

AfroCentric

In Action

December 2025

INVESTING IN A BETTER WORLD



AfroCentric
GROUP

Healthier Together

INSIDE

**A DECADE OF IMPACT:
THE ELUTHANDWENI**
Breast Cancer
Walkathon 2025

VISION IS VITAL:
Transforming learning
through clear sight

**INTERNATIONAL
MANDELA DAY 2025:**
Serving communities
with compassion and
purpose



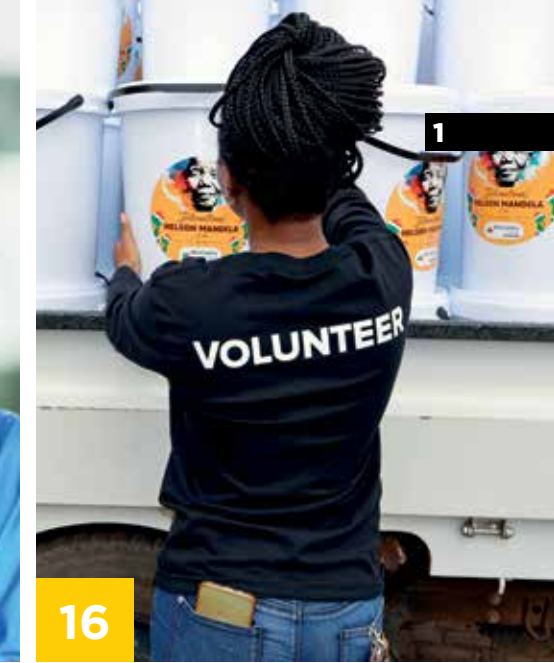
10



12



14



16

CONTENT GALLERY



02

The AfroCentric Group is committed to making a meaningful contribution to uplifting our communities.

- 02 CEO Foreword:** AfroCentric in Action 2025
- 06 Pregnancy Awareness Day 2025:** Beginnings for brighter futures
- 10 The Serenity Suite launch:** Restoring dignity through compassionate care
- 12 Ocean XI Development Easter Tournament:** Building futures through sport
- 14 International Nurses Day 2025:** Honouring the heartbeat of healthcare
- 16 International Mandela Day 2025:** Serving communities with compassion and purpose
- 20 A decade of impact:** The Eluthandweni Breast Cancer Walkathon 2025
- 24 Vision Is Vital:** Transforming learning through clear sight
- 27 Chairman's Annual Bursary Luncheon 2025:** Nurturing future healthcare leaders
- 32 Charlotte Maxeke Hospital School Christmas Celebration 2025**
- 34 Pharmacy Direct:** Empowering the next generation of pharmaceutical talent
- 36 Empowering youth through sport:** AfroCentric at the Tjiane Festive Tournament



06



20



24



27



32



34



36



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CEO FOREWORD

AfroCentric in Action 2025

At the AfroCentric Group, we remain driven by a purpose that extends beyond business – a purpose rooted in uplifting the communities we serve. We believe that access to quality healthcare and opportunities for growth is not a privilege, but a human right. And in 2025 we continued to bring this belief to life through meaningful partnerships and impact-led investments. Because when all is said and done, the true measure of success is the positive change we create in the lives of others.



Our long-standing partnership with Eluthandweni Maternity Health Services continues to be one of our most transformative efforts. What began as a modest birthing unit in Kathorus has now blossomed into something far greater: a fully operational healthcare facility running around the clock, with satellite branches now reaching families in Alberton Mall and Soweto.

With zero child mortalities recorded since inception, Eluthandweni stands as a beacon of hope, directly aligning to the national objectives of reducing these rates by 50% by 2030 and contributing toward United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 3. This year, we took our commitment further by funding the construction of a new surgical theatre at the Kathorus site,

significantly increasing the facility's ability to respond to high-risk deliveries and maternal emergencies. It's a testament to the belief that healthcare infrastructure is not just about bricks and mortar, it's about building bridges to life itself.

We also marked the 10th year of this partnership with the Eluthandweni Breast Cancer Awareness Walkathon, a flagship initiative championing early detection and preventative health education. It represented a decade of footsteps, a decade of awareness, a decade of lives touched and possibly saved.

