

2 Decades of Championing
SRHR
For Students and Youth.



2023 Annual Report

Foreword

It is my pleasure to introduce to you the SAYWHAT Annual report for the year 2023. This report provides an in-depth reflection on our journey in 2023 highlighting the collaborative efforts of our dedicated team, partners and key stakeholders, the students and youth themselves within the public health and education community.

The year 2023, saw the world return to normalcy after the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic were felt in 2021 and 2022. SAYWHAT worked tirelessly to navigate the post-covid-19 era and celebrate its journey that began in 2003. **As we celebrated twenty years**, we implemented our comprehensive 2021 – 2050 strategy: **“Action for Health and Education Rights”** and embraced innovative approaches to strengthen education systems, advocate for evidence-based policies and ensure equitable access to health care services for all children, adolescents, students and young people in Zimbabwe and Southern Africa.

We recognize the progress we made and express deep gratitude to all those who have supported our mission including our dedicated secretariat, passionate volunteers, and invaluable partners. With your unwavering support and shared vision, we will continue bringing about lasting change and promote education and health equity for young people in Zimbabwe and beyond.

Happy Reading,

B. Nyamwanza
Board Chairperson

Contents

Abbreviations & Acronyms	iii
Letter from the Executive Director	iv
Letter from the NCC Chairperson	v
About SAYWHAT.....	1
Students & Youth Organizing & Leading	3
Youth-focused knowledge and information sharing.....	8
Advocacy & Campaigning	14
Health and Child Protection services	20
The Smart Learners Hub.....	22
@20 Celebrations.....	23
Income Statement.....	25

Abbreviations and Acronyms

- CSOs Civil Society Organizations
- DSD Department of Social Development
- ECD Early Childhood Development
- GBV Gender-Based-Violence
- GEAR Girls Education Advocacy in the Region
- HLPF High-Level Political Forum
- ICASA International Conference on AIDS and STIs in Africa
- LEAD Leadership Exploration And Development
- MoHCC Ministry of Health and ChildCare
- MoPSE Ministry of Primary and Secondary Education
- NAC National AIDS Council
- REAPS Reproductive Health Education & Advocacy Project
- SDG Sustainable Development Goals
- SET Sexuality Education for Transformation
- SRHR Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights
- UNGA United Nations General Assembly
- UNHLM United Nations High-Level Meeting
- VNR Voluntary National Reviews
- YOUTHS Young People Organised For Universal Access To Hiv And Aids
- ZNFPC Zimbabwe National Family Planning Council

Letter from the Executive Director

2023 was a year like no other! We celebrated our twentieth anniversary championing sexual and reproductive health and rights for students and youth. SAYWHAT magnified the 2-decade milestone by introducing new innovations to help young people embrace their public health including Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights in the digital era.

We managed to launch the Smart Learners Hub, an online learning platform offering free SRH courses and certification. 2023 also saw the launch of our first SRH-GBV short film titled “CHOICES” by young people who won the Creative Reproductive health Arts Festival for Transformation (CRAFT). Through CHOICES, young people amplified their voices on emerging challenges affecting their education and health including the scourge of drug and substance abuse and mental health through art. In addition, the 2-year-old Young Researchers Initiative Program launched its first research book titled “Empowering young voices: Unveiling the hidden realities of young people in Zimbabwe”. The insights generated from these research papers informed the implementation of interventions by young SRH defenders in various communities.

SAYWHAT also made significant progress in strengthening impact in the Southern African region in the year 2023. Through the Girls Education Advocacy in the Region (GEAR) project, SAYWHAT enhanced advocacy efforts on quality education. We undertook a comprehensive analysis of the National Budget education allocation in Malawi and Zambia to improve the access to education for girls in rural and farming communities. Moreover, we contributed towards an environ-

ment that address the continued reproductive health of students and youth through participating in the 10-year review of the Addis-Ababa Action. In Zimbabwe, we participated in the National TB Program coordination meetings and preparatory planning processes on the United Nations High-Level-Meeting on TB, and participated in the SDG progress report writing in collaboration with country specific coalitions and the report was submitted to the United Nations General Assembly Summit.

It gives me great joy that despite the challenges of the post-COVID-19 era, SAYWHAT remains uniquely positioned to provide essential information on education and public health to students and youth. We take pride in our achievements of 2023 and the 20-year milestone extending our gratitude to all those who have supported us throughout this journey. Looking ahead, we remain steadfast in our commitment to building generations of healthy and empowered children, adolescents, students, and young people.



Stay Healthy!

*Jimmy Wilford
Executive Director*

Letter from the National Coordinating Committee Chairperson

2023! Another year of our strife for generations of healthy and empowered young people. I will use this platform to go a little back in history to add some perspective.

While SAYWHAT work began in 2003, the first National Coordinating Committee elections were held in 2006 which saw the first committee of young people being elected to provide political, organizing, and institutional leadership for the movement. Many years have passed and 2023 saw the 13th elect National Coordinating Committee continue to be at the center of SAYWHAT work representing young people and complementing the work of the Board and the secretariat towards fulfilling the mission to promote students, youth, adolescents, and children access to health and education rights, services, and commodities across Africa.

