

# *iranti*

Annual Report - 2017/2018



# content.

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# from our director.



Dear Friends,

“We are the leaders we are looking for,” the words of Grace Lee Boggs keep me grounded and resilient as a leader. They remind me that change is created by those who are not comfortable with facing discrimination and inequality and that silence is not an option.

Irantí is a space of refuge for many transgender, lesbian and intersex persons who believe in the power of change. It is a space where change is ignited and pursued. As a founder, it has been a joy to see Irantí grow. The eternal fear of founders never letting go and seeing their vision grow into an organisation with clear systems, procedures, clear roles and a mission that inspires us, would not have been possible without the wonderful support and generosity of so many people who believed in the vision of Irantí.

I am grateful to Ellen Sprenger from Spring Strategies who generously gives her time to coach and work alongside Irantí.

I am so thankful to my board chairperson, Shireen Motara, and the board who dedicate their time and skills to building the sustainability of Irantí.

*“Irantí, since its founding in 2012, has gone through several life cycles, every time coming out stronger and more impactful. It has been exciting and very inspiring to support this dedicated, competent and fun group of people as they grown and learn together. And I look forward to the next five years!”*

- Ellen Sprenger

So much of this annual report is about doing and actioning change, and we have done this. What we will do arises out of joy and pain: brutal murders, failed health care systems, stigmatisation, but also there is community, sharing, support and caring for each other.

This year has also been a year of reflection and learning about our context and our insertions into change, what we can do better and how to remain calm but forthright in a time of immense global hatred towards women, LGBTI persons, immigrants and so many other vulnerable communities. Irantí has achieved and made political strides and, personally, I have made many friends. These friends are from our community, our space of action and support. We have witnessed progress and celebrated changes such as the legal victory to change gender markers in Botswana. We celebrate Ricky Nathanson’s fight against the government of Zimbabwe to stop the unlawful arrest of trans women in her country.

We celebrate the creation of trans and intersex movements across the region, in particular, in Malawi, Kenya, Tanzania, Egypt, Seychelles and so many more. In the face of tyranny and hatred, we are unstoppable and our governments have realised this.

There is no citizen in this world who does not desire freedom and safety, to be free of violence, to have shelter, education and a job. These issues impact directly on the LGBTI community and, in this past year, we have begun to talk about socio-economic inequality and the direct relationship between discrimination and poverty. We reach out with our advocacy into society, educational and religious institutions, governments, businesses and the more we reach, the further our arms stretch out and the more we feel that, yes, this is why we are here, we are heard.

The support I receive from my board members has strengthened Irantí’s governance and programmes. We exist into the future because of their vision and input. There is no reason to fear the waves when we realise we are the ocean. Irantí’s team has learned to work resiliently; we embrace the essence of care and wellness so that we remain on the frontlines working towards change. I am so proud to be part of a team that thrives on making a difference in this world.

In these past years, I have personally learned so much from my transition, my own journey into affirming my gender expression and identity but also the transition from founder to Director. The beauty of transition and self-transformation has been immensely enriching. Leaders are not born, they are nurtured and strengthened alongside the community that backs them up, holds them accountable and pushes them to new heights. I have been blessed with this support from my team, my board, the donor community and our communities that trust us to be an authentic voice.

# from our chairperson & board.



**Irantí Board Members:** Mzi Nduna, Shireen Motara (Chairperson), Thembaní Chamane, Robert Hamblin (Vice-Chairperson), Thato Pule (Treasurer) and Jabu Pereira (Executive Director) - with Julius Kaggwa

**Shireen Motara – Chairperson**

I am a Black Feminist, passionate about human rights. Being on this board makes me realise that, with my experience in governance and my commitment to human rights, I can support Irantí and assist it to grow and thrive. Irantí fills a critical gap in the landscape of protecting the rights of the LGBTI community and deserves to be supported so that it can grow exponentially.