The spirit of service that drives our work found renewed expression during 2025's Mandela Day activities, anchored in the powerful theme: "It's still in our hands to combat poverty" ➤

and inequity.” With the support of passionate colleagues nationwide, we rolled up our sleeves and reached beneficiaries across four provinces. In Cape Town, we partnered with Silverleaf Primary School and Ladles of Love. From our Roodepoort head office, we stood alongside the Sechaba Community Centre. Our Durban teams touched lives at St Philomena’s Children’s Home, Tafta, and Merewent Cheshire Homes. And in Vereeniging, we supported Thusong Projects, Catherine Robinson Home, KG Organisation, and Sedibeng Children’s Haven. Through these engagements, we ensured food security, learning support, dignity, and hope for vulnerable families.

While we nurtured young bodies and minds in the present, we also invested deliberately in the healthcare leaders of tomorrow. Our annual Chairperson’s Bursary Luncheon was a fitting celebration of academic progress and future leadership, with our bursary programme currently supporting five medical students pursuing their MBChB degrees, and one who graduated in 2025. Two pharmacy students both crossed the finish line last year as newly qualified professionals. And

10 nursing students are making steady progress, with five now completing their final year and set to graduate in 2026. We are incredibly proud of each beneficiary’s journey and look forward to celebrating a decade of the programme in 2026, a testament to investing in talent that will shape our health system for generations.

A key evolution in our strategy this year has been the deepening partnership with Sanlam. Through our Vision is Vital programme, the Sanlam Foundation pledged support toward providing school shoes for learners in the schools we work



December 2025

Images: Supplied



with. These were set to be delivered to schools in January 2026, ensuring children return to school with confidence and dignity.

In 2025, our commitment to youth development extended beyond the classroom and clinic into the fields and pitches where young people learn discipline, teamwork and resilience. Through ad-hoc contributions, we provided a soccer kit to Infinity Boys Club, sponsored the Soccer Oceans Development Tournament and the Tjiane Festive Tournament, and delivered a rugby kit to Young Lions Rugby Club.

In addition, we supported the launch of the Serenity Suite at Groote Schuur Hospital, a compassionate bereavement space designed to restore dignity and comfort to grieving families who have lost a child. Together, these initiatives reflect our belief that community upliftment takes many forms – from sport and education to healthcare and human dignity.

Pharmacy Direct: Building skills for the future

This year also marked a milestone for Pharmacy Direct, a subsidiary within AfroCentric’s

pharmaceutical cluster. Since 2004, Pharmacy Direct has been investing in learnership programmes for pharmacist assistants, empowering over 200 individuals to qualify and contribute meaningfully to the healthcare system. Many of these graduates now hold leadership roles, proving that when we invest in people, we strengthen the very foundation of healthcare delivery. The graduation of the Class of 2025 was a powerful reminder that education and opportunity remain the most enduring gifts we can offer.

As we accelerate our Vision 2030 ambitions with purpose and conviction, we remain mindful that our success is deeply connected to the wellbeing of the communities we serve. A rising tide lifts all ships and together with partners, colleagues and every beneficiary touched by our work, we are that tide.

Thank you to everyone who continues to make our impact possible.

Gerald
Chief Executive Officer
AfroCentric Group

December 2025

**PREGNANCY AWARENESS
DAY 2025:**

Beginnings for brighter futures

**Empowering families through
knowledge, care, and support**

A significant grassroots project offered learning opportunities, health assessments and guidance to support pregnant women and their partners, fostering secure deliveries, better maternal health and robust family units across the Kathorus area.

Images: Getty Images and supplied

**“Mothers received
real-time insights
into their health and
pregnancy.”**



On 14 February 2025, AfroCentric Group proudly partnered with Eluthandweni Maternity Health Services to commemorate National Pregnancy Awareness Day, a cornerstone initiative dedicated to promoting safe motherhood, healthy pregnancies and stronger families across the Kathorus (Kathlehong, Thokoza and Vosloorus) region. This impactful event was the culmination of a week-long educational campaign held from 3-7 February, designed to inform, inspire and empower expectant parents.



