



Visionary
Energetic
Legacy
Excellence

THOKOZA PROGRESSIVE YOUTH

8679 TSHEPO STREET; GRINACKER SKILLS CENTRE

THOKOZA; ALBERTON

1426

011 860 5204

Reg.Nr.: 070-349-NPO

TERMS OF REFERENCE

On the 19th of July 2017 Thokoza Progressive Youth hosted a civic education discussion with the objective to empower beneficiaries to engage on conversations that will encourage them become active citizens within their communities. The discussion was organised with the aim to achieve active participation leading to discovering solutions and creating awareness on political funding. The organisation aims to express concerns of beneficiaries using the platform provided by Parliamentary Monitoring Group (PMG) that will use submissions from different citizens of the Republic of South Africa when reviewing the public funding of represented political parties.

INTRODUCTION

Thokoza Progressive Youth (TPY) is a youth development organisation that empowers youth from underprivileged socio-economic background through initiating sustainable project that holistically assist in skills development, education and training, poverty alleviation and enterprise development. It strives to achieve this in partnership with strategic stakeholders. Social programmes are structured as information source and social change type of intervention where Thokoza Progressive Youth hosts various kinds of workshops to address issues facing the young people of the community and South Africa. Civic education workshops hosted by Thokoza Progressive Youth empowers beneficiaries to be well informed, active citizens and equips them with knowledge about democracy and constitution of the country. It is through these forums that youth realise their roles and responsibilities as active citizens.

FINDINGS

1. If a political party is funded by a person or organisation I do not support I won't vote for them

Majority of beneficiaries stated that their voting decisions are informed by knowing the leadership qualities of the person elected to lead the particular party and also understanding the background of the organisation that might be a financial donor to the party. They stated how they would not support any forms of neglected corruptions that the country is currently going through.

2. I care about the race of the people funding political parties

Discussion participants stated how race serves as a factor on their influence of voting for a political party, they believe that leaders of the same race understands the needs of people that voted. White leaders use black people as a strategy of getting recognition to get funds or even increase their votes. Majority of the participants expressed how fearful it is to be led by a white leader. Thoughts of apartheid era created trust issues especially when taking a decision of who to vote for. Within the group of participants, a few of them stated how race really doesn't play any role when it comes to deciding on a party to vote for, there isn't any guarantee that same



**Visionary
Energetic
Legacy
Excellence**

THOKOZA PROGRESSIVE YOUTH

8679 TSHEPO STREET; GRINACKER SKILLS CENTRE

THOKOZA; ALBERTON

1426

011 860 5204

Reg.Nr.: 070-349-NPO

racial groups always look out for one another. It is a value system that drives a good leader, black or white it really doesn't matter.

3. Expecting political parties to disclose their funders will increase accountability

"People who fund political parties have expectations. Big corporate companies use funding as an investment, for instance companies that are on the agriculture sector would donate funds with the intention of getting tenders or ownership of land" – the statement made by one of the discussion participants who clearly stated his concerns about political funding. Beneficiaries participated on "agree, disagree, unsure" activity that tested the level of knowledge on the questions about political funding. Majority of beneficiaries believe that transparency won't make a difference with the corruption happening within our government. Disclosing funders will not increase accountability. Transparency may lead to corporate donors using political funding donations as a marketing strategy.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Citizens should interact more through forums that will assist them with dealing with matters that affect their growth and development. Community meetings can be one of the effective platforms to engage with elected municipal officials. Different workshops should be arranged to ensure community members are aware of terms stated by the government and systems that are applied to improve the lives of people.

CONCLUSION

The discussion created an effective conversation when participants viewed the management of state funds, and what they base their voting choices on and they were able to engage on real issues affecting their daily lives. Factors that inform their decision making when voting were also broadly discussed. Beneficiaries showed interest to learn more and gather as much information about civic education and decisions taken by government that impacts their lives as citizens.

Discussion participants

Panel (Conversation starters) - Thokoza Progressive Youth Staff Members

1. Ms Sibongile Moletsane (Advice and Referrals Officer)
2. Ms Nontokozi Mtshali (Personal Development Facilitation)
3. Ms Nthabiseng Malope (Trainer/ ICT facilitator)
4. Mr Mohlalefi Motsima (Trainer/ICT facilitator)

Beneficiaries

1. Thango Hloniphile
2. Mkhize Silindile
3. Moloji Sphelele
4. Mthembu Matshediso
5. Mncube Mondli



THOKOZA PROGRESSIVE YOUTH

8679 TSHEPO STREET; GRINACKER SKILLS CENTRE

THOKOZA; ALBERTON

1426

011 860 5204

Reg.Nr.: 070-349-NPO

**Visionary
Energetic
Legacy
Excellence**

6. Mokhobo Sello
7. Kubeka Thabile
8. Mavuso Puseletso
9. Nkonyane Moses
10. Rakgoade Sechaba
11. Magwaxaza Msimelelo

Guest Speaker – Youth Lab

1. Pearl Pillay