

# 2018 COPESSA ANNUAL REPORT



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## About COPESSA

COPESSA is a multiple -award winning social profit organization (also commonly referred to as not-for-profit organization). The organization was registered in 2000 as Zamokuhle Child Abuse Centre, which was later renamed COPESSA (acronym for Community based Prevention and empowerment Strategies in South Africa) in 2004. The service centre in Soweto came into being as a result of many consultative 'indabas', led by a group of women called iSililo, which was formed in response to the brutal rape of 5-month-old 'baby Tshepang', who was disembowelled after being raped and had to undergo several corrective surgical interventions.

The abuse and neglect of the most vulnerable members of society, our children, is to this day disturbingly common in South Africa. The immediate effects are not only devastating but the future effects can lead to a wide range of health and social problems. COPESSA's stance is to do all we can to prevent abuse and neglect before it occurs.

COPESSA comprises of highly motivated and results driven team of professionals, volunteers and community members. We are based in Soweto, Johannesburg and most of the recipients of our services are indigent, hence our services are free. We enjoy the support of the Gauteng Department of Social Development, a number of private companies, community-involvement ambassadors as well as eminent and celebrated community leaders such as 'the Empress of song' Dr Sibongile Khumalo, legendary Sipho 'Hotstix' Mabuse and iconic Mlungisi Gegana.



## **Vision**

To create safe, caring and secure communities for children.

## **Mission**

To prevent child abuse and neglect and mitigate from happening and mitigate its effects once it has occurred.

## **Values**

The following values govern the COPESSA Board, management, staff and volunteers:

- Ubuntu
- Integrity
- Honesty
- Transparency
- Hard work
- Passion
- Accountability
- Respect
- Confidentiality

## Governance

COPESSA has an independent Board of directors and is audited by independent and registered auditors, Laburn Financial Incorporated.

We are registered as a

- Section 21 Company, (registration no.:2000/025755/08),
- Non-Profit Organization, (registration no.:041-733-NPO), and
- Section 18A Public Benefit Organization, (registration no.: PBO 930 012 177).