Championing safe motherhood through education

The programme created a welcoming space for learning and dialogue, covering vital maternal health topics such as:

- Early antenatal care and its life-saving benefits.
- Breastfeeding and nutrition for mother and child.
- Dispelling pregnancy myths and misconceptions.
- Emotional well-being and stress management strategies.
- Partner involvement and shared caregiving responsibilities.
- HIV awareness and stigma reduction.

These sessions offered expectant mothers the confidence and clarity they needed to make informed decisions, supported by experienced healthcare professionals who were ready to answer questions and provide guidance. ➤



December 2025



Images: Getty Images and supplied



“This partnership reflects our unwavering commitment to health equity and safe motherhood.”

Accessible health screenings and onsite medical support

To complement education with action, the event provided essential clinical services, including:

- Ultrasound sonar screenings
- HGT and cholesterol tests
- Specialist consultations

Mothers received real-time insights into their health and pregnancy, reinforcing the importance of routine antenatal visits and proactive care.

A partnership rooted in impact

AfroCentric's collaboration with Eluthandweni spans over a decade of driving initiatives that save lives and strengthen communities. From infrastructure support and converted ambulances to enterprise development and annual maternal health programmes, this partnership reflects our unwavering commitment to health equity and safe motherhood.

Every child's story begins with care, dignity and hope

One of Eluthandweni's most remarkable achievements – and what truly sets it apart – is its 100% natural birth rate and 0% child mortality since inception. This outcome is not just a statistic; it is a testament to clinical excellence and the strength of community-based healthcare models supported by strategic corporate partnerships.

AfroCentric's investment in Eluthandweni goes beyond infrastructure, it aligns with South Africa's national goal to reduce maternal and neonatal mortality by 50% by 2030, and directly supports United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 3, which seeks to end preventable deaths of newborns and children under five.

Through initiatives such as Pregnancy Awareness Day, AfroCentric continues to champion a future where every mother feels supported and every child is given the best possible start in life. Together, we are building healthier families, stronger communities, and a brighter tomorrow. ■

December 2025

THE SERENITY SUITE LAUNCH:

Restoring dignity through compassionate care

A healing space for families in their most difficult moments



The AfroCentric Group and Groote Schuur Hospital this year unveiled a dedicated grief support space for families experiencing the loss of a baby. This haven provides respectful care, privacy and a place to recover emotionally.



On 25 March 2025, AfroCentric Group, in partnership with Groote Schuur Hospital, proudly unveiled The Serenity Suite – a private, fully refurbished bereavement space within the hospital's Maternity Centre. This sanctuary was created to offer grieving families comfort, dignity and emotional support during a devastating experience: the loss of a baby.

Images: Getty Images



From vision to reality

What began as a vision in 2024 has now become a reality. AfroCentric's initial investment provided counselling desks, couches and décor, laying the foundation for a compassionate environment. In 2025, we completed the transformation into a warm, healing space designed for privacy, reflection and emotional safety.

Purposefully designed to comfort

AfroCentric's contribution this year enabled the completion of:

- Three private counselling rooms for sensitive conversations
- A quiet family waiting area for moments of pause and reflection
- Soft furnishings and calming décor to create a sense of peace

Every detail was thoughtfully chosen to ensure families facing unimaginable grief receive care in an environment that honours their loss and supports their healing journey.

Compassion at the heart of healthcare

The Serenity Suite reflects AfroCentric's belief that healthcare extends beyond diagnosis and treatment – it is humanity in action. True care includes empathy, dignity, and psychological support at every stage of life. Through this initiative, AfroCentric reaffirms its commitment to holistic, patient-centred healthcare, ensuring that even in moments of sorrow, families feel seen, supported, and cared for.

Because every life matters

With The Serenity Suite, AfroCentric stands alongside families in their most vulnerable moments, helping to restore dignity, offering comfort and reminding them that compassion is the cornerstone of healthcare. ■

“Healthcare extends beyond diagnosis and treatment – it is humanity in action.”

