

Project Siyakhula

Project Siyakhula is programme co-ordinated by Deloitte members of staff, which provides Accounting and Mathematics lessons and tutoring to Grades 10, 11 and 12 learners from disadvantaged communities. During the year, Deloitte volunteers spent 1 684 hours tutoring Accounting and Maths, as well as offering career guidance to 594 learners during weekends and school holidays.

In Port Elizabeth, feedback received from learners indicated that the Accounting School made a difference in their understanding of Accounting and inculcated the belief that they could make it to university. In the 2013 first-year intake, 37 learners attending the 2012 Accounting Winter School registered for Accounting 1 on the BCom General Accounting or BCom Chartered Accounting programmes. Five of them were on the SAICA Thuthuka Bursary Programme. In Durban, Saturday extra accounting lessons were provided to 50 Grade 12 learners from five high schools, enabling them to prepare for the National Senior Certificate exams.

The Cape Town committee, together with Sea Point High School, decided to include in Project Siyakhula Grade 9 Mathematics classes to improve performance in the subject, with a view to improve performance in Grade 12. This initiative proved successful. Whereas in 2011 just one learner passed Grade 9 Mathematics, the class of 2012 achieved a pass rate of 80%. In addition, the Grade 11 Accounting class achieved a 95% pass rate - well above the national average.

The Johannesburg Project Siyakhula team facilitated Maths and Accounting extra classes for approximately 88 Grade 10, 11 and 12 learners from Isikhumbuzo High School. As a supplement to the extra lessons, our Deloitte Pretoria office held a career guidance workshop. Different professionals shared their work and life stories with the learners. A Deloitte HR representative explained the opportunities available within the firm and the field of Accounting and Auditing. After the sessions, learners showed increased enthusiasm for the Auditing profession.