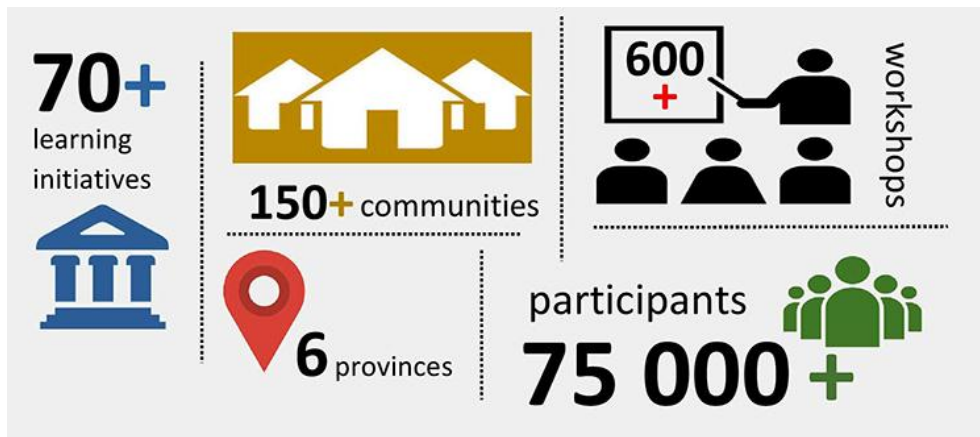


Chance 2 Advance provides mega learning in Limpopo



Since the inception of the Chance 2 Advance programme in 2011 the programme has worked diligently to ensure that communities across South Africa are enriched through access to relevant and user friendly knowledge. To date the programme has implemented more than 70 learning initiatives, held over 600 workshops, extended to more than 150 communities in 6 provinces and reached over 75 000 participants. This is a snapshot of the reach of Chance 2 Advance since 2011.

The Chance 2 Advance programme recently held its annual mega learning and empowerment programme in Dennilton, Limpopo. The programme offered 67 workshops across 12 venues and recorded an attendance of just over 8 000 participants.

According to project leader Dr Genevieve James, Chance 2 Advance has adopted an informal learning approach, ensuring that distressed communities across the country benefit from cutting edge teaching and research produced primarily by Unisa academics and support staff. “Knowledge is mobilized, contextualised and shared with communities to facilitate mutually beneficial learning, increased employability, social justice consciousness and active citizenship,” she said.

Community members who participated in the Dennilton programme expressed their views on the programme. See their comments below:



Some of the participants in Dennilton excited about their certificates.

Enicca Zenzile Makuwa: *“I am a 37 year young lady who is passionate about learning but unfortunately I have no funds to do the course that I am so passionate about and that is LLB (Law). I did my matric in 1998 and since then have been trying to get a job so I can further my studies but have had no success. I was so excited when I heard about the Chance 2 Advance programme. Through the programme I have gained a lot of knowledge especially on*

how I can help my community. We have just started a Community Development Forum and didn't have the knowledge of how to run it before but by attending the workshops we now are equipped to do so. I wish these programmes can continue yearly to uplift us. Thank you”.

Raymond Rahlogo: *“I started attending workshops of the Chance 2 Advance since 2014 and it has been excellent. I have learnt how to stand up and do things by this I mean to help people and help myself. Since I attended my younger sister who works with me plants crops, now we are farmers and entrepreneurs. Recently we have been helping the community by selling vegetables and other businesses. Thank you for helping us”.*

Theodora Maquba: *“The workshops are excellent and the presenters are doing a wonderful job. I now know I can teach and save lives in the community and at home. Thank you for giving us a Chance 2 Advance. We wish the programme could have been longer”.*

Thabile Mathabathe: *“I really appreciate this opportunity of learning in Chance 2 Advance programme. I stay in Pretoria but I moved to Dennilton to attend this programme because education is the most important thing in my life in fact it is my first priority”.*

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From 3 to 4 September the programme returned to the community of Dennilton to distribute certificates of participation to the thrilled community members. Participants were proud of their achievements and were delighted to share what the programme meant to them. See their comments below:

Manyaka David Mpopotawe: *“As a government employee residing in the local area I am very pleased with all the efforts made by Unisa Chance 2 Advance. We are fully equipped with knowledge that was offered. Our sincere appreciation to Unisa and staff, we would like for more of these programmes to return in our community”.*

Dire Ronald Tjiane: *“Unisa gave us the opportunity to attend these workshops and I am really thankful I did make use of the opportunity as there is no other school or university that can give you this Chance 2 Advance for what you want in your life. Thank you”.*

Irene Ditshego: *“I would like to thank you from the bottom of my heart. You have groomed me and opened my eyes as well as equipped me to face challenges. Opportunities like these come once in a lifetime and wherever next it goes I would grab it with two hands. Thank you and God bless”.*

Jonas Kaludi: *“Unisa Chance 2 Advance thank you for giving the community this opportunity because some of us have never received a certificate for anything and now finally we have one. Thanks a lot”.*

Mohlamme Phillip Podile: *“I do thank Unisa Chance 2 Advance for helping us to learn and enrich our minds. I have learnt never to stop learning”.*

Naban Klaas Rakgalakane: *“In short thank you Unisa Chance 2 Advance for giving us this opportunity to attend the workshop offerings. You have opened our minds very strongly in a way that I even want to go back to school next year. Keep it up and continue to reach communities”.*

Petrus Lekgotha: *“I would like to thank Unisa Chance 2 Advance for the workshop on How to Start Your Own Small Business since then I have started a business and with the knowledge gained it going well and I have managed to do so on my own.”*

Chance 2 Advance is really touching communities and lives and gaining momentum across provinces and the country. See gallery below for some of the groups and courses that took place in Limpopo. Courses included: Local economic development, become a language interpreter, healthy mother and baby during pregnancy, understanding community development, empowering men in SA, HIV and AIDS: positive living, introduction to hairdressing, understanding the constitution and your rights, faith communities and wellbeing, organic food gardening, children’s rights, victim empowerment, end user computing, disability sensitisation, using your cell phone for personal empowerment, empowering women: pathway to liberation, effective communication skills, how to start your own small business, maths edge and introduction to plumbing.