OCEAN XI DEVELOPMENT EASTER TOURNAMENT:

Building futures through sport

Turning the field into a space of hope and opportunity

Sport is an excellent way to inspire teamwork, discipline and opportunity in young people, while also fostering growth, confidence and brighter prospects for players across the region.

From 26-28 April 2025, the Clive Solomon Stadium in Bloemfontein was alive with energy and excitement as AfroCentric proudly partnered with Ocean XI Development to host the Easter Youth Football Tournament – a celebration of talent, teamwork and community spirit. This initiative reflects our belief that sport is more than a game; it is a powerful tool for growth, resilience and opportunity.

Creating safe, structured opportunities for youngsters

The tournament brought together 40 youth football teams, spanning from U9 to U17 divisions. For many young players, this was a chance to experience a safe, structured environment that fosters confidence, discipline and lifelong friendship.

AfroCentric's investment in youth development

Our sponsorship ensured that every participant felt valued and supported. Contributions included:

- Branded soccer equipment (bibs, agility poles, balls, hurdles)
- Medals and trophies to celebrate effort and excellence
- Nutritious snacks to keep players energised

These resources helped level the playing field, ensuring equal participation and a memorable experience for all teams, regardless of background.

A pathway to possibility

The Ocean XI Easter Youth Tournament embodies AfroCentric's commitment to creating alternatives to negative influences and building healthier, stronger communities. Through sport, we nurture character, inspire dreams and open doors to a brighter future.

Because every goal counts

AfroCentric remains dedicated to youth development initiatives that transform lives – one game, one opportunity, and one community at a time. ■



"This was a chance to experience a safe, structured environment that fosters confidence, discipline and lifelong friendship."



INTERNATIONAL NURSES DAY 2025:

Honouring the heartbeat of healthcare

A tribute to the unsung heroes of patient care

AfroCentric once again acknowledged the commitment and empathy of nurses, honouring their essential contribution through thoughtful initiatives and continued assistance. The Group has pledged to support those who provide care to others.

“Investing in nurses is investing in society.”

Image: Getty Images

Nurses are the lifeblood of healthcare, offering compassion, resilience and unwavering dedication every single day. On International Nurses Day, AfroCentric celebrated these extraordinary professionals with gestures of appreciation that spoke to their dignity and value.

Meaningful gestures of thanks

This year, AfroCentric honoured nurses with:

- Elegant scarves for female nurses
- AfroCentric-branded socks for male nurses

These gifts symbolised warmth, unity and respect for the diversity of nursing staff, reminding them that their care does not go unnoticed.

A tradition of celebrating healthcare workers

AfroCentric's commitment to healthcare professionals extends beyond annual recognition. In 2024, the Group supported the launch of Eluthandweni's Alberton satellite clinic during International Nurses Day – a testament to our dedication to strengthening clinical capacity and improving access to care.

Caring for nurses strengthens communities

The 2025 theme underscored a powerful truth: investing in nurses is investing in society. AfroCentric proudly stands beside these frontline heroes, acknowledging their vital role in building a healthier, more resilient nation.

Because care begins with those who give it

Through initiatives like International Nurses Day, AfroCentric reaffirms its belief that healthcare is human care, and that every nurse deserves recognition, respect and support. ■

INTERNATIONAL MANDELA DAY 2025:

Serving communities with compassion and purpose

Honouring Madiba through meaningful action

This year, our employees took hands-on action across South Africa, distributing food, serving meals and supporting vulnerable communities. Their collective, compassionate efforts reinforced the company's commitment to social upliftment.



International Mandela Day is about giving 67 minutes of service, but for AfroCentric employees, it became a day of collective action and care. On 18 July 2025, over 200 employees across South Africa stepped out of their offices and into communities, dedicating time and energy to uplifting those most in need. Guided by the spirit of ubuntu, these efforts reflected AfroCentric's purpose of enhancing quality of life.

