

FOURTH QUARTER 2023

# PRAAYER UPDATE

GRANT PEERS  
Regional Director



# Unexpected encouraged

As a leader you are often giving input, instruction, direction or encouragement to the people on your team. Over the last 6 weeks I have enjoyed attending three meetings that came at the right time for me.

## **Mergon Connect**

Mergon Connect is a gathering for their funding partners. Mergon funds part of our Heroes for Hope programme in Langa. It was heartwarming to meet the full team behind the work of Mergon, to be more aware of their aspirations for our success, and to be uplifted by the encouraging stories of other NGOs doing excellent work. Mergon makes funding partners feel like they are part of the family. The two-day event had a relaxed schedule with rich input, stirring worship, lots of laughs, and plenty of time for networking.

## **Sowers Trust**

Sowers Trust is another faithful funding partner of SU Western Cape. The names that I had known only through email exchanges were turned into warm faces at the Sower's Trust engagement function late in September. Of particular encouragement was the intentional time given to hearing the stories of other NGOs in attendance. I was deeply encouraged by the persevering, faith-filled determination of each organisation to fulfill their vision.

## **J-Life - SA Summit**

At the beginning of October I had the privilege of attending the J-Life Africa Summit. The weekend was attended by leaders from South Africa, Eswatini, and Lesotho who are committed to building disciple-making movements. Although most Christians would agree that we are called to make disciples, I was once again struck by how intentional we need to be if we are going to fulfill Jesus' commission in Matthew 28. I was encouraged to pursue SU's mission with even greater determination: Leading young people to know and walk with God.



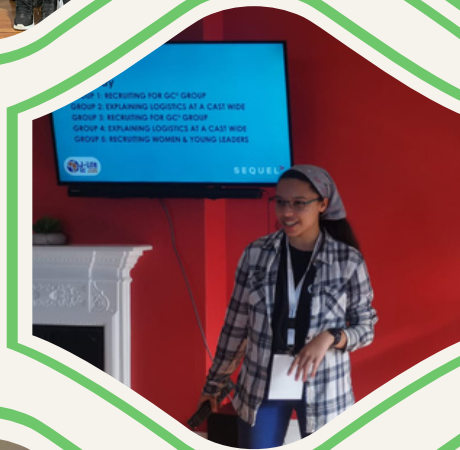
# Youth Leaders Training 2024

I would ask for your prayers with regard to a new ministry venture for 2024. In the past we have offered a one-day Youth Leaders Training day.

In 2024 we are negotiating with two other youth organisations to offer a 8 month programme through which we will journey with youth leader in a supportive, learning cohort to help them develop as a youth leaders.

The details of the programme will be available in due course, but for the moment please pray for guidance for the planning teams, healthy relationships, and development of effective curriculum.

The two partner organisations with who we are working are Pais Movement and The Message Trust.



# The Peers personal note

The exciting news from the Peers family is that Seth won Bergvliet High School's *GROW Abroad* scholarship to part-fund an exchange programme in Spain. In the middle of November he will be heading to the city of Valladolid for a three month cultural exchange.

He will stay with a host family and attend school. All his instruction will be in Spanish so he is furiously learning as much as he can.

When we received the news that Seth was going to Spain we were very excited but as the time approaches for his departure, Joanne and I are feeling more and more nervous! Someone once told me that your greatest responsibility as a parent is to raise well-adjusted, self-sufficient children - I just didn't realise that the time of testing this would come so soon! So it will be with mixed feeling that we send him on his way!

The rest of the family is doing well. Joanne's studies progress steadily, and Ben is getting ready for his first Trinity Music drum exam.



## Prayer Requests

- Seth's departure, safe arrival in Spain, settling in well, and having a great cross-cultural experience.
- My mother as she continues her recover after two heart operations (stents and valve)
- Joanne as she leads the academic programme and fundraising strategy at the Center for Creative Education.