As you go through the 2023 Annual report, you will find young people's contributions and achievements in the remarkable 20th anniversary year where we celebrated the milestones of those who came before us and continue to lay foundation for the generations to come. Just coming out of COVID-19 pandemic, young people are plagued with mental health challenges, that are exacerbated by drug and substance abuse and climate disasters. On behalf of students and young people I look forward to sharing 2023 with you all and the various interventions we adopted to amplify our voices and build resilience on these emerging issues. Through participating in flagship events such as the Agriculture College Sports Gala, the SAYWHAT Quiz Chal-

lenge, the Speak and Solve Initiative (SASI) debate, physical and online dialogues, national radio programs, National Students Conference, Web for Life Symposium, Mugota/Ixhiba Young Men's Forum and health fairs, we mobilized our peers, promoted health seeking behaviors, conducted research, and contributed to the strengthening of the commitments of policy makers and school authorities to combat substance abuse and the rising suicides among students and youth.

My heartfelt gratitude to all the development partners who support our work and made our 2023 achievements as young people possible as well as our 20th anniversary memorable. I encourage my peers, young people, and all stakeholders to continue with the same spirit in the year 2024.



Sincerely,

Panashe Chandiwana
National Coordinating Committee (NCC) Chairperson

About SAYWHAT

SAYWHAT is a student and youth social movement birthed in 2003 with the express ambition to contribute to the existence of healthy and empowered students and youth in institutions of higher learning in Zimbabwe who thoroughly enjoy their sexual and reproductive health rights. The movement's work has been primarily led and driven by student structures (Web for Life Network for Girls and Young women and Mugota/Ixhiba Young Men's forum) in tertiary institutions and young people trained and supported as community activists and cadres in communities. The SAYWHAT movement has evolved over the years and has expanded its scope of work beyond SRHR to embrace public health, education, and child safeguarding programming. It has also spread its tentacles beyond the borders of Zimbabwe into the Southern African region, where it has established strong collaborations and networks under the Southern African Region Students and Youth Conference on sexual and reproductive health (SARSYC).

In the year 2023, with support from Amplify Change, Education Out Loud GPE, the Embassy of Sweden in Zimbabwe, Norwegian Students' and Academics' International Assistance Fund (SAIH), Stop TB Partnership, and United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA); SAYWHAT celebrated its 20th anniversary and implemented 6 projects, the Sexuality Education for Transformation (SET), the Girls Education Advocacy in the Region (GEAR), Action for Choice, the Leadership Exploration And Development (LEAD), Young people Organized for Universal access to Tuberculosis and HIV Services (YOUTHS) and the sexual and Reproductive Health Education and Advocacy (REAPS) respectively.

While the Action for Choice, LEAD, REAPS and YOUTHS projects were implemented in Zimbabwe; the SET and GEAR projects were implemented across Southern Africa in Angola, Malawi, Mozambique, Zambia, and Zimbabwe. To achieve the projects objectives and realize the vision of **"Generations of healthy and empowered young people across Africa" in the year 2023**, SAYWHAT strengthened its **2021-2050 Action for Health and Education rights strategy** that pursues 4 programming areas.

- 1: Students and Youth Organizing and Leading**
- 2: Youth Focused Knowledge and Information Sharing**
- 3: Advocacy and Campaigning**
- 4: Health and Child Protection Services**



2023 AT A GLANCE

1,117,013

Students and young people reached in Zimbabwe

163,907

Condoms Distributed

10,848

Students and young people assisted with psycho-social support and service referrals.

2,904

Children safeguarded from harm

718

Students and college nurses trained on Drug & Substance abuse Management.

35

Students trained in research methodologies

1,170

Online dialogues

1,507

Radio listening sessions,

1,079

Physical dialogues

10,359

SET project Reach

35

Legal Clinics

17

Talk shows

2

Newsletters

Students and Youth Organizing and Leading

We are dedicated to enhancing students and youth (including adolescents and children) agencies by empowering them to stand for and demand their health and education rights. Programming focuses on building capacity, mentoring, and coaching methods integrating health and education with issues of life skills, leadership, economic empowerment as essential aspects that reduce vulnerabilities to emerging challenges and creation of more resilient young people.

Peer Educators

SAYWHAT trained students from over 45 institutions of higher learning to become peer educators who promote health-seeking behaviors among their peers and communities. Peer educators participate in information dissemination, demand generation for SRH services at orientation programs, resource centers across tertiaries, and Know Your Service Campaigns during health fairs.



Peer educators set up an information village during the 2023 Agriculture Colleges Sports Gala hosted at Kushinga Phikelela National Farmer Training College. Here Peer Educators, like any other health fair, distributed IEC materials, promoted our toll-free 577, performed condom demonstrations, and created a youth-friendly and safe space for discussion and collective responsibility to maintain sexual and reproductive health.