### COPESSA Board of Directors for 2018

Mr. Elias Borole– Chairman

Dr. Nobs Mwanda– CEO

Adv. Molefe Molefe

Mr. Joshua Motjuwadi

Ms. Lindiwe Mbongwe

Mr. Arthur Anderson

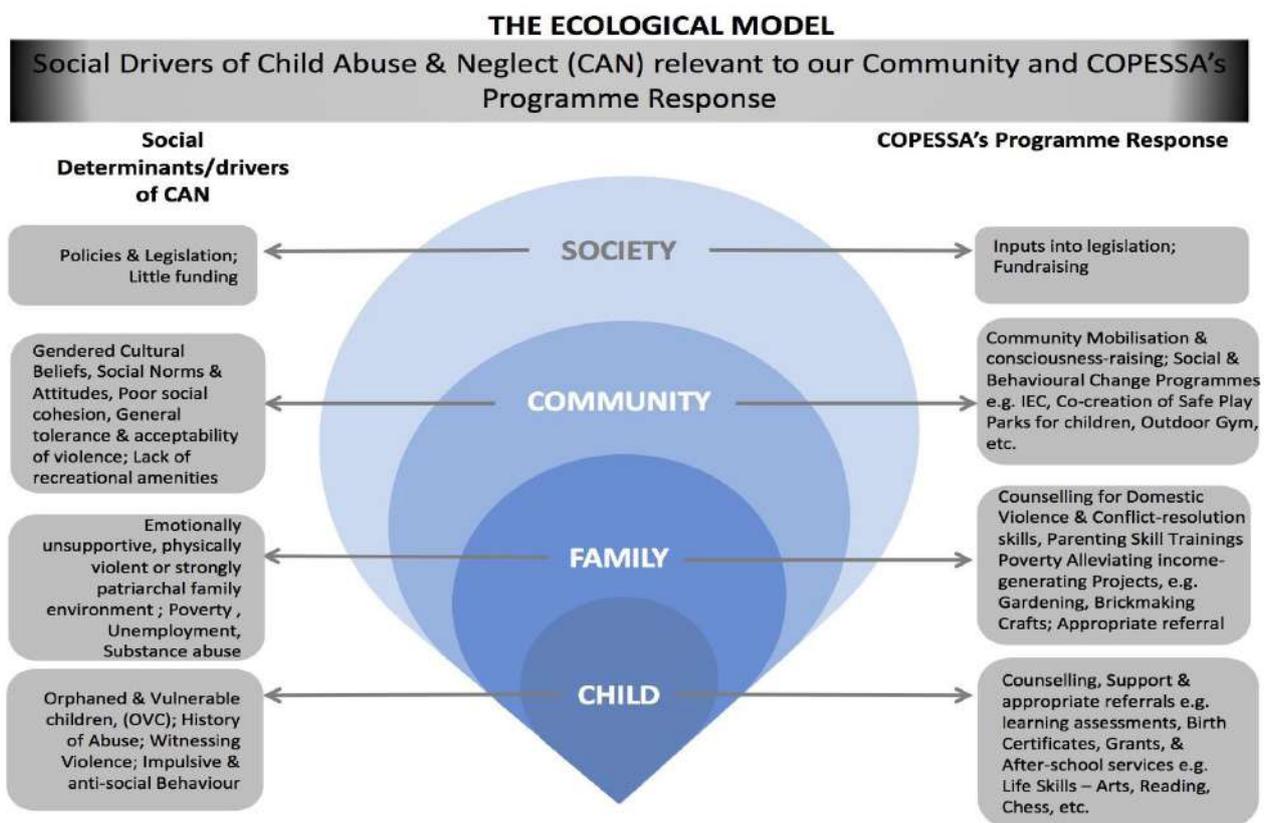
At the time of publishing this report Ms. Lindiwe Mbongwe, Mr .Arthur Anderson had resigned from the board and were replaced by Mrs. Zenzile Matlhaku, Mr. Bafana Nkosi, Mrs Boitumelo Sibanda and Ms Sarah Ndzimande.

