



# Infinite Family 2023 Impact Report

Preparing Teens to Succeed in School, Work, and Life

## IMPACT IN 2023

**232** Teens strengthened weekly in **3** marginalized communities

Matric results: **78% Bachelor's, 11% Diploma, 11% Extended**

Mentors provided support from **21 Countries** and **39 US States**

**4,100** Mentoring Sessions

**9,300** Teen-initiated activities to build English, education, and employment skills

**4,800** Hours of homework, research, and skills development

## CUMULATIVE IMPACT

**1,280** Teens strengthened, **66%** mentored in **8** marginalized communities

**46,900** Mentoring sessions

**2 Year Average** length of mentorship, many relationships last a decade or more

| Matric Results                   | Infinite Family | South Africa | Difference |
|----------------------------------|-----------------|--------------|------------|
| Qualified for Advanced Education | 97%             | 74%          | 23%        |
| Qualified For University Studies | 85%             | 58%          | 27%        |

## BENEFICIARY QUOTES

### Net Buddies

Mentors advise us on the decisions we make and advise [us] about life. They also share their experience about their [lives] and what they went through.

~ Elihle

The [thing] that is so good about Infinite Family is that there [are] people that assist you in the subject that is [beating] you. And those people are very clever and know strategies and how know to solve [something].

~ Sibabalo

### Parents and Guardians

What I love about the Infinite Family program is that it has helped him not to focus so much on friends. He is not even interested in drinking and smoking.

~ Mavis N.

I see him growing up and demonstrating maturity in how he thinks.

~ Nokuzola J.

Infinite Family will help my child with [self-confidence] and be able to write emails and letters. [Also,] she can apply to the university and college on her own.

~ Phumeza M.

### Net Blazers (Alumni)

There are some skills that I learned with Infinite Family that I [use] every day, like for a module that I am studying in college, Computer Practice.

A lot of people around me are struggling. But for me, it's a normal, regular thing because there was a time we had to create CVs, there was also a time we had to use Microsoft spreadsheets, Excel. Hear more.

~ Voicemail from Happy M.

## NEW OFFICE

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# 2023 Matric Success and NextGen Growth Ahead



**We could not be prouder to share that 14 out of our 18 Infinite Family Net Buddies earned a Bachelor's Degree pass with a combined 23 distinctions.**

Infinite Family mentored matric students exceeded the national Bachelor's average by 38%! Two of our students earned a Diploma pass and two will be taking a couple of subjects again in June. This is an outstanding achievement for teens in Alexandra, Khayelitsha, and Soweto, whose young lives and education have been so badly compromised — by their apartheid roots, their economic circumstances, the toxic stress they experience daily and, during their most crucial academic years, by Covid.

Credit for their discipline, focus and resilience goes entirely to our Net Buddies and Infinite Family is gratified to have played a role in helping them build the skills, and make the future-forward decisions that Happy mentions on the previous page. We are also deeply grateful to the parents and guardians who are behind them. This has not always been the case.

It has taken Infinite Family 15 years to persuade the communities we work with of the value of keeping their teens in school, rather than encouraging them to drop out and seek work. Now, for the first time, we're engaging with them via WhatsApp groups and regular meetings. While this may be regular among parents of teens who live in wealthier communities, we appreciate the extra effort these parents must make to be involved. As a result, our Matric graduation celebrations in December were especially joyful!

**We're off to an equally positive start in 2024.**

For the first time, we have registered our Net Buddies using our online resources after hours and on personal/shared devices from URLs in their community. This may not seem significant to our stakeholders who are accustomed to readily available connectivity, but for Infinite Family, it means that — finally — we will be able to work with teens who do not reside near our LaunchPads. We have waited almost a decade for this signal that it is time to take the next technology leap and build an online platform to serve all of South Africa's teens!

It can't happen soon enough ... but before we can flip the switch, we have to build our local team to manage this growth and expansion. We took our first, exploratory steps in Q3 2023 and will continue as fast as conditions allow.

**With the global challenges we're all facing, there will be hurdles — and locally, loadshedding is chief among them — but Infinite Family has much to teach the wider world about innovation in education delivery, and we're looking forward to preparing the next generation for a brighter future.**

**Resilient • Resourceful • Responsible**