The Information village became an attraction for students, who eagerly accessed the onsite services provided by the Zimbabwe National Family Planning Council (ZNFPC) including HIV testing, and long-term contraceptive methods.

SRH Community Champions, SRH Defenders & TB Champions

Through the SET project, 200 young people across 5 countries were identified and trained as SRH community champions to play a crucial role in shaping SRH information dissemination at the community level. In Zimbabwe, 20 students were equipped as SRH defenders and TB Champions to advocate for youth friendly HIV & TB services, monitor the service quality, and participate in reflection action meetings and Technical Working Groups.

During the 22nd edition of the International Conference on AIDS and STIs held in Zimbabwe, TB champions presented abstracts on information gaps within TB programming as well as participated in a plenary session on ending inequalities to end TB and HIV alongside the NTP and Stop TB Partnership Zimbabwe.



Select SRH Community Champions and SRH Defenders also participated in the conference leading the Condomize! Campaign in the Conference community village.

SRH defenders also actively participated in the Demand Reduction Committee of the Interministerial Committee of Drugs and substance Abuse educating communities and referring individuals in need of treatment and rehabilitation.

Young Researchers Initiative Program

As in the past 2 years, 35 students from across Southern Africa were enrolled in the 2023 Young Researcher's initiative program where they were mentored as research fellows to produce health, education, and child protection research papers to meet our commitment of evidence-based advocacy.

While five of the research benefited the SET project with articles on Menstrual Health Management, and youth-friendly service provision, the 2023 cohort primarily focused on emerging issues of drug and substance abuse and mental health. The research fellows had the opportunity to present their research findings to parliamentarians during SAYWHAT 3rd edition of the **Research Indaba**.

The Deputy Director of Reproductive Health Dr Lucia Gondongwe commended the research fellows and reiterated the government commitment to eradication of drug and substance abuse among the youth.

During the Indaba, Ambassador Per Lindgärde, Embassy of Sweden supported the launch of SAYWHAT's first research-based book titled "Empowering Young Voices: Unveiling the hidden realities of young people in Zimbabwe" which covers 10 SRH articles – a soft copy is available on our website.



“ It is high time we prioritize research on the youth and their relationship with the public health sector beyond SRHR ”

Dr Lucia Gondongwe

SAYWHAT Executive Director, Jimmy Wilford, and the Swedish Ambassador to Zimbabwe, Ambassador Per Lindgärde unveiling the research book.

Professional Development program

In the year 2023, SAYWHAT offered internships to 30 students on attachment and graduates helping them gain professional experience in their field of study or career path. Below are sentiments from some of the young people involved in the program.



"The SAYWHAT professional development program has been instrumental in my career journey, providing invaluable support and guidance as I navigate the professional world where experience speaks volumes. This program has not only equipped me with the necessary skills and knowledge but has also connected me with a network of professionals, enabling me to achieve more in my career as a girl child rights activist and a youth leader. The professional nurturing and networks provided by the SAYWHAT program have been pivotal in shaping my career path and empowering me to make a meaningful impact in advocating for the rights of girls and leading youth initiatives. Thus, elevating Melisa Nemangwe the brand as I developed into a vibrant Young Women." - - - -

Melisa Nemangwe, Web for Life Intern



"My experience in this program has been rewarding. Having the opportunity to work in advocacy, information dissemination and capacity building initiative, the program equipped me with the knowledge and tools necessary to navigate and excel in the development sector and unleashing a commitment to human rights within me. I was able to build relationships, develop valuable connections with brilliant and diverse minds in Zimbabwe and the Southern African Region. I am grateful to SAYWHAT for this opportunity, and firmly believe that the professional development program is a cornerstone in making young people lead in creating the future they want" - - - - -

Thembani Khumalo, Programs Intern



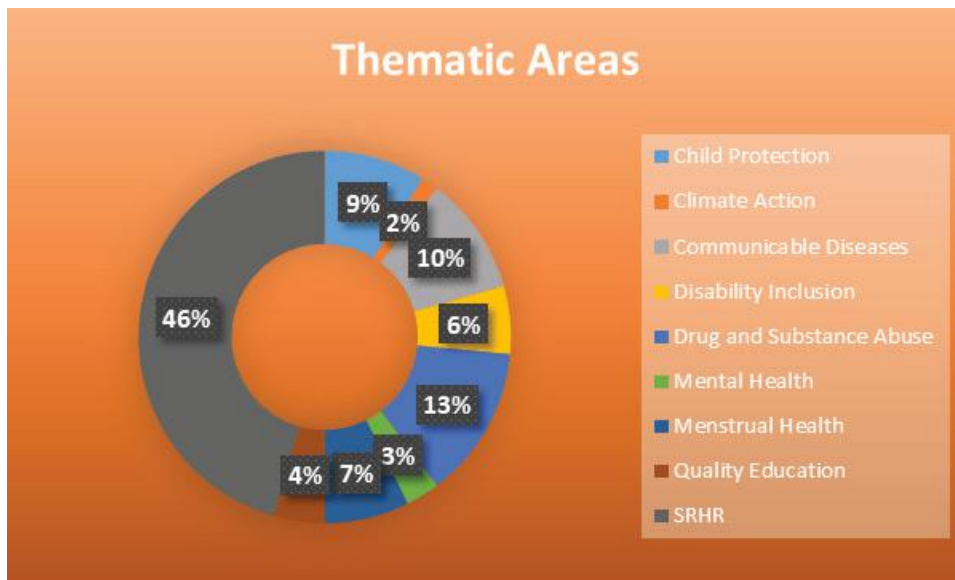
"This program helped me to achieve different goals and skills for my career path. I managed to gain a clearly identified career path and to identify areas I may specialize in in the multimedia industry. I gained skills in videography putting what I learned at college into practice. I was also introduced several software's related to graphic designing and have improved my designs and imagination. I also gained report writing skills from the program. As part of the SAYWHAT team I also gained skill in managing a project and to achieve great goals through teamwork" - - - - -

