Red Zebra Foundation
ORGANIZATION SUMMARY BASIC FOUNDATION INFORMATION

Organization Name: RedZebra Youth Empowerment Foundation

Office Location: Cape Town, South Africa

Date Established: 12. May 2011

Organization Type: Section 21 NPO

Registration No: 2011/010952/08

Contact Person (s):

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A Creative Funky Youth Development NPO, the RedZebra Foundation is comprised of a team of passionate, creative professionals, providing high impact and valuable training for youth through the performing arts in South Africa and around the world.

Our VISION is to become a Youth Empowerment Organization, creatively contributing locally and globally to a world where young people are confident to make informed choices that constructively impact themselves and their communities. The Foundation strives to create an inclusive vibrant society where young people can fully engage in co-creating safer, healthier communities as they cause positive social change in the broader society.
**RedZebra Foundation Objectives**

1. Promote and support youth empowerment and development at community and national levels, regardless of ability, race, class, age, gender, and sexual orientation, with a key focus on youth leadership and positive living.

2. Enhance young people’s knowledge of human rights, cultural and racial diversity, gender equality, HIV and AIDS, and the environment through dynamic workshops that combine creative dialogue, dancing, music, rhythm and drama.

3. Build capacity of partner youth organizations, youth leaders and peer motivators to work with young people in a participatory manner creatively facilitating key life and leadership skills.

4. Establish a reputable relationship with partners, donors and implementing organizations to ensure that collaboration and cooperation of youth development is a positive and shared effort.

5. Increase environmental awareness and sustainability and promote recycling among the youth and communities across South Africa.

6. Continuously evaluate and improve the professional development skills of the RedZebra Foundation, RedZebra Staff, trainers and facilitators in order to consistently implement high energy, creative, professional, and empowering workshops and trainings to youth and peer educators and motivators.

**Overarching Philosophy of RedZebra Foundation**

RedZebra Youth Empowerment Foundation continues to base its philosophy on the Confucius quote:

“Tell me and I will forget, Show me and I may remember, Involve me and I will understand”

**The “BIG 5”**

RedZebra’s Five Core Thematic Areas: The Organization has five core thematic areas of interest which have multiple projects within each stream. These areas include:

1. Life skills
2. HIV and AIDS
3. Gender, Diversity & Tolerance
4. Disability and Integration
5. The Environment
Every project under these five core areas uses our “5Ds” methodology as the vehicle to bring life to these important themes: Drumming, Dancing, Drama, Dialogue and Digital Media.

RedZebra uses creative facilitation techniques, dialogue tools, and bottom up processes through mentoring, training, music and rhythm to deliver powerful experiences and high impact youth development workshops. The approach is youth centered and based on the notion that:

- Young people have the right to knowledge, and freedom to make informed choices about their lives;
- Youth have the right to access information no matter what race, class, gender, sexual orientation, religion or age.
- Everyone has the right to music and creative expression.

Our facilitators are trained to inspire, engage and motivate young people through a well tested mix of highly experiential learning techniques. Understanding that people have a wide diversity of learning styles, The RedZebra 5D methodology focuses on engaging every individual by creating powerful learning environments that enable learning through various modalities. These include the physical, intellectual, emotional, spiritual and various forms of creative expression.

It is through the considered balance of creative expression (Red Stripes) and facilitated dialogue (White Stripes), that RedZebra is able to increase involvement and behavioural change. Red Stripes refer to the thunder of music; engagement through role-play/community theatre; sweating expression through dance, while white Stripes refer to silence, reflection, interpersonal and group dialogue, active listening, insights through sharing.

It is through this multi faceted approach that youth are able to involve and empower themselves and ultimately have the ability to implement practical and positive change in their lives and communities.

**Monitoring and Evaluation of RedZebra Projects**

We implement our projects using results based management (RBM) philosophies where we establish a results-oriented style of operation and implement a transparent monitoring and evaluation reporting system.

For RBM to be effective strong partnerships need to be established and projects defined in a participatory manner. The following section highlights our current key partnerships, and gives overall key points of how the project is being co-created and carried out under our FIVE core thematic areas.
RedZebra Foundation Projects and Partners

The RedZebra Foundation delivers its projects in 2 ways. Firstly, through strategic partnerships where we build capacity of existing organizations and their teams to deliver high impact youth development workshops and trainings using cutting edge creative and rhythmical facilitation skills. We develop strong working relationships with these organizations and co-create strategic interventions, projects and workshops based on each organization’s individual needs. Secondly, the RedZebra Foundation creates job opportunities for a growing team of professional and dynamic facilitators. With a strong focus on personal development and lifelong learning, we support our facilitators as they become highly skilled in multiple areas and techniques of youth outreach and empowerment work.

1. Life Skills

“RedZebra” and “My Life”

My Life is a Foundation working with at-risk youth and children in Cape Town, South Africa – especially those living on the street, many with drug and alcohol addictions and work on rehabilitation, healing and moving them from the city’s pavements into full-time jobs, independence and a “normal” life. My life works with these youth for long periods of time and hope that those who complete the program can become successful mentors to other at risk youth in need of support.

• RedZebra brings the performing arts, music and creative dialogue to its life skills workshops with the My Life partnership.

• A prime focus on youth development, self exploration, body mapping, skills transfer of the youth to become leaders in their communities and do more outreach work to other at risk homeless and out of school youth.

• We work with youth after they have gone through the initial rehabilitation and counseling sessions with My Life.

• Currently developing new community outreach projects, supporting My Life shelters in Hout Bay and the initiation of new projects in Eastern Cape

“RedZebra” and “NACCW”

The National Association of Child Care Workers (NACCW) is a non-profit organization working independently to promote optimal standards of care for orphaned, vulnerable and at-risk
children and youth, particularly those affected by HIV and AIDS and poverty. The NACCW has developed a model of care called “isibindi”, which is operated as a social franchise. The model has been recognized by government and other agencies as providing excellent cost-effective services to children living in affected households.

- The RedZebra CC Youth Empowerment Program initially rolled out a “We Can Beat It!” training to over 20 Isibindi safe park sites in 2008/09 with NACCW. The RedZebra Foundation has now taking over this community outreach project as its own to do follow up Monitoring and Evaluation of the 20 safe park sites and to scale up its training to other Isibindi safe parks and youth leaders.

- The “We Can Beat It!” methodology uses the proven effectiveness of interactive drumming, dialogue, drama and dance as vehicles for engaging and empowering individuals to take action and make positive life choices for themselves. We have trained more than 500 Isibindi youth workers at over 20 safe park sites mostly in rural areas

2. HIV and AIDS

“RedZebra” and “dance4life SA”

dance4life is a dynamic international initiative which actively involves young people to create change at a global and community level by taking action to improve young people’s sexual reproductive health and rights, and in particular improving access to sexuality education and improving access to youth friendly service and challenge the stigma and taboos that surround HIV and AIDS

- Since the launch of the campaign in 2004, RedZebra has been instrumental in the dance4life program design and training. RedZebra created training modules and the content for the first phase of the program which is the Heart Connection Tour (HCT).

- RedZebra is the only training organization that can roll out the dance4life facilitator and trainers training, where we mobilize the energy, commitment and capacity of young people to understand HIV and AIDS issues and act on these issues within their schools, communities and regions.

- As of 2010, 900,000 youth have been reached with 375,000 of them having gone through the active agents of change training in 28 countries.

- RedZebra Foundation is scaling up the South Africa dance4life initiative throughout the Western Cape with 10 schools in 2011.
3. Gender Diversity and Tolerance

We have two exciting projects which are in the pipeline under this portfolio. A Memorandum of Understanding is still being developed between two separate organizations.

4. Disability “RedZebra” and “Chaeli Campaign”

Chaeli Campaign uses a holistic approach to address needs of disabled children, powered by the kids to promote and provide mobility and educational needs of children with disabilities throughout South Africa.

• Building on success of RedZebra UK’s longstanding project “Unified Rhythm”, the RedZebra Foundation is launching a Unified Rhythm group with the Chaeli Campaign. The aim is to integrate children and youth from the larger community, with diverse abilities, and create a safe space to where they can share their creative expression and unify through music.

• RedZebra promotes the concept that creative expression comes before ability, and over the course of a year, a Unified Rhythm band will be formed. Unified Rhythm looks for opportunities to raise awareness and advocate about disability of children and youth, and inspires the youth to challenge themselves and accomplish.
5. The Environment

“RedZebra” and “eMzantsi”

The eMzantsi Carnival is the culmination of a year-round community-building process that encourages people of the South, especially children and youth, to cross boundaries and collaborate with each other; this is then celebrated in the colourful parade and stages how on the first Saturday in December each year. Part of the community building project is The Primary School twinning programme which is a safe space for children from different cultures and backgrounds to interact, have fun and build relationships. Every fortnight they take it in turns to travel to each other’s schools in the eMzantsi minibus and they get to know another community. Annually the program has different themes and this year it is “The Environment” where youth come together through drama, dance, and music to do intercultural awareness and education around environmental issues within their communities.

• RedZebra is in its 6th year of partnership to deliver the Primary Schools Twinning Programme with eMzantsi.

• RedZebra facilitators work in primary schools over a 14 week program reaching 10 schools in the southern suburbs of Cape Town, bringing to life to environmental issues through drumming, dance and theatre. We have reached over 1500 students in partnership with Jungle Theatre, and eMzantsi carnival.