

AWAY FROM VIOLENCE
PUBLIC ACHIEVEMENT YOUTH IN CONTESTED SPACES
REPORT FOR FIRST FUNDING CYCLE: MAY – JULY 2009

A. INTRODUCTION:

This report outlines the activities of the Bush Radio – Public Achievement “Away from Violence” project, as well the financial report indicating income and expenses, from the start of the project to the end of July 2009.

B. ACTIVITIES:

1. Appointment of coordinator

There were a number of delays to the start of the project, including Public Achievement arranging the transfer of the first payment, and the recruitment of project staff and partners. However, a Coordinator, Christine Taphel, and assistant, Shiraz Ismail were been appointed at the beginning of May 2009.



Christine Taphel:

Christine became involved in Bush Radio after being recruited as a participant on an exchange programme between South Africa, Canada and Botswana. After completing the 6 month exchange in March 2007, she volunteered as a facilitator for the CREW programme. In 2007, she became the CREW coordinator when Nashira was on maternity leave, and also assisted full time with CREW activities, including the away from violence project implementation in 2007 / 2008 (a pilot that led to the rationale for the current project). She assisted organizing the final celebration event, which was a march through Gugulethu (one of the largest ‘townships’ in the Cape Flats). In 2008, she decided to study full time and is currently a 2nd year student at

the University of Western Cape studying towards a BA with majors in Language and Communication, and psychology.

Shiraz (Shaz) Ismail:

In 2008, Shiraz did an internship at Bush Radio as part of his Sound Engineering course. He then decided to stay on after this, and has been involved in the technical aspects of the radio station, training CREW in studio engineering and production. He also works with CREW on Saturdays doing jingles and promos. Shiraz also has years of experience working with youth, as he has volunteered at an organization called 'Fertile Ground' for the past 5 years. Fertile Ground organizes camps for children and youth that are affected and infected with HIV and AIDS, and the camps are an opportunity for them to network with children and youth with the same challenges as themselves. The camps are fun, and give them a break.

**2. Recruitment of facilitators**

The coordinator and assistant have recruited 30 youth facilitators (mostly from CREW and partner organisations that deal with youth) that will establish the 30 groups of 10 – 15 youths that will design and implement the projects. Only 21 out of the 30 youth facilitators attending the training indicated that they would be interested in doing the projects, so some of the groups will be doing two projects each.

Bush Radio have been discussing with Public Achievement the possibility of extending the project beyond December (probably to March or April) due to the late start date, and our desire to implement high quality projects with the young people rather than rushing to get all the projects done during one cycle.

3. Training

The youth facilitators have been trained during our school holidays from the 30 June – 3 July. This training consisted of a similar programme to what was done in Northern Island, including investigating/discussion of the participants' understanding and experiences of violence, how they respond to violence, the logic model, action plan and Bush Radio's expectations of the participants regarding the project implementation.

Aims:

- To increase the understanding of the youth facilitators about violence and its impact on young people and their communities

- To discuss how they experience and respond to violence
- To equip the youth facilitators with the knowledge to be able to set-up, facilitate, plan and implement projects based on the logic model and actions plans
- To provide alternatives to young people through the away from violence campaign

Attendance: 21 Youth facilitators from Bush Radio's CREW and youth from media related partner organizations

Coordinator: Christine Nicola Taphel / Shiraz Ismail

Crew Coordinator: Nobukhosi Ngwenya

Supported by: Victor Jantjies, Adrian Louw and Brenda Leonard

DAY 1:



Nobukhosi addressing the facilitators

Overview of the programme:

A brief on the partnership between Bush Radio and Public Achievement and the expectations and minimum requirements that Public Achievement has for the projects "Away from Violence". This session also dealt with the expectations that the Coordinator and Bush Radio has for the youth facilitators and youth participants.

Introduction:

Through using an icebreaker first, individuals got the opportunity to introduce themselves to the larger groups. Together they worked out their expectations for the training and their expectations from Bush Radio and Coordinator.

This was then followed by a discussion on the current youth related projects that the individuals are involved in outside of Bush Radio, in their communities, schools, youth organization etc.

The afternoon session started discussing what violence means to the participants. This included:

- Abuse (physical, verbal, sexual and economic). Abuse also included intergenerational abuse, where young people abuse their parents and grandparents
- Substance abuse was another form of abuse, and in most cases, lead to the abuse listed above
- Refugee abuse was also raised, especially in the light that refugees are harassed, beaten and sometimes killed in community
- Environmental abuse, including littering, taking care how was is used, etc

DAY 2:

We started the morning session with the facilitators coordinating an open discussion on their view of how society responds to violence, followed by how they respond to violence and the subsequent consequences for society and individuals. We used the exercise of the body of a person indicating inside and outside influences.