Takudzwa Chirume, Multimedia Intern

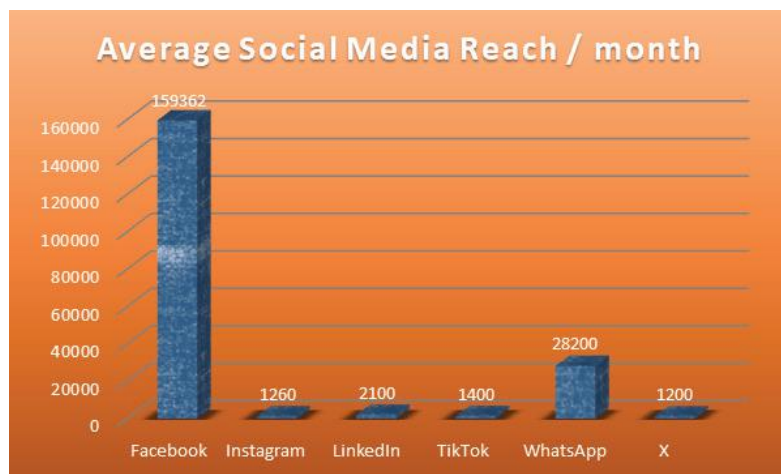
Youth Focused Knowledge and Information Sharing

We generate knowledge on health and education to provide information that enables all young people and their support structures including school nurses and student affairs departments to better respond to education and health challenges or needs. Programming focuses on creating and producing broadcast knowledge that is shared via various media channels including print, social media, radio, and TV.

Throughout the year, efforts were made to generate youth-focused knowledge through mobilization of students and young people to participate in the **Studio of Choice** talk shows i.e., Research Insights, the Legal and Radar Talk Shows . In addition, students also contributed to the **SAYWHAT Observer newsletter** with storytelling pieces. Information was shared through SAYWHAT social media platforms and broadcasted in partnership with local radio stations including STAR FM, Skyz Metro and 98.4fm. As SAYWHAT celebrated **20 years of championing SRHR** for students and youth majority of the topics focused on SRH and GBV, however, more topics focused on other public health themes in particular the emerging scourge of drug and substance abuse.



Monthly, an average of **193,422** individuals had contact with the SRH and public health information disseminated via social media with Facebook as our major platform for reaching the target audience - students and young people.



Similar interventions under the SET project - community dialogues, SRH service fairs, radio shows and social media campaigns collectively reached **10,359** young people across Angola, Malawi, Mozambique, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.

SAYWHAT Quiz Challenge

To add on to generation of youth-focused information sharing 12 female and 12 male students from 12 institutions of higher learning participated in the 5th edition of the public health, education, and child programming televised knowledge game. Amplifying SAYWHAT **20th anniversary** the challenge took place on the 15th and 16th of June from the Studio of Choice under the theme **“Two decades of changing the paradigm: harnessing the power of information in nurturing public health discourse and advocacy”**. The quiz question for the 2023 edition focused on: -

- **Family planning and contraception**
- **STIs, HIV, TB, and cancer of the reproductive system**
- **Gender Based Violence including Sexual Exploitation and abuse.**
- **Menstrual Health Management**
- **Post Abortion Care**
- **Drug and Substance Abuse**
- **Mental Health Management**
- **Climate Change and the environment.**

Participating students displayed retention of health information from SAYWHAT interventions. Students from the National University of Science and Technology demonstrated their intellectual prowess on SRH, GBV, MHM, DSA, mental health and climate winning the 5th edition and taking the roving trophy from the defending champions Harare Institute of Technology.



The 5th edition of the SAYWHAT Quiz Challenge was broadcasted on DStv Mindset Channel 319 every Saturday at 12:00 noon from the 12th of August – 4 November 2023 and the show reached up to 480,000 weekly views in the SADC region. All episodes are available on SAYWHAT YouTube.