Acts of kindness across regions

Our employees didn't just donate, they rolled up their sleeves to create tangible impact. Together, they packed and distributed 983 food parcels, reaching more than 500 beneficiaries across five regions:

Roodepoort

- 170 food parcels delivered
- Beneficiaries: orphaned children and child-headed households at Sechaba Community Care Centre

Cape Town

- 450 food parcels distributed
- Beneficiaries: learners at Silverleaf Primary School, Ladles of Love, and soup jars delivered to St John's Anglican Church and Abraham Kriel Bambanani

Vereeniging

- 273 food parcels packed for four charities, including Thusong Projects and Sedibeng Children's Haven
- Beneficiaries: vulnerable families and children ➤

"Our employees didn't just donate, they rolled up their sleeves to create tangible impact."



Durban

- 90 food parcels delivered to St Philomena's Children's Home and TAFTA
- Beneficiaries: elderly and vulnerable individuals

Johannesburg

- Warm meals served to 400 homeless people in Ennerdale by the Health Quality Assurance team



“Through these efforts, AfroCentric brought Madiba's legacy to life.”



Living the value of care

International Mandela Day 2025 was a powerful reminder that volunteerism is at the heart of AfroCentric's culture. By giving their time, energy, and compassion, our employees proved that small acts, multiplied across communities, create lasting impact. Through these efforts, AfroCentric brought Madiba's legacy to life, turning the value of care into meaningful action.

Because service builds stronger communities

AfroCentric remains committed to initiatives that restore dignity, fight hunger and strengthen social bonds – one act of kindness at a time. ■

A DECADE OF IMPACT:

The Eluthandweni Breast Cancer Walkathon 2025

10 years of awareness, wellness, and community strength

Over 1 000 participants were involved in screenings, education and community engagement in support of this worthy cause. AfroCentric's decade-long support highlights its dedication to preventative healthcare, early detection, and fostering healthier communities.



December 2025

Images: Supplied



The 10th annual Eluthandweni Breast Cancer Walkathon marked a powerful milestone in community health mobilisation. AfroCentric has proudly supported this initiative since 2015, reinforcing its commitment to preventative healthcare, early detection and holistic wellness.

Meaningful gestures of thanks

This year, AfroCentric honoured nurses with:

- Elegant scarves for female nurses
- AfroCentric-branded socks for male nurses

These gifts symbolised warmth, unity and respect for the diversity of nursing staff, reminding them that their care does not go unnoticed.

Walking for a cause

On 19 October 2025, more than 1 000 participants – including 200 AfroCentric employees, survivors, families, and community members – gathered in Vosloorus for an 8km walk. Despite weather disruptions, the event radiated unity and resilience, symbolising hope in the fight against cancer. AfroCentric executives, including Group CEO Gerald van Wyk and Chief People & Marketing Officer Lindiwe Miyambu, joined the walk, demonstrating leadership by example. ➤



December 2025



Impact beyond numbers

The walkathon strengthened community trust and reinforced AfroCentric's role as a partner in wellness. Survivor stories inspired hope, while educational sessions encouraged preventive health practices and partner involvement. Despite challenges like rain and logistical disruptions, the event delivered measurable health benefits and deepened AfroCentric's connection with the Kathorus community.

A legacy of care

AfroCentric has partnered with Eluthandweni for a decade to champion early detection and cancer education. In addition to being an anniversary, the 2025 walkathon was a reaffirmation of our shared purpose: creating healthier communities through awareness, access and compassion. In recognition of this long-standing commitment, Eluthandweni presented AfroCentric Group with a trophy of appreciation for its decade of dedicated support. ■

Beyond the walk – health in action

More than just begin symbolic, the walkathon delivered life-saving health interventions. Participants accessed:

- Breast and prostate cancer screenings
- HIV testing and counselling
- Pap smears
- Blood pressure and glucose checks
- Family planning services.

A total of more than 1 200 screenings were conducted, and several high-risk cases were referred for urgent follow-up, underscoring the

event's impact beyond awareness. Partners such as Pink Drive, AfroCentric's biggest subsidiary, Medscheme, and the Department of Health played a critical role in delivering these services.

Entertainment included aerobics and interactive quizzes, creating an atmosphere of learning and solidarity. The programme was brought to life by Goitseman Lekgetho, a medical student and award-winning content creator, whose energy and knowledge blended education with engagement.

