

Good day Jane,

Thank you so much for your encouraging email. It has been a very educational year for us all in very different ways. Covid 19 has extremely affected our country. We've seen it develop from something that was only on the television to affecting our direct circles: family members of our staff being rushed to the hospitals and dealing with the fear and uncertainty in our team was not always easy. We do thank God for the strength to persevere. As you know Jane, we've decided to be part of the solution. We know that we can make a difference in our communities.

The schools have started already, our school year is from January to december. It is still not running its full capacity. We are seeing a lot of new problems amongst the youth: school dropouts, depression and a number of suicidal cases. We were able to quickly identify these challenges and act on them.

A lot of good things also happened during this very challenging time. The department of social care has invited us again to apply for a grant for victim empowerment. We are having capacity building sessions with Nelson Mandela University. IPM is very present in the various communities and even more local partners are reaching out to us to share our knowledge with them on GBV and the resistance to abuse. We have a final draft of our independent research report which we will be sharing very soon. Simone (Subud member living in the Netherland) offered to help us write our grant applications...and a lot more.

Jane, thank you so much for your support and encouragement. This really means a lot to us all. It is because of you and all the individuals in SDIA that makes our journey possible. How can we say thank you?