SASI Debate Challenge

12 female and 12 male students from 12 institutions of higher learning also participated in the 6th edition of the televised intellectual battle, the Speak And Solve Initiative – another SAYWHAT youth-focused flagship event. To continue amplifying **20 years** championing sexual and reproductive health for students and youth the challenge took place on the 19th and 20th of June at the Studio of Choice under the theme **“A rhythm of Sexual Reproductive Health, Our Safety, Our right.”** Students debated on the following motions:

1. **That the sex education curriculum should overstate and exaggerate the risks associated with sex.**
2. **THBT that schools should be held liable for sexual harassment committed by their students and staff members.**
3. **THBT that out of court settlements for crimes related to sexual harassment should be banned.**
4. **THS the explicit expressions of female sexuality in the entertainment industry.**
5. **THR herd immunity to eradicate TB.**
6. **THBT negative emotions such as depression should be viewed as abnormal.**
7. **THBT countries should work on adapting to climate change rather than trying to prevent it.**
8. **THR the Tinashe Mugabe DNA show**

Students showcased their ability to contribute solutions to the challenges of their time with Midlands State University winning the debate and taking the roving trophy from the University of Zimbabwe. Like the Quiz Challenge, SASI was broadcast on the DSTV mindset channel 319 every Sunday from the 13th of August – 5th of November 2023 reaching over 480,000 viewers in the SADC region every week. All episodes are available on SAYWHAT YouTube as well.



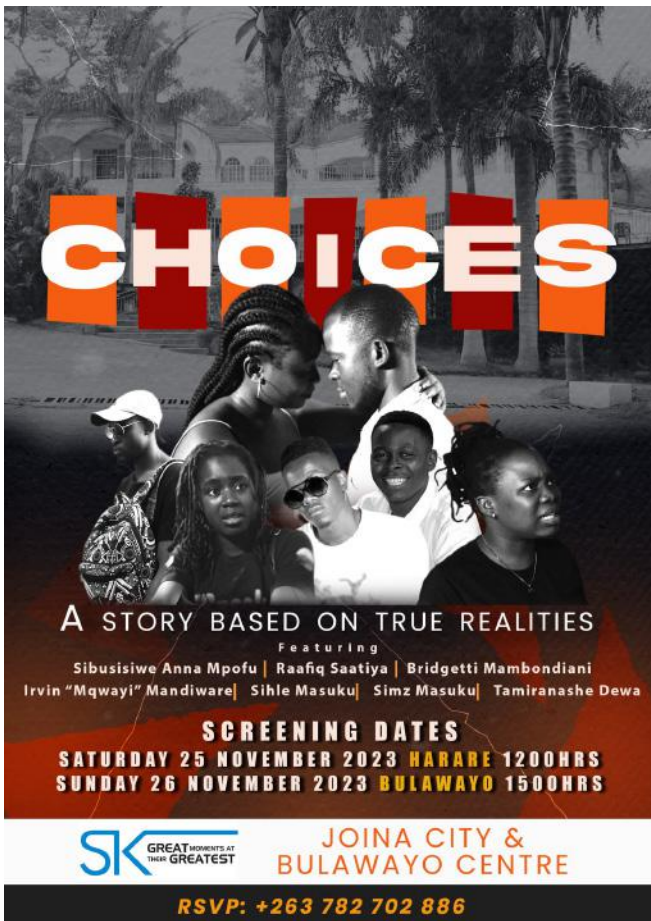
A special thanks to Edoofa, National AIDS Council in Zimbabwe, UNESCO and Sahwira Events and Lifestyle of the Nyaradzo Group in Zimbabwe for supporting both THE 2023 Quiz and Debate .

The Creative Reproductive health Arts Festival for Transformation

Strengthening youth-focused information generation were 4 Male and 3 female students who participated and won the CHASE competition last year during the 1st edition of our Creative Reproductive health Arts Festival for Transformation. The 7 were capacitated in their respective fields of drama, music, poetry, and public speaking and they produced a short SRH-GBV film titled **“CHOICES”** and its theme soundtrack **“iThemba”**.

CHOICES is a compelling and insightful film that delves into the intricate challenges faced by students in institutions of higher learning. It unflinchingly exposes the perils of semester marriages, substance abuse, sexual consent while exploring the insidious role of power and financial dynamics in shaping these issues.

iThemba an isiNdebele word meaning ‘hope’ soundtrack aimed to give young people hope considering the challenges they face attracting the attention of radio stations including Power FM & Skyz Metro. Young people took ownership of CHOICES and iThemba and as we work towards the 2nd edition of CRAFT next year, the two products remain a source for engaging young people in dialogue, raising awareness on SRH-GBV issues, and encouraging smart choices.



93.79%

Of young people are reporting an improvement in their knowledge of SRH-GBV issues including condom use, short- and long-term contraceptive, TB literacy, and drug and substance abuse.

82%

Found the competitions such as the SAYWHAT Quiz and SASI Debate challenges educational, and relevant to their life skills and studies.

