

**FIRST
EDITION**

WHY NOT *YOU?* WHY NOT *NOW?*

SPARK

CHANGEMAKER NETWORK MAGAZINE

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to changemaking

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changemakers

masfunders
**CHANGE
MAKER**
NETWORK



Masifunde's Changemaker Network

With the newly launched Changemaker Network, Masifunde aims to capacitate learners with knowledge on relevant social topics such as leadership, prevention of gender-based-violence, community safety, or health. Through the network, the participating learners will be empowered to spark change in their schools and communities.

Firstly, Masifunde will run activation workshops in all Grade 9 classes. In these

workshops, the learners nominate and select suitable changemakers within their grade. The selected learners will then join a one-week training. In this training they learn tools and methods how to run campaigns and share knowledge with their peers.

Afterwards, on a quarterly basis, the now trained changemakers will run awareness campaigns on one of the nine topics in their schools. They will hand out one of the nine

editions of this SPARK magazine and address their peers about the topic at the school assembly.

This project will show everyone that the ability to make change has always been within you as a young person.

This is also a call to every Grade 9 learner to start taking responsible action to find constructive and positive solutions to the challenges of our times.

Masifunde is based in Walmer Township. For over 15 years, we train children and youth to become active citizens and changemakers in their community. We also run a pre-school, many creative programmes, like drama, choir and visual arts classes, and we have a programme for out-of-school youth, too.

Find out more at www.masifunde.org

 [masifunde](https://www.facebook.com/masifunde)  [masifundeld](https://www.instagram.com/masifundeld)

CHANGE MAKERS

Taking a creative action to solve a social problem, big or small is what it takes to become a changemaker.

A changemaker is someone who desires positive change for their surroundings and makes that change happen. As a young person the ability to be a changemaker is

within you. You just have to dare and decide. The grand strategy will follow, but first, be voluntarily willing to be action based and solution focused after spotting an issue. Creating change is not just work for certain people with big titles, anyone who navigates positively through the challenges the world presents and reimagines a new and better way moving forward is a changemaker. Waiting for the perfect moment, time or age is never as powerful. You are already powerful when you decide to make a choice to be action orientated.



Different changemakers

The trick is to start with doing what you can, where you are and with what you have. Here are examples of changemakers, but not limited because changemakers are always innovative and coming up with new ways to find solutions. Let's look at 3 types changemakers namely:

The Creatives

Creative Changemakers have usually mastered or are working towards an artistic skill such as singing, writing, rapping, acting, painting etc. They might have gained digital skills such as coding, computer literacy, designing and even handmade skills such as jewellery making, baking, etc. In our days we see Creative Changemakers taking up spaces such as the modelling industries, being make-up artists, vloggers, film makers and many other innovative roles, just like their name, they keep it creative and crisp.



Tanatswa Kativu 17
(Walmer High School)

Tanatswa wrote and performed a spoken word to encourage victims of abuse to speak out.

The Communicators

The Communicators share information with intentions to bring awareness, educate, motivate, and influence others positively. They are passionate about driving conversations and debates that ignite change of attitudes and perceptions. They constantly work on their public speaking and communication skills to improve their advocacy. The Communicators have enquiring minds, they read often and do research to improve the activism. You will see them engaging in dialogues, debates, delivering speeches, or sharing useful insights and writing articles on blogs and social media. Importantly, they carry the information to the close circles as such as family and friends as well.



Azukile Moko 16
(DF Malherbe)

Azukile used her passion of public speaking to address a crowd of young people about child abuse.

The Organizers

These Changemakers use the peculiar skills of being able to brainstorm openly, plan thorough and execute. They turn ideas into reality and are able to pay attention to the smallest yet important details. Organizers are big team players and they encourage and inspire collective action. They want to see the critical thinking manifest and you will see them multitasking in organising meetings, events, campaigns and assisting people to network.



Hlomu Sidlova 17
(Junior Commissioner of the SAPS)

Hlomu organised an online awareness campaign for the 16 days of activism for violence against women and children in 2020.

Quick questions



Creative, Communicator and Organiser

1. Do you identify with any of the types of changemakers named above?
2. If you were to rank the type of changemaker you are or you aspire to be from the three that are namely: Creative, Communicator and Organizers, which one would be your choice? 1st, 2nd or 3rd?
3. Do you strongly identify with more than one changemaker type?
4. Do you feel like you do not fit in those categories?

It's normal to see yourself in more than just one type of changemaker or even identify with all three, especially as a young person, you are limitless and have the potential to make change however way best suits you. Although you may notice that you are stronger in one type than the others or find to enjoy one a little more than the others, that is okay. It is also okay to stick to one and master it. However, if you feel that you don't fit in any of those categories, that is even more interesting because that is your chance to be innovative and come up with new and fresh ways of creating change and making impact.

What's common about all these changemakers?

They all think, come up with ideas and act on them:

- They are community minded. They are about the people and want to play their part in making change in the world.
- They encourage inclusion and equality.
- They are solution focused.
- They are positive role models. They inspire and motivate others.

A CHANGEMAKER'S TO-DO LIST

- Research, ask questions and have an enquiring mind
- Connect and collaborate with others
- Maintain a positive balance between academics, social life and being a changemaker.
- Be a Friend: Listen to others, be non-judgemental, be kind and encourage others to drive change with you.
- Be an Educator: Act as the bridge or link for your peers to get information and knowledge about the topics you know.
- Be an Activist: Refuse to be a passive bystander, challenge unhealthy behaviours and attitudes and stand for equality.
- Be a positive Role model: Lead by example, be a safe space for others.
- Be a Team player- Commit to being active in the group. Ask for help and offer help when needed.

masifunder's
**CHANGE
MAKER**
NETWORK

MY SUPER POWERS as a changemaker



CHANGEMAKERS ARE CHANGING THE WORLD,

ONE ACT AT A TIME.

**BUT WHAT ARE THE
BENEFITS FOR THEM?**

Here are some of the things to look forward to:

- Learn or develop a new skill
- Become part of a community
- Become part of a network of changemakers
- Have a sense of achievement
- Boost your career options
- Find what you are passionate about
- Advocate for causes and issues that directly or indirectly affect you
- Make a difference to a cause that has an impact globally
- Do something your future self will thank you for
- Increase self-confidence

Example areas of some public concern that young changemakers often spark change on:

Gender based Violence // Child abuse // Bullying //
Inclusion of persons with Disability // Healthy Lifestyles //
Mental Health // Education & Literature //
Crime & Violence prevention // Global warming // Xenophobia //
and many other topics that are injustice & violating human rights,
which often leave people at a disadvantage and vulnerable.
Changemakers take charge of their future and the process of the
change they want to achieve.

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