Images: Supplied



“The walkathon strengthened community trust and reinforced AfroCentric’s role as a partner in wellness.”



VISION IS VITAL:

Transforming learning through clear sight

Expanding access to eye care in the Eastern Cape

A number of learners in the Eastern Cape were provided with complimentary eye tests and corrective glasses, helping them to see better in the classroom, enhancing their self-esteem, and enabling them to participate actively in lessons.



December 2025



On 14 November 2025, AfroCentric extended its Vision Is Vital initiative to East London, bringing hope and opportunity to classrooms.

At Lukhanyo Primary School and Gcobani Intermediate Primary School, altogether 1 311 learners received free eye screenings. Some were given prescription spectacles and all the learners received stationery packs, removing a critical barrier to learning and restoring confidence for hundreds of children.

Breaking barriers to learning

Poor eyesight is one of the most overlooked obstacles to education. Undetected vision problems can lead to academic struggles, low self-esteem and even bullying. By providing screenings and glasses at no cost, AfroCentric helped learners see clearly, participate fully, and believe in their potential. Each pair of spectacles represents improved vision but also a step toward success.

Images: Supplied

Partnering for impact

This milestone was made possible through collaboration with our partner Vision for Change, school principals, teachers and parents. Leaders such as Bukelwa Sitole of Lukhanyo Primary and Simphiwe Qobosha of Gcobani Intermediate reminded learners that humble beginnings do not define their future. Together, we created an environment of care, encouragement and opportunity. ➤

“AfroCentric helped learners see clearly, participate fully, and believe in their potential.”

December 2025



“Every pair of spectacles handed over is a key to confidence, academic success and opportunity.”



A growing legacy

Since its inception in 2017, Vision Is Vital has transformed lives by breaking down one of the most overlooked barriers to learning – poor eyesight. To date, the programme has:

- Screened over 8 356 learners
- Delivered 519 prescription spectacles to 12 schools in seven provinces.

Every pair of spectacles handed over is a key to confidence, academic success and opportunity.

Expanding the impact through partnerships

In 2025, AfroCentric welcomed the Sanlam Foundation as a partner, adding a new dimension to the initiative. During the recent Eastern Cape fitment cycle, learners received prescription

spectacles, ensuring they can see clearly and learn effectively.

But the journey doesn't stop there. In January 2026, the Sanlam Foundation will join AfroCentric for the Cape Town Back-to-School initiative, supporting both spectacle fittings and school shoe donations for learners at Dunoon Primary and Silverleaf Primary. This collaboration reflects a shared commitment to holistic learner support, because education isn't just about seeing the board, it's about walking confidently toward a brighter future.

Together for better futures

AfroCentric and Sanlam are proving that when businesses unite for good, the impact can be far-reaching – one child and one school at a time. ■

Images: Supplied

CHAIRMAN'S ANNUAL BURSARY LUNCHEON 2025:

Nurturing future healthcare leaders

Celebrating academic excellence and resilience

A very special event celebrated academic excellence and highlighted those students poised to become South Africa's future healthcare leaders. The event reinforced the Group's commitment to transforming lives through education.



On 19 November 2025, AfroCentric hosted its Chairman's Annual Bursary Luncheon at Prof. Anna Mokgokong's residence in Pretoria. It was a gathering that celebrated achievement, mentorship and shared purpose. This annual event is more than a luncheon – it is a strategic platform to connect AfroCentric leadership with bursary recipients, thereby reinforcing the Group's commitment to education and transformation.

Voices of inspiration

"AfroCentric goes beyond financial support; we invest in dreams and the leaders of tomorrow," Prof. Mokgokong told students. CEO Gerald van Wyk echoed the sentiment: "Don't just be in the building; aspire to own the building."

These powerful messages underscored AfroCentric's vision of empowering future leaders who will shape South Africa's healthcare landscape.

Empowering through support

Students shared heartfelt testimonials about how financial assistance and wellness coaching helped them overcome challenges and succeed academically. The bursary programme goes beyond tuition – it includes personal mastery sessions, mentorship and leadership engagement, equipping students with resilience and emotional intelligence for high-pressure healthcare environments. The luncheon celebrated resilience, achievement and promise.