The following are some comments by young people on the short film CHOICES.

“Young people telling our daily stories. It could not have been done in a better way. Thank you looking forward to more”
@stayahmfombe1722

“I became a fan after watching the movie after this masterpiece I'm a whole air conditioner”
@sichelesilendlovu2465

“This is great. Somehow the choices we make always have repercussions, and it is up to us to always make sure we think first then act later. I feel like at campuses the main causative factor is peer pressure, we are so focused on temporary pleasures as young people, and this somehow has us blinded to the extent of sacrificing our mental, physical, emotional, and social wellness. I hope we get to know our worth, we put ourselves first, realize our potential and strive to always make better choices!!”
@Lisbon_Huncho

“This slaps, good work. Lisebenzile”
@TheePitchMusic

“I enjoyed very much the sound track its dope”
@libertyvhiriri.

“As we are under the 16 days of gbv activism we thank you for this”
@gladysmvura725

Advocacy and Campaigning

Efforts are dedicated to lobbying and advocating for policy and structural changes at schools, community, and national level advocacy projected at regional levels to ensure a supportive environment and adequate resources that supports the health and education of all young people.

Our work continues to be structured in a way that it influences policies and structures at all levels towards an environment which is responsive and addresses continued health and education challenges of children, adolescents, students, and youth.

Local Level

- At the National University of Science and Technology in Zimbabwe SAYWHAT advocacy contributed to the development and adoption of a Sexual Harassment Policy towards a harassment free environment.
- At Gwanda State University in Zimbabwe advocacy on Sexual Harassment led to the institution policy being disseminated via the student's portal to increase policy awareness among the student population.
- Mutare Teachers College in Zimbabwe established an Early Childhood Development Centre at the college following SAYWHAT participation in public hearings advocating for maternal health services for female students at tertiary level.

National Level

- SAYWHAT participated in different Technical Working Groups including Gender and Health and Family Planning representing and pushing for the needs of young people.
- SAYWHAT strengthened its advocacy work on TB with TB champions involvement in the National TB Program coordination meetings and we were part of the 2023 UNHLM preparatory planning processes, assessments, and development of key asks.
- SAYWHAT hosted its 13th edition of the National Students Conference and facilitated the engagement of research fellows, movement structures – Web for Life and Mugota/Ixhiba members, TB Champions and SRH defenders with policy makers a platform for young people to propose solutions to the challenges of their time.

Regional Level

- SAYWHAT developed a toolkit to guide the advocacy work of SRH Community Champions including their participation in national Technical Working Groups and Youth Conferences in the respective countries.
 - In Malawi, SAYWHAT contributed to the commissioning of an analysis of the 2022/23 draft national budget & advocated for an increase in the national education budget leading to a 12% nominal increase.
 - In Malawi, SAYWHAT also advocated for conducive learning environments for girls with disabilities leading to the removal of Value Added Tax on sanitary wear in the 2023/24 national budget – a milestone in reducing financial barriers and ensuring better access to menstrual hygiene products for girls.
 - In Zambia, SAYWHAT undertook a comprehensive analysis of the 2024 education sector allocations in the 2024 National Budget which was presented to Parliament by the Minister of Finance in September 2023, a significant contribution to the review and allocation of additional resources to the education sector.
 - SAYWHAT participated during the 10-year review of the Addis-Ababa declaration commitments in Zimbabwe.
- SAYWHAT participated in the 3rd International Quality Education Conference in Tanzania, emphasizing the importance of access to education, teacher recruitment, and the utilization of information and communication technology (ICT) in education.

International Level

- SAYWHAT joined other Civil Society Organizations in the development of VNR shadow reports which were subsequently presented at the High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) in New York in July 2023.
- SAYWHAT participated in the African Regional Forum on Sustainable Development (AFRSD) 2023 conference in Niger, where we shared best practices and contributed to consolidated contributions from the African continent for the HLPF.
- SAYWHAT in collaboration with other education coalitions participated in the SDGs progress report that was submitted at the 2023 UNGA in September.

In-school Awareness Campaigns

SAYWHAT recognized the emerging scourge of drug and substance abuse among adolescents and young people in Zimbabwe. Therefore, on the campaign arm, SAYWHAT partnered with the Ministry of Primary and Secondary Education and we hosted in-school awareness campaigns aimed at appealing to adolescents to make drug free choices for the good of their health and future.

SAYWHAT also implemented an anti-bullying campaign across primary and secondary schools promoting our toll-free 577 to report any kind of abuse. These campaigns contributed to an increase in calls received at the Call Center and the number of children assisted through out the year.