## Manager's Report

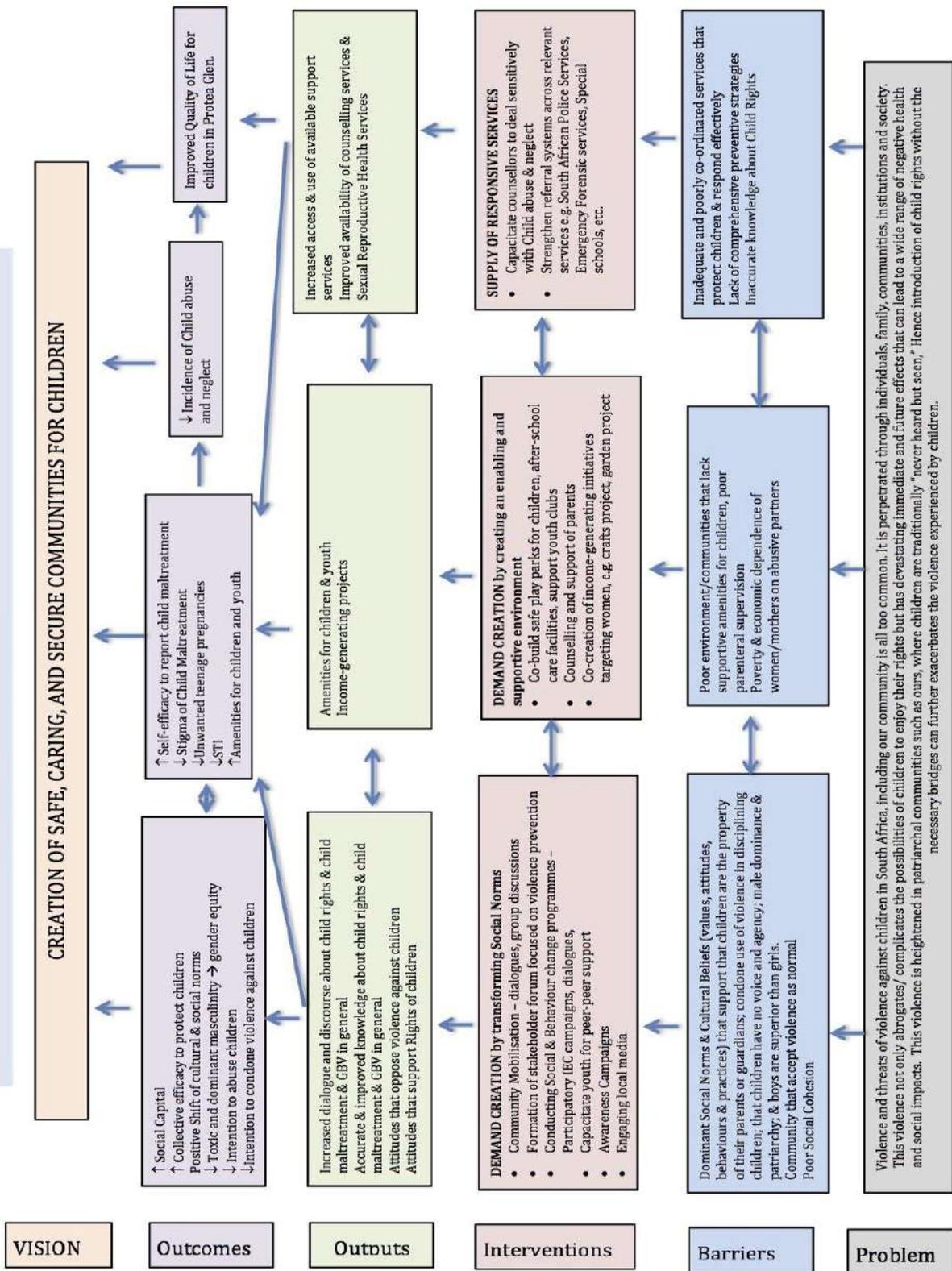
After surviving a financial crisis that nearly saw us close our doors, as a team we were forced to make a death or life decision for COPESSA. Death meant an end of an era in the field of preventing child abuse, one less voice that stood for the most vulnerable and one less community centre that the residences could rely on for support and professional services. Life would have meant that we needed to ask ourselves the most difficult questions, seek help from those who would be the life coaches to the organization and be willing to evolve as an organization as being in an ever evolving world. We chose life and the journey has been one worth noting.

Our crisis coincided with our CEO's return to school to pursue a Masters in Public Health at WITS University. Her interest in community participation meant that COPESSA would be at the centre of all the learnings. We started with our foundation, the rationale of 'why we do what we do' and 'the how of it all'. Building on the socio-ecological model (fig. 1) which has helped us develop our understanding of the pre-determinants of child abuse and Gender Based Violence as a whole, and the programmes we formulated in response to this. We went a step further and articulated a Theory of Change for COPESSA (fig. 2). At the base of this theory is the Problem of violence and threats of violence against children in South Africa, right at the top is our vision to create safe, caring and secure communities for children and in between are the barriers, interventions, outputs and outcomes of all our work.

Fig. 1



**Fig. 2: THEORY OF CHANGE FOR COPESSA**



Our approach seeks to:

- Transform Social and Cultural Norms that condone or normalize violence;
- Create an enabling and supportive environment for children within the home and community;
- Supply responsive and supportive services promoting healing from abuse.

We deepened our relationships with different communities during this time. Our focus ranged from local community members, stakeholders, donors and even the digital community, our focus was to learn as much as we could from others in order to make us and our work better.

