

WFP and YSP South Africa's 7-Day Youth Leadership Training in Johannesburg

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From July 2-8, 2023, WFP in collaboration with YSP South Africa hosted a 7-Day Youth Leadership Training in Johannesburg, South Africa. Recognizing the importance of nurturing leadership potential in young individuals, the 7-Day Youth Leadership Workshop has emerged as a transformative platform, equipping participants with the necessary skills, mindset and inspiration to become influential leaders of tomorrow.



The 19 participants, from Gauteng and Western Cape provinces, participated in an intensive program, spanning a week of immersive learning experiences. These offered a unique opportunity for young minds to develop their leadership abilities, unlock their potential and ignite positive change in their

communities.

The journey toward leadership begins with self-awareness. On the first day, participants engaged in interactive sessions and assessments designed to uncover their unique leadership styles, strengths and areas for growth. Through the Peace Designer Presentation by Ms. Kayong Stemmer, YSP South Africa President, the participants reflected and shared insights into their leadership potential and developed kindness, inclusion, empathy, personal responsibility and care for the environment.



Leadership is about empowering others and fostering collaboration and the ability to communicate well. Throughout the workshop participants explored various aspects of communication, including verbal and non-verbal cues, active listening and learning to work as a team. We also delved extensively into the topic of sexual purity. Through role-plays, constructive feedback and practice lectures on the WFPW peace principles, participants sharpened their communication skills, fostering their ability to articulate ideas, motivate others and cultivate meaningful connections.

A leader without vision is akin to a ship without a compass. On day six, participants explored the importance of vision and learned strategies for inspiring and motivating others towards a shared goal. Through the vision-setting exercises, participants developed the ability to craft a compelling vision and become catalysts for positive change in their communities.

In conclusion, the 7-Day Youth Leadership Workshop served as a transformative experience, equipping young individuals with the skills, knowledge and confidence to become effective leaders. These young leaders will undoubtedly shape a brighter and more prosperous future for themselves and their communities. WFPW South Africa looks forward to hosting more 4- and 7-day workshops during the school holidays in October and December 2023.