After lunch, we divided the participants in five groups with themes and specific topics to further explore the issue of violence:

Arts and Cultures – Speaking out against violence

Health – Resource based violence

Labor – Economics abuse as a form of violence

Gender – Gender based violence

Human Rights – Victim empowerment / Survivor versus Victim

Feed back sessions were based on the core issues that they discussed, environmental violence, self inflicted violation, abuse, male and female rape, gangsterism, parent discipline, hijacking , homophobia, xenophobia, how media play a role in promoting violence and can be used as a tool to prevent violence.



Shiraz facilitating a group discussion gender based violence

DAY 3:

The entire day was used to explain the concept of the logical model and the action plan cycle. Together with the individuals we did practical examples on how to implement the logical model and action plan. Individual experienced some difficulty to understand these concepts as a result we used additional time on this session.

The facilitators were required to go home and complete the following task:

Brainstorm the core issues that they have identified and prepare a mock logic model and action plan to be presented the following day.

DAY 4:

The first session was allocated to an expert speaker Samantha Waterhouse from the organization RAPCAN, which stands for Resources Aimed at the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect. The talk was based on the expert point of view on violence in society, with a special focus on children.

Individuals then presented the core issue of which they personally considered important, and showing the implementation project of a project addressing these issues into a logical model and action plan. The majority of the individuals had a clear understanding of how to implement these concepts, but some individuals still did not understand the logic model and how to draft the action plans.

DAY 5:

The day started with a workshop from the Institute of Justice and Reconciliation (IJR) dealing with issues of conflict resolution, and exercises on how to deal with violence within your personal lives.

The afternoon session was used to go over the logic model and action plan again, and answer any questions that the facilitators had regarding the way forward with the project implementation and our expectations from them.

DAY 6 – 10:

The media training took place from the 6 -10 July.

Bush Radio's youth program has radio training every semester. We included the away from violence facilitators to this training given that we had agreed with Public Achievement that half of the projects should result in media products. As a result we saw this as an ideal opportunity to expose the entire group to the equipment, strategies of how to implement a radio documentary, to the concept of how to set up an interview, and general media literacy. They were also exposed to media related concepts such as the blog, drafting press releases, what to do at a press conference including the basis of how to formulate a news bulletin.

DAY 11:

Each facilitator had to go back and recruit their group of youth participants. A follow up training session was held on the 11 July with the facilitators where we looked at the progression with regards to recruitment, dealt with questions they had explained to them, the important requirements when facilitating workshops, explained how to draft a time line for the project and a project proposal on exactly what they will be implementing. Most of the facilitators have their youth participants however there are a few them that are still in the process of recruitment.

4. Establishing of youth groups:

This is the phase that we are currently in. The deadline for facilitators to finalise their recruitment, meet and discuss the project, hand in their proposal including their list of materials needed to implement product/projects is on the 31st July 2009.

The implementation of their projects will take place during August and September 2009.



C. FINANCIAL REPORT

INCOME AND EXPENSES REPORT 2009

DATE	DESCRIPTION	REFERENCE	INCOME	EXPENSES
30-Apr-09	Income received (1st transfer)	0904241509TT9001	43,751.69	
30-Apr-09	FOREX bank charges	0904241509TT9001		185.94
15-May-09	Recruitment of facilitators	Various		500.00
Jul-09	Volunteer training: venue hire (training room)	BTI 58		10,450.00
Jul-09	Volunteer training: transport	Various		4,950.00
Jul-09	Volunteer training: refreshments	Shariefa I3121		5,500.00
Jul-09	Volunteer training: materials - projector			2,000.00
May, June and July	Project facilitation: Christine Taphel	Various		7,500.00
May, June and July	Project facilitation: Shiraaz Ismail	Various		3,000.00
	Equipment hire: studio training (3 hours p.day)	Bush Radio 2007		7,500.00
01-Jul-09	Photocopies	Exquisite stationers 743		64.75
	Administration	Bush Radio 2008		4,165.07
			43,751.69	45,815.76

-2,064.07

D. WAY FORWARD

By the 1st August we should have a clear idea of how many groups we have that will be ready to start, and can then determine whether we need additional time or not.