuring can be done to make the product a sustainable business idea. In other media news, our department has been involved in looking at creative ways to fuse skills training and media literacy training to make the curriculum more exciting and accessible.

### FUNDRAISING

OIL has hosted three open days for potential overseas funders. This allowed them to examine OIL and get a better understanding of the work we do. Everyone who spoke to our OIL peer educators was touched by their enthusiasm and the hope they hold for their futures. You can help us continue with our work by making donations to the following account:

**Account : OIL Reach Out**  
**Bank : Standard Bank**  
**Branch : Rondebosch**  
**Branch code : 02 5009**  
**Account number : 071477551**

Your donations would be greatly appreciated!

### MONITORING & EVALUATION

In the second term OIL's Track One and Two's completed base-line questionnaires that will provide us with information about their knowledge, attitudes and behaviours towards sexuality and lifeskills. These surveys will highlight the strengths within OIL's Peer Education Programme and identify aspects that require further training and mentoring.

Also completed in the second term, was a survey of 218 teens to assess the acceptability of WallMag to the student population of the 4 schools within the Fish Hoek Valley. The survey confirmed that teens see WallMag as "hip and cool".



Ricardo Herdien, a Track 2 peer educator from Ocean View, talks about love:

I would like to be the kind of person that tries to be a good friend before becoming a boyfriend. Why does love fade away for teenagers today? I think its because they never have the opportunity of becoming a friend first.

Contact us...

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