We proudly acknowledged the success of our 2025 graduates:

- **Nomgcobo Vika** (MBChB, University of Pretoria), now an intern doctor at Helen Joseph Hospital
- **Thato Phahlane** (pharmacy, North-West University), interning at Polokwane Provincial Hospital
- **Reratlwe Dikgale** (pharmacy, North-West University), interning at Netcare Alberton Hospital. ➤

Images: Supplied



"AfroCentric goes beyond financial support; we invest in dreams and the leaders of tomorrow."





“AfroCentric continues to build a pipeline of compassionate, skilled professionals.”



“The luncheon celebrated resilience, achievement and promise.”

A milestone moment for nursing students

The true highlight of the luncheon was celebrating five nursing students who have successfully completed their final year of studies and are set to graduate in 2026. Their journey represents determination and hope, and their upcoming graduation will mark a significant milestone in their careers.

Adding a heartfelt touch, Prof. Anna pledged that any nursing student who graduates *cum laude* will receive an outfit for graduation, whether it be a dress or suit. This will ensure that excellence is not only recognised but celebrated in style.

This moment captured the essence of AfroCentric's commitment: investing in education and health, empowering future healthcare professionals, and creating opportunities that transform lives.

Strengthening a decade-long legacy

Launched in 2016, the AfroCentric Bursary Programme has funded students in medicine, pharmacy and nursing, addressing South Africa's critical healthcare skills shortage. As the programme approaches its 10-year milestone in 2026, AfroCentric continues to build a pipeline of compassionate, skilled professionals ready to lead and change the trajectory of healthcare in South Africa.

Because education changes everything

Through initiatives like the bursary programme, AfroCentric reaffirms its belief that investing in education is investing in the future of healthcare, thereby creating opportunities that transform lives, families and communities. ■

Images: Supplied



Charlotte Maxeke Hospital School Christmas Celebration 2025

Spreading moments of joy to sick children

This annual celebration brought a welcome burst of joy to young learners spending the festive season in hospital care. The event offered children a moment to step away from treatment and simply enjoy the magic of the holidays.



Images: Supplied

On 5 December 2025, AfroCentric joined the Charlotte Maxeke Hospital School to celebrate its annual Christmas Party, creating moments of joy for learners who continue their education while undergoing medical treatment. This festive occasion brought warmth, hope, and a sense of normalcy to children and their families during an extremely challenging time.

Supporting learners through difficult times

The Charlotte Maxeke Hospital School plays a vital role in ensuring continuity in education for learners from Grade R to Grade 12, despite long-term hospitalisation. AfroCentric contributed gifts, meals, and festive décor, transforming the school into a cheerful space where children could play, laugh and feel celebrated – even if just for a day.

“This festive occasion brought warmth, hope, and a sense of normalcy to children and their families.”

Festive spirit that heals

The celebration was filled with music, games and laughter, reminding learners that they are seen, supported and valued. These moments of joy are more than seasonal – they reflect AfroCentric’s commitment to holistic care, where emotional well-being and education go hand in hand.

Looking ahead: A renewed learning environment

Beyond the festivities, AfroCentric reaffirmed its dedication to the school’s future. The hospital school renovation project will commence during the December holidays to minimise disruption to learning. This refurbishment will create a safe, inspiring and therapeutic learning environment, ensuring that learners have access to quality education in a space designed for healing and hope.

Because every child deserves joy and opportunity

Through initiatives such as these, AfroCentric continues to champion education, wellness and dignity for children in care, proving that compassion can transform even the most difficult journeys into stories of resilience and hope. ■



PHARMACY DIRECT:

Empowering the next generation of pharmaceutical talent

An AfroCentric Group company in the Pharma Cluster

By expanding healthcare access while actively developing the skilled professionals the sector relies on, AfroCentric is delivering real-world impact. It's all about shaping a stronger pharmaceutical workforce and creating meaningful opportunities for long-term industry transformation.

Pharmacy Direct stands as a shining example of how corporate purpose becomes tangible impact. As part of the pharmaceutical cluster, it plays a dual role: advancing access to healthcare while investing in the skills pipeline that sustains the industry. This commitment reflects AfroCentric's broader vision of building resilient healthcare systems that serve communities with dignity and excellence.

Building skills, building futures

Since its establishment in 2004, Pharmacy Direct has grown rapidly, thereby creating demand for clinically qualified staff. Rather than outsourcing talent, the company embraced a culture of empowerment and upskilling, launching a learnership programme for pharmacist assistants. To date, more than 200 pharmacist assistants have graduated from the programme. Many are continuing their careers within Pharmacy

Direct, with some advancing into management and leadership roles. This is proof that skills development is not just training – it's transformation.

Creating opportunity through upskilling

The learnership programme opens doors for employees who may never have had access to tertiary education. It equips learners with practical skills to contribute meaningfully to the pharmaceutical landscape, including:

- Providing accurate information to patients
- Processing claims in line with medical scheme rules
- Picking and packing medication into patient-ready packs for delivery to over 100,000 patients monthly.

Learners work alongside pharmacists who mentor

Image: Supplied



and guide them, ensuring compliance with Good Pharmacy Practice Standards and fostering a culture of excellence.

Celebrating the class of 2025

On 21 November 2025, Pharmacy Direct celebrated another milestone when with the graduation of its latest group of pharmacist assistants. The event, held at S Buys Academy in Carletonville, was followed by in-house celebrations filled with pride and joy. For these graduates, the qualification is an academic achievement but also the reward for hard work, personal sacrifice and resilience. It's a gateway to career growth and a brighter future.

Voices of triumph

Their testimonials highlight the transformative impact of the programme, showcasing how newly qualified pharmacist assistants are prepared for future roles in healthcare. Their stories embody the value of investing in people, proving that empowerment and education are the cornerstones of sustainable impact.

Connecting to AfroCentric's broader CSI vision

Pharmacy Direct's learnership programme is an internal development initiative, but it is also part of the AfroCentric Group's wider commitment to corporate social investment (CSI). Just as AfroCentric supports bursaries for medical and nursing students, invests in maternal health infrastructure and champions preventative health awareness campaigns, Pharmacy Direct contributes to building the human capital that sustains South Africa's healthcare system. Together, these initiatives form a holistic approach: strengthening communities, empowering individuals and ensuring that healthcare delivery is not only accessible but also driven by skilled, compassionate professionals. ■

"Empowerment and education are the cornerstones of sustainable impact."

AFROCENTRIC AT THE TJIANE FESTIVE TOURNAMENT:

Empowering youth through sport

A grassroots football tournament in Limpopo helped to transform lives, unite communities and create pathways for youth through sport, teamwork and opportunity, proving that real impact starts at community level.



beyond the field of play. Building on a previous year's impactful initiative, when sanitary pads were donated to four local schools, the tournament continues to demonstrate a deep commitment to holistic community upliftment and the wellbeing of young people.

We express our sincere appreciation to the Moloto Youth Foundation for their vision and partnership, and to all the young athletes whose passion and sportsmanship brought the tournament to life. AfroCentric is proud to stand alongside a movement that inspires unity, unlocks opportunity and instils pride throughout the community. ■



We are honoured to have supported the recently concluded Tjiane Festive Tournament – an uplifting community initiative that continues to ignite the spirit of soccer and opportunity in the rural community of Ga-Mphahlele in Limpopo.

Youth development at its finest

The tournament, which is in its fifth year, brought together 16 outstanding development teams, all championed by the Moloto Youth Foundation NPO. What began as a local sports event has grown into a powerful catalyst for youth development, social cohesion and community empowerment.

As part of our commitment to nurturing young talent, AfroCentric proudly donated full soccer kits to all participating teams, along with a soccer net, ensuring that every player had the resources to compete with confidence, dignity and safety. Our involvement reflects our ongoing dedication to initiatives that strengthen discipline, teamwork and personal growth among young people.

Holistic community involvement

The Tjiane Festive Tournament's influence extends

“AfroCentric proudly donated full soccer kits to all participating teams.”



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