SEKE 4 HIGH SCHOOL



SEKE 5 HIGH SCHOOL



SEKE 1 HIGH SCHOOL



ZENGEZA 1 HIGH SCHOOL



SEKE 2 HIGH SCHOOL



CHINYIKA HIGH SCHOOL

Keep the Girls Safe Campaign

SAYWHAT recognizes the plight of the girl child who is generally the victim of child marriages, unequal opportunities, gender-based violence, and discriminative religious and cultural practices. During the 2023 National Students Conference, the SAYWHAT Web for Life movement launched the Keep the Girls Safe Campaign that sought to ensure creation for safer inclusive environments for Adolescent Girls and Young Women (AGYW) in marginalized communities such that they can amplify their voices and stand for their rights. Adolescents and young mothers strengthened the launch sharing lived realities including dropping out of school due to teenage pregnancies.

The young women spearhead pledges by delegates and stakeholders to fight socio-cultural imbalances which perpetuate abuse of the girl child.



The young men from the Mugota/Ixhiba Forum present at the conference pledged their allegiance to fight sexual violence in institutions and communities and Keep the Girl Child Safe



Orathon

SAYWHAT recognizes the consequences that gender-based violence have on developmental-impacts of girls and young women resulting in adverse impacts on their education such as low academic performance, aggressive behaviors towards peers, disturb on their mental health, school dropouts and early child marriages. At the 2023 National Students Conference which took place during the 16 days of Activism against gender-based violence on women and girls, SAYWHAT joined the global movement with its flagship Orathon .

The **Orathon** a title that combines the color theme of the global movement “orange” and the word “marathon” was joined with 267 runners 140M/127F who reflected the collective effort needed from both men and women to prevent violence against women and girls. In the previous years, men run an 8km route separate to women and when they meet at the 8km peg they continue together for another 8km to reach 16km against gender-based violence.

This year was, however, unique with men and women running a 20km route to celebrate **SAYWHAT 20 years of championing SRHR** for students and youth across Africa.



Condomize! Campaign

SAYWHAT remains the leading implementing partner of the national Condomize! campaign in Zimbabwe in partnership with the Ministry of Health and Childcare and the National AIDS Council. During the 22nd edition of the International Conference on AIDS and STIs in Africa youth pre-conference SAYWHAT implemented the Condomize! Campaign in a dormitory town in south-eastern Harare Province, in Zimbabwe – Epworth. The Condomize! Campaign also continued throughout the duration of the conference attracting several media outlets’ attention due to disability inclusion.

Condoms Galore At CONDOMIZE Stand

December 6, 2023 Michael Gwarisa



By Michael Gwarisa In a bid to promote safe sex, reduce HIV incidence and break the stigma around condoms, SAYWHAT’s CONDOMIZE campaign is riding on the ongoing ICASA conference to distribute free condoms and raise awareness of the benefits of safe sex. Located in the community hall at the ICASA, the CONDOMIZE stand has become a hive of activity as young people from across genders, disabilities, and backgrounds are getting free condoms as well as

demonstrations on the correct and consistent use of condoms. The campaign kicked off in Epworth...

#ICASA2023, BREAKING NEWS, Health News, HIV/AIDS CONDOMIZE, ICASA, saywhat, STI



Health and Child Protection Services

We partner with health service providers, government, key stakeholders in child programming and manage telehealth service referrals to strengthen our capacity to directly offer commodities, clinical and preventative health services to children, adolescents, youth, and students and reduce their vulnerabilities, gender-based violence, unintended pregnancies, child pregnancies and improve HIV outcomes.

Since 2020 when SAYWHAT launched its toll-free 577 telehealth service (Call Center) in Zimbabwe, we have been working towards strengthening partnerships with different clinical and non-clinical service providers who delivers health and child protection services.

This year SAYWHAT partnered with over 50 service providers including the Department of Social Development and the Zimbabwe Republic Police Victim Friendly Unit.

Across SAYWHAT structures, the Child Protection Unit, the Web for Life Network, Mugota/Ixhiba, Peer Educators, TB Champions, SRH defenders and research fellow's efforts were made throughout the year to promote 577 and make SAYWHAT a drop center where students and young people who require psychosocial support and counselling can come through for assistance. By strengthening the referral system SAYWHAT ensured the provision and utilization of services by young people who call the Call Center and visit the SAYWHAT resource centers located across the institutions of higher learning.

10,848

Calls Received at
the call Centre

2,904

Child protection
cases attended to

3,505

Young people accessed sexual reproductive health services ranging from STI screening, HIV testing, and family planning services and mental health support

More Exciting News about 2023

The Launch of SAYWHAT Smart Learners Hub



During the International Day of the Girl Child, the Web for Life Network took lead in launching the SAYWHAT online SRH course – the Smart Learners Hub at the Studio of Choice with the theme **“Digital Generation, Our Generation.”** The Smart Learners Hub provides free SRH courses and certification upon completion.

By year end, **388** young people were enrolled on Smart Learners Hub, with **177** completing all modules increasing their knowledge on SRH.



SRH Community Champions also actively led SAYWHAT participation in local commemorations within Angola, Malawi, Mozambique, Zambia, and Zimbabwe. While the Web for Life Movement and the Mugota/Ixhba Young Men’s Forum led commemorations visibility through online and physical dialogues in Zimbabwe. The girls painted the provinces pink, while young men complemented their efforts.