Our highlights included hosting our 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Fundraising Golf Day and for the first time we hosted a business breakfast themed in an effort to raise awareness to members of the business sector about “The Cost of Gender Based Violence if the Captains of industries and Society do not lend a hand”. Our speakers Dr Elizabeth Carr (US based Child Abuse specialist), Ms Sinazo Nkwelo (Senior Consultant in KPMG’s Human and Social Services) and Musician and community leader Mr Siphon ‘Hotstix’ Mabuse shared their knowledge on this very vast topic.

On a daily basis we service clients that are unable to attend to their work responsibilities due to personal crises. This past year we attended to 374 clients seeking psycho-social counselling, 63,1% of the clients were adults. The remaining 36.9% were children who needed to be accompanied by their parents/caregivers to their appointments. The productivity levels of clients is affected when they are dealing with emotional challenges, family and marital problems. Support needs to be offered at all levels to ensure that the well being of children and parents is maintained. Our organization steps in to fill this gap and we need the financial support to continue doing so.



From left to right: Dr. Elizabeth Carr, Mr. Siphon 'Hotstix' Mabuse and Ms. Sinazo Nkwelo



Drummers from the After-care Programme performing at 16 Days of Activism/ World Aids day Event on 1 December 2017.

**An enabling and supportive Environment ...is a happy environment.**



Mini Chess Tournament 2017



Christmas party for 2017



Afternoon Activities at Safe Play Park with the After-school Care Programme



We encourage active and healthy play.

Emzingo and 180 Consulting held our hand while we were trying to cost the work that we are doing as COPESSA and trying to identify the best strategy to securing our financial sustainability. They had 3 suggestions:

1. To do the same, with less (reduce staff costs but maintain service level)
2. Expand to improve revenue (expand high impact IGP (Income Generating Projects) that have potential)
3. Focus only on core services (Cease allocating time and funding to IGP's)

The preferred option was 2 because it aligns with our values and supports the families of the 13 women who were driving this project. Our focus, the Sewing and Crafts Project. The women had an order from Wits University to provide a set of conference bags and beaded lanyards for 350 delegates attending the 2017 HBV Meeting in Washington D.C. This was a huge accomplishment and we hope to see more requests of this magnitude in the future.

We went with option 2 because it gives people the chance to move from beneficiary to business person and this is important to our vision.

For more information about the products offered go to <http://copessaembroidery.wixsite.com/copessaembroidery>



Beautiful and customized work done by amazing women.



## Community Involvement In Action

Mandela day gave individuals an opportunity to come and help beautify the spaces that we work in. Mainly experienced by children who need a beautiful and colourful space to feel free in. Businesses like Nedbank, Protea Glen Mall, Corn Africa Plumbing, Advanced Health Care came together with young people from the community to do the hard work. Our office and the containers where the After-school care programme looked fresh and clean when they were done with them. This motivated our volunteers to host a Spelling Bee Competition and Chess Tournament for the children attending the programme. In the past year we had 206 children attending the programme. Where there were funds, we tried to organize a snack for the 3645 visits they made to the programme.

There are always opportunities for individuals and groups to give back and we would like to encourage more people to do so , no contribution is too little.



One of dreams we had when we launched SiZa Health Park in 2012 was that a seed would be planted that inspired groups of people to take better care of themselves. A more subconscious dream though was that the same people would come together to create even bigger networks of support for one another and actively participate in challenging the status quo on Gender Based Violence in the community. When Protea Glen Community Health Club (a group of community members who exercise at the outdoor gym facility co-created by COPESSA and voluntarily registered themselves as an NPO) asked us to participate in their campaign against women and child abuse, we felt the kind of pride that parents feel when a child takes their first steps on their own. It was a wonder to be a part of. The event had 111 men and women exercising to effect change in their community. This group of people had taken their daily exercise sessions and made them into a gathering of men and women who had heard our cry as COPESSA and were sharing this burden with us.

**→ WOMEN & CHILD ABUSE ←**  
**→ AWARENESS CAMPAIGN**

**“Fitness is not a trend but a lifestyle”**



**Venue:** SiZa Health Park Ext. 11, next to Basa  
**Date:** 19 August 2017

The collaborations affirmed our need to deepen our relationships with community members. We spent the rest of our time during the year meeting and conversing with people including the little ones. We are grateful to Ms. Sara Nieuwoudt from Wits University and Mr Kabelo Malefane from Camp Sizanani for helping us facilitate these important initial conversations. We met with local stakeholders from business and social sector, local media publication Protea Urban News, young people, mothers, fathers, members of churches and men and women from the community. They all had much to reveal about their motivations, goals and challenges. Our intention is to build the kind of rapport that would soon enable all of us to start challenging the social and cultural norms that have condoned violence for generations in our families and communities.

While we reached 1110 people through our different Awareness campaigns, we engaged 365 members of the community in discussions and monthly dialogues. 68 young people have also chosen to walk his journey with us and as we engage in our meetings together it becomes clearer the seeds that are being sown for the benefit of the next generations. They are interested in solutions to GBV, unemployment and substance abuse which many use to cope with the two issues.

As we continue with our journey we are looking forward to growing our relationships within the community and co-creating strategies that will better the lives of our young. Join us and become a part of changing communities and destinies.



Pictures

(A) Youth Meeting in November 2017

(B) Community Dialogue September 2017

© Stakeholders Meeting November 2017

## The COPESSA Team



From left to Right: Mr J. Motjuwadi, Ms S . Ndzimande, Mrs B. Sibanda, Mr S. 'Hotstix' Mabuse ,Dr N. Mwanda, Mr E Borole, Ms O .Maremela, Mr M. Gegana, Adv. M. Molefe,



Left to Right: Ms O Maremela, Mr B. Sistemich, Ms S. Zondi, Ms F. Ramabopo, Mrs N. Lechela, Dr N. Mwanda, Ms N. Mashinini, Mr K. Mgibe, Ms N. Maega, Mrs B. Radebe, Mr M. Ngubane, Mr K. Selawe. (Mrs F Mabaso and Mrs S Manyama were not present). Photo Credit: Ms .H. Goerlach.

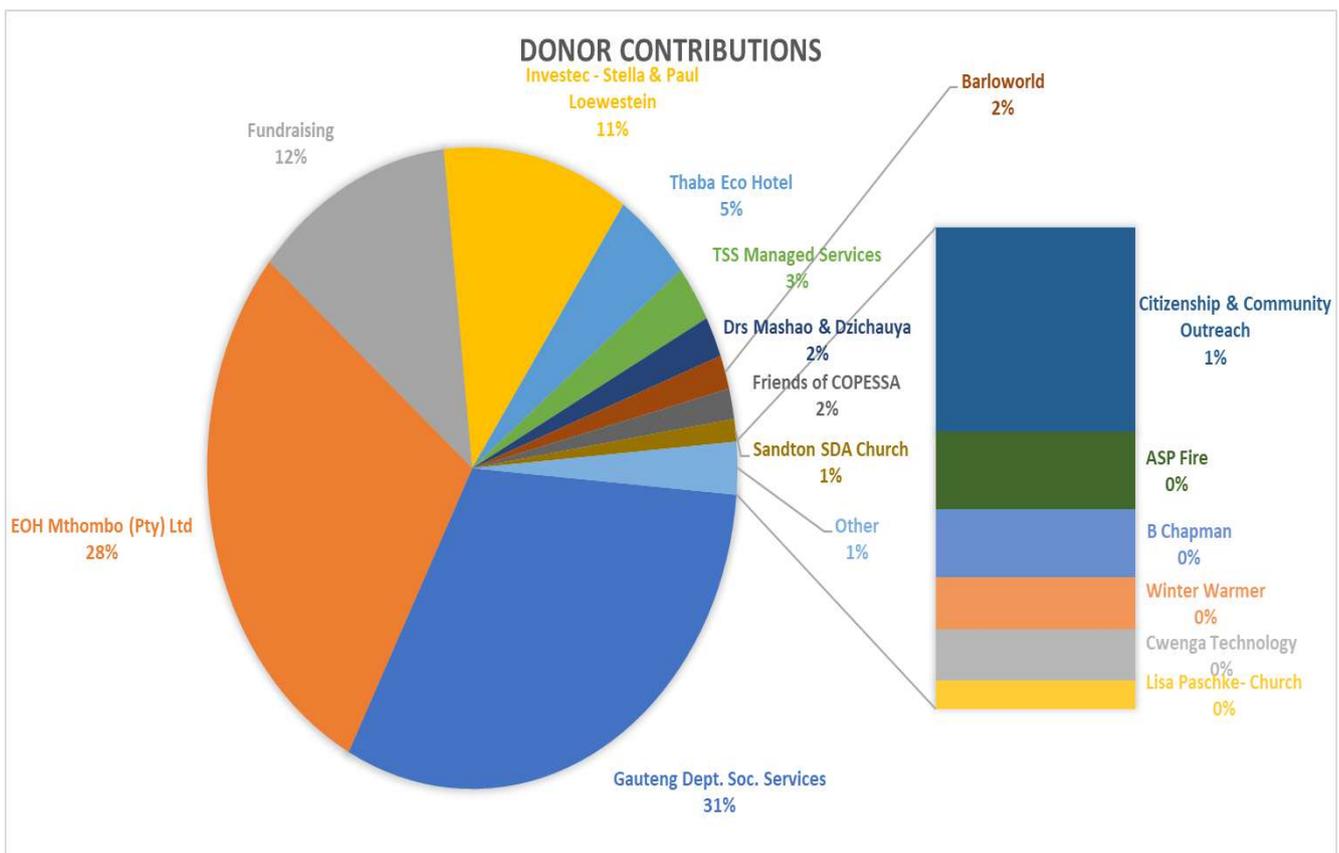
## Donations

Our existence has always been attributed to the generosity and contributions of all our donors. Both financial and donations-in-kind from different members of society help us provide better services to beneficiaries.

Our biggest accomplishments were that we were able to retain some of our donors from the previous year, broaden our fundraising activities which included the Business Breakfast and Sewing and Crafts order and we were Global Giving Crowd Funding Platform Verified.

### *What does this mean?*

This means that we have the opportunity to be on the online crowd funding platform that helps organizations raise funds to support their projects. In addition to their large network of individual donors and corporate partners they also offer unique set of online training tools. Making donations is easy using credit cards and PayPal, and there's options of once-off or re-occurring donations. Donating to COPESSA has been made simple and accessible. All you would need to do is sign in to [www.globalgiving.org](http://www.globalgiving.org) and search for COPESSA, all our participating projects will be featured there.



We are sincerely grateful to all our donors, past, present and future for being the air that we breathe. To the Friends of COPESSA: we value your personal contribution. We hope that we can continue to grow this network either through direct donations or through our crowdfunding efforts—Global Giving. You have all kept us alive all these years and we are grateful for these partnerships that will keep us going for many more years to come.

To the community that we serve and the stakeholders that we serve with, thank you for all your support. To #TeamCOPESSA thank you for all your hard work ,dedication and hearts to the cause of child abuse prevention. We appreciate you all.



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Branch: Business Central, Gauteng

Account No.: 1284 039 501

Branch Code: 128405

Swift Code: nedszajj

**PLEASE NOTE:**

1. MORE THAN 95% OF THE RECIPIENTS OF OUR SERVICES ARE BLACK AND CLASSIFIED AS PREVIOUSLY DISADVANTAGED.
2. COPESSA IS REGISTERED AS A PUBLIC BENEFIT ORGANIZATION, MAKING ALL DONATIONS RECEIVED TO BE TAX DEDUCTABLE.