

THE BRIDGE LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

Our history in Brief

The POP Youth Leadership Training Academy was built as a much needed extension to the established Path onto Prosperity Programme.

The academy was built in 2014 with generous funding from Lotteries Control Board and the Department of Rural Development and Land Reform. The Academy offers post-matric training courses that assist school leavers (18-25 years) prepare for life, work or tertiary education, with a heavy emphasis on Leadership and giving back to their own communities.

The 3-months training intervention is residential of nature(2months) and a 1-month job shadowing period(placement in line with the student's future career path/plan). The Academy can accommodate 24 young people at a time. To date the Academy trained a total of **376 young leaders**(2015-2019) from various rural communities.

Our Vision

Proud, confident and resilient rural youth leaders.

Key Objectives/Outcomes

Identifying & Equipping potential youth leaders for future community impact to lead and serve

Young people(trainees) either gaining or improving their chances of employment through further tertiary education;

An orientation and exposure to the value of community service(servant leadership);

Increasing self-esteem and confidence,

Developing leadership through personal development.

Preparing young people for the world of work/real life by means of an intensive job shadowing period

What we offer:

The course content includes:

Basic business skills and preparation for the work place;

Computer and internet training including social media;

Personal development modules including, problem solving, conflict resolution, teamwork and youth leadership;

Opportunities to build language and communication skills, resilience, confidence and self- esteem;

Community development and service;

Creative opportunities for expression in art, drama, music;

Cultural exposure and experience to various cultural sites of significance;

Exposure to environmental “green” initiatives, such as Permaculture training and recycling;

Health and wellness: including hiking, boot-camp, yoga, cooking and nutrition;

Management skills and training: Basic project management training that equip our young people to start their own projects in their local communities.

Basic Office Practice – preparing the young person for their 1-month job shadowing period

Visits to tertiary institutions, e.g. West Coast College, Boland College, Huguenot College, CPUT Wellington Campus (for students who would like to pursue further studies).

Personal Life Plan – to assist the student to have a realistic idea of what they would like pursue as a career path post the 3-months leadership course.

1-month “Job Shadowing” at students’ organisation of choice (in line with students career path)

Right now the concept of unemployment is not the BIGGEST challenge, because job opportunities just don’t exist. What we aim to do is arm our young leaders with a bag of tricks that they can use to help them A: have the confidence when competing in the job market; B: offer them skills and access to resources that can help them study further; but C: above all we want to teach them how to survive and to live self sustainably while they taking the steps to grow their capacity.

Please note that Goedgedacht is NOT responsible to provide or promise students a job post the 3-months training period.

The training equip the young person with all the necessary skills, knowledge and resources to make a success of his or her future.

The student is responsible to apply at the various institutions to study further

The student is responsible to apply for bursaries to study further

To apply for job opportunities

To apply for volunteer opportunities at our POP centres

If the student would like to start his or her own business, he or she should drive the process at own speed