More Exciting News about 2023

@20 Celebrations

Throughout the year, **SAYWHAT 20th anniversary** was reflected in all SAYWHAT programming – radio programs, SAYWHAT quiz Challenge, SASI Debate Challenge etcetera. SAYWHAT amplified the 20year celebration towards year end during its flagship National Students Conference held from the 1st – 3rd of December at ZESA National Training Centre. The conference reflected SAYWHAT growth and expansion with the theme **“We RISE: Amplifying Education & Health Actions by students and young people (Realizing. Investing. Strengthening. Expanding.)”**

SAYWHAT was joined by key stakeholders who have collaborated and partnered with SAYWHAT in the journey of championing students and Youth.



Dr McDonald Lewanika, a friend of SAYWHAT and the celebration guest of honor, reflected SAYWHAT journey towards stardom commending SAYWHAT strategic programming and talent nurturing.



“SAYWHAT develops evolutionary approaches to its programming that maintains their founding values while adapting to changing times and the changing behaviors of young people. Moreover, SAYWHAT trains and create a network of alumni who become its greatest advocates”

Dr McDonald Lewanika



The Executive Director, Jimmy Wilford shared an emotional moment with one secretariat member, Jairos Mutore . Jairos joined SAYWHAT post high school in 2018. SAYWHAT nurtured the young man throughout the years as an intern. As we celebrated 20 years, Jairos also celebrated his graduation from the Women’s University in Africa with an Honors Degree in Social Work – one of the many nurturing success stories.

“The organization will stop at nothing in pursuit of ensuring a healthy and empowered youth demographic”
 Jimmy Wilford



A joyous moment, the former NCC Chairperson, Linnet Zvoushe, joins the Executive Director to cut the @20 cake.

Some Key Stakeholders, the SAYWHAT co-founder Jabusile Shumba, funding partners including SAIH and the UNFPA, former & current secretariat members, students and young people shared solidarity messages with SAYWHAT on this remarkable 20year milestone. The documentary **“20 voices, 20 stories, 20 years of championing SRHR for students and youth”** is available on SAYWHAT YouTube.

INCOME STATEMENT

Organizational Income

SAIH	\$131,458
UNFPA	\$202,681
OXFAM IBIS	\$502,732
EMBASSY OF SWEDEN	\$965,157
AMPLIFY CHANGE	\$204,407
STOP TB	\$133,965
UNRESTRICTED FUNDING	\$14,729
TOTAL	\$2,155,129

Organizational Expenditure

ADMINISTRATION EXPENSES	\$204,556
EQUIPMENT PROCUREMENT	\$15,012
SALARIES AND BENEFITS	\$670,717
PROGRAMS	\$1,159,696
TOTAL	\$2,049,981

Take Away for the year!

As we work towards addressing the emerging health challenges for children, adolescents, students, and youth SAYWHAT recognize the need to **#MakeaNoiseAboutMen**. In 2024, efforts will be made to review and influence national and regional commitments on the health rights and wellbeing of the boy child. Climate Change and its impacts make people, in particular adolescent boys and young men vulnerable to drug and substance abuse. Substance-abusing young people are vulnerable to depression and suicidal thoughts. As we champion Climate Action, SRHR, mental health, education rights and drug-free choices for girls and young women we will not leave the boy child behind.

Although, young people demonstrate knowledge on contemporary issues on their health and wellbeing during the flagship SAYWHAT Quiz, and SASI Debate Challenge, SAYWHAT noted the knowledge gaps that exist among young people on emerging challenges such as Climate Action and Non-communicable diseases. In 2024, SAYWHAT will strengthen its youth-focused knowledge and information sharing. There is also room to add other health modules on the SAYWHAT Smart Learners Hub beyond SRH.

SAYWHAT also recognizes that TB is once again the world's leading infectious killer, causing 1.3 million deaths in 2023 and among them children and People Living With HIV. However, despite being a high-risk to TB, children and young people often perceive low vulnerability to this infectious killer resulting in low utilization of TB screening, diagnosis, and treatment. In the year 2024, SAYWHAT desires to develop a **TB rights and treatment literacy manual** with children and young people as the target audience. In addition, champion the review and implementation of the new Education curriculum with age-appropriate TB facts.



Partner Appreciation

Cheers to the many people and institutions who have contributed in different capacities in our 20 year journey of championing Sexual Reproductive health for students and young people.

We are proud of the challenges we have overcome, the milestones achieved, the friends we made, the efforts of students, secretariat and the board who continue to support our vision as we soldier on with the hope of touching the world with the creation of healthy and empowered generations of young people.

We have and will continue to value every contribution to our growth.



2 DECADES OF CHAMPIONING
SRHR
FOR STUDENTS AND YOUTH.

📍 24 Jefferson Road, Logan Park, Hatfield, Harare, Zimbabwe
Web: www.saywhat.org.zw / Email: saywhat@mweb.co.zw

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