I am committed to the creation of visible LGBTI people and fostering the conversation around their discrimination and abuse. I also believe that Irantí has a role to play in building the capacity of community-based LGBTI organisations as they are critical at a community level.

The board’s collective skills in governance and knowledge in effecting human rights has strengthened Irantí’s collaborative partnership in the region.

**Thembaní Chamane – Board Member**

I am deeply passionate about promoting and protecting human rights for all human beings as well as contributing to the positive change I want to see happening in society. I love the space and empowerment tools that Irantí provides to LGBTIs. Irantí’s unique strategy on directly advocating for the rights and inclusion of LGBTIs has a great potential to advance human rights and deal positively with human rights abuses.

**Mzi Nduna – Board Member**

Being on the board of Irantí offers me opportunities to continue the work that I have been doing in the past decade for the LGBTIQ sector, in particular, my work on trans-activism. With Irantí, we focus on media and media platforms of various sorts that are more accessible to young people. I am very happy to be a part of it.





Irantí Director Jabulani Pereira during the Plenary Sessions, Transhealth Conference, Johannesburg, 2017



Media Manager Phumzi Manana on writing skills, 2nd Zwakala Annual Learning Event, Johannesburg, 2018



Nomsa Manzini presenting during the Media Advocacy Staff Training, Johannesburg, 2018



Irantí documented the story of Intersex activist Dimakatso Sebidi at her home in Vosloorus, Johannesburg, 2017



Irantí Media and Advocacy intern Kanyanta Kakana during the Parents and Families workshop, Limpopo, 2018



Irantí Advocacy Manager Joshua Sehoole, Regional Intersex Meeting, Johannesburg, 2017



Kanyanta Kakana moderated a panel discussion on Hate Crimes in South Africa, Johannesburg, 2018

# iranti history.



Busisiwe Dlamini facilitated a session on the Regional Intersex Meeting, Johannesburg 2017



Irantí Social Media Officer Kellyn Botha, The Human rights Festival, Johannesburg, 2018



Irantí Video Editor Sandisiwe Dlamini documenting the 1st Zwakala Annual Learning Event, Johannesburg, 2016



# iranti activities.



Our Siyanibona TV Hosts Kumkani Siwisa and Kanyanta Kakana, Braamfontein, Johannesburg



Siyaniabona Talk show Soweto TV shoot, Iranti Office, Braamfontein, 2017

## Soweto TV Series - Siyabona = We see You

Who we see:

- families and communities with no access to information
- queer people – you are not alone

What did we do?

- 13 episodes with a viewership of 4 Million
- A talk show creating an opportunity for conversations on LGBTI issues in homes and families
- Produced in October 2017 and launched in December 2017
- Queer stories shown on mainstream television
- Fact based episodes that tell stories of hate, trans awareness, intersex awareness and the pride we have in who we are
- Scripted by all of us – we own these stories, we are these stories



"I didn't know I was trans until a few years ago. All I knew was that I was not happy and that I was confused. I searched for information on sexuality, trans people and other stuff and all that I could find was information from abroad. Then I came across Iranti. What I found here was information that was local and relevant to the South African space. I now work in the space which helped me to recognise who I am."

Kellyn Botha - Iranti Writer & Social Media officer



Bruise Clapper board on set of the short film Bruise, Kensington, Johannesburg, 2017

## Trans Web series:

- Stories of trans people from different countries translated into visual texts which are accessible and relatable
- Scripting the text and filming process entirely in the hands of those whose voices are being portrayed
- The making of these videos is ongoing







**I Rise:** Nigel Patel is Malawian, a non-binary trans person – words inspired by Maya Angelou:

You may erase me out of history  
With your sex equals gender lies,  
You may jump over me one more time  
But still, I'll transgress, I'll rise.

Does my dress upset you?  
Am I beginning to loom?  
Too tall, too broad, too hairy  
To be in the women's restroom.

Did you want to see me naked?  
With your voyeuristic eyes,  
Hiding myself in fear  
Weakened and tokenized?

Just like my mother,  
I have the strength to verbalize,  
Just like she who created me,  
Black and queer, I'll rise.

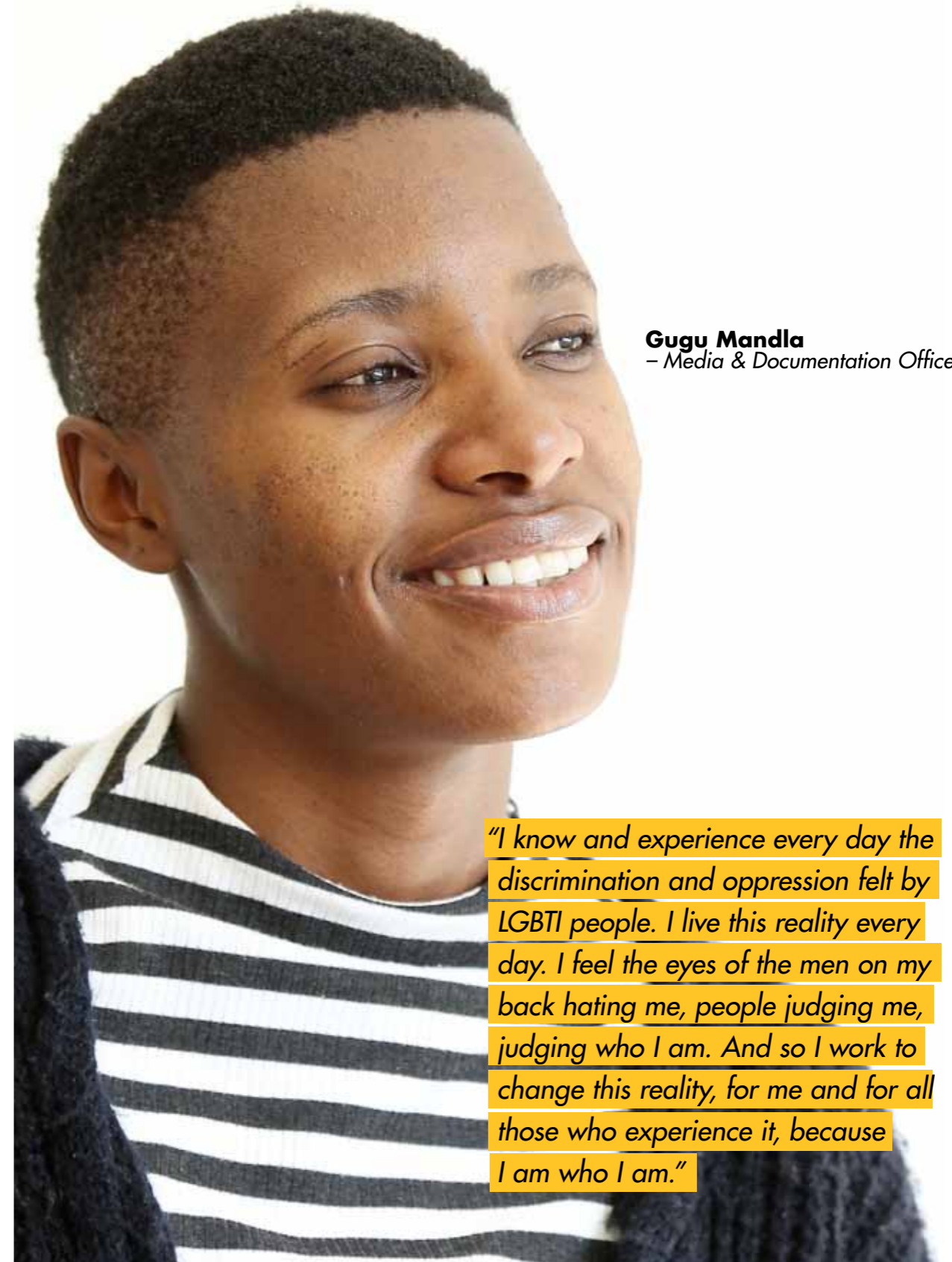
Advertising of the Trans Web Series "I RISE" Poster starring Nigel Patel

**Bruise:** A fictional narrative – the difficulty and fear of stepping outside and being seen

- It is too much to face the world outside
- I don't know who I was and I don't know who I am.
- I have spent years hiding who I am, first behind men's clothing and then behind the blankets and then behind the closed doors



Advertising of the Trans Web Series "Bruise" Poster, 2017



**Gugu Mandla**  
– Media & Documentation Officer

"I know and experience every day the discrimination and oppression felt by LGBTI people. I live this reality every day. I feel the eyes of the men on my back hating me, people judging me, judging who I am. And so I work to change this reality, for me and for all those who experience it, because I am who I am."





**Phumzi Manana**  
– Media and  
Communications Manager

“We at Iranti will create proactive media. Instead of just reacting, we can pre-empt the horrors that are taking place. I aim to create media so that these things won’t happen, not just to document what is happening. This is history, I will make the future.”



Mr Sebidi (Dimakatso’s father) talks challenges of a parent of an Intersex child, Johannesburg, 2017

**National Intersex Engagement Report:**  
*National Dialogue on the Protection and Promotion of the Human Rights of Intersex People*

- This conference was to honour the work of Sally Gross who died in 2014:  
“It took me forty years to find out my intersex status. I will present myself as myself, I am a human being, I am not a label. If you accept who you are, others will too, don’t be afraid, it gets better.”
- The conference was hosted by Intersex South Africa, Iranti, the Department of Justice and the Human Rights Foundation
  - We must support our compatriots who continue to suffer oppression simply because of their intersex traits (Hanif Valley Foundation for Human Rights)
  - The UN’s free and equal campaign tells us that 1.7% of the world’s population is intersex. This means that two million babies are born intersex every year. They are isolated, subject to misinformation and prejudice, they are erased (John Jeffrey - Deputy Minister of Justice)
  - We have accepted ourselves; we are waiting for South Africa to accept us too .... we are not abnormal, we will not be ashamed, we will not be called liars, we will not be depressed. We will not be treated as if we need to be fixed. (Crystal Hendricks - ISSA)

- I apologise for how those in my profession treat intersex people. We doctors need to be informed on intersex, what it is and how to provide necessary and appropriate health care (Dr Dominic Abaver - private medical doctor)  
- We urge the South African government and South African funders to increase their support for intersex groups so they can continue – and expand – their vital work. This financial support is essential in ensuring an enabling environment for intersex-led organisations to engage meaningfully with the crafting of interventions, which address violations of the human rights of intersex people, and their implementation. (Joshua Sehoole - Iranti)



Jabulani Pereira (Iranti Director), John Jeffrey (Deputy Minister of Justice), Hanif Vally (Deputy Director), Crystal Hendricks (ISSA) and Joshua Sehoole (Iranti), Johannesburg, 2017





**Zikhona (Zee) Gqozo**  
- Office and Finance Administrator

*"I began to work here in 2012 because I know what it is like to be LGBTI in a hostile world. Because I can make a contribution, I feel privileged to be here. What the organisation does makes me excited and passionate for I can make a difference."*

**Violence and Reporting**

- We made substantial inputs to the debate and drafting of the Prevention and Combating of Hate Crimes and Hate Speech Bill
- Through a national dialogue hosted with the Forum for the Empowerment of Women (FEW), we brought to the fore discussions on the effects of increased criminalisation, the lack of focus on preventative approaches, alternatives to the criminal system and prioritising victims of hate crimes, their families and communities
- The Bill:
  - Provides for the offence of hate crimes and hate speech, and the prosecution of offenders
  - Recommends increased sentences to be handed down in the event of hate crimes and hate speech
  - Early in 2017, we created a five-part series on this Bill to create public awareness and stimulate critical discussions not being held in mainstream spaces

**We record and document hate crimes**

To remember all in the LGBTI community who have been brutalised, and to push for change:

- Lerato Moloji
- Nonki Smous
- Lesley Makousa
- Pitso Tsheleng
- Pascalina Malemu
- Tebogo Mkonto
- Zoliswa Nkonyane
- Phumeza Nkolonzi

**And we acknowledge and remember those whose names we do not know, those whose stories were never heard, never told.**



Naledi community members marched on the streets of Naledi after Lerato "Tambai" Moloji found brutally murdered in Naledi Township, Soweto, 2017



LGBTI Activists gathered at the late Lerato "Tambai" Moloji Funeral, Naledi Township, Soweto, 2017



Thembelihle Sokhela family gave her a dignified send off at her funeral, Daveyton, 2014



**Lesley Makousa Court Judgement**

The accused David Shomolekae hugs his mother for last time after being found guilty of the murder of Lesley Makousa, Potchefstroom, 2017





**Lihle Ngcobozi**  
- Iranti Research  
Manager

*"Iranti is a space where I can research to create a narrative of being, not just an anecdotal narrative of those who are on the margins – we are here, we exist, we experience."*

### The African Intersex Meeting

**Iranti served as the host of the meeting which was intersex-led and funded by the Intersex Human Rights Fund**

**The African Intersex Movement crafted and launched a declaration, outlining its vision for the future**

- It was initiated to address a disparity in representation of intersex organising globally
- In the last few years, four international intersex fora were organised enabling organisations and activists in the global intersex movement to engage with one another, develop collaborative actions and build a common platform. In addition, increasing collaborative action has also helped to promote awareness and recognition of intersex issues



*Babalwa Mtshawu during group work, Regional Intersex Meeting, Johannesburg, 2017*

- It was the first of its kind, with broad representation from the continent
- The meeting was attended by 22 intersex delegates from seven countries across East, West and Southern Africa



*Taung activist Kaelo Gaoraetwe spoke about the importance of engaging Rural areas, Johannesburg, 2017*

### Trans Health Series

- These are:
  - Four-part trans health training video aimed at service providers of health care
  - The perception is that trans health care is complicated and specialised. These videos aim to show that trans access to health care must be and can be widespread.
  - Issues that the videos include:
    - What is does it mean to be transgender?
    - What health care can be provided for trans people at a clinic level, for instance, hormone treatment?
    - The information required when doing patient intake of trans people
      - Part of a broader campaign "Trans Health Without Borders" aimed at increasing access to resources and care for trans people across the continent





ISSA Co-ordinator Lungile Maquba working in her ISSA office, Johannesburg, 2018

### Intersex South Africa (ISSA)

- This organisation was created by Sally Gross, the intersex, anti-apartheid activist who passed away on 14 February 2014. Iranti re-established and has rekindled both the flames of ISSA and Sally's memory, hopes and dreams
- ISSA is a support structure for intersex people:
  - We are dedicated to raising awareness of intersex issues in South Africa while advocating for and supporting all intersex South Africans
  - We want to see intersex people valued as an important part of human diversity
  - We are an African Intersex organisation
- Plans for the future:
  - Create knowledge and awareness on intersex issues in every clinic and hospital in the country and improve access to affirming healthcare
  - Increase the visibility and celebrate the diversity of intersex people
  - Improve the laws and legislation relating to intersex people
  - Create connection and networks for those who feel isolated and alone



Lungile (Luh) Maquba  
– ISSA co-ordinator

*"I am intersex. When I was growing up I could not relate to what other young people in my family or peer group were experiencing. This is what is different. Intersex people need support that I, together with the others in ISSA, can give. I have such exciting ideas for the work that ISSA can do."*



### African Commission on Human and Peoples Rights (ACHPR)

- Many resolutions dealing with different minority groups have been passed by the ACHPR
- We are now