



THE NEWS FROM THE FIELD

OneVoice South Africa

Submitted by Marlijn van Berne, Communications and Fundraising Manager for OneVoice South Africa. OneVoice South Africa (OVSA), an OHAP partner, recently partnered with Until There's a Cure (UTAC) from the United States of America. In a bid to get young people talking about the HIV and AIDS epidemic through art. The aim of the project was to inspire young people to develop and communicate a more encouraging and compassionate perception of HIV and AIDS through a creative and honest medium.

Scattered across the far corners of their respective 'studios', OVSA learners and facilitators were asked to draw their answers to the question: What do YOU see as the positive aspects of the HIV and AIDS epidemic?... What if it were YOU? Stimulating discussion around this topic compelled the artists to question

their own views and attitudes, to examine stereotypes and stigma, and to recognise the positive aspects of the work they are doing in this field.

Learners and facilitators alike enjoyed being able to portray their point of view and deliver a positive message in the face of the substantial hurdles associated with HIV and AIDS. As a communication method, it provides young people with an excellent opportunity to convey a very personal and real message and command the attention of their peers.



Getting creative with art on the OVSA / UTAC poster project. Photo © Marlijn van Berne / OVSA

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Feedback from Link survey

Thanks to all the OHAP Partners who contributed to the LINK Newsletter survey conducted last year. We appreciate your honest feedback and suggestions for topics to be covered in future issues.

We are glad to hear that 85% of respondents share the LINK Newsletter with other staff in their organisations and some even further afield.

100% of the respondents indicated that they are happy with the format in which it is emailed out four times per year. One third found the content by guest writers on particular issues to be most interesting and 85% would consider submitting content for future issues! So watch out for some bumper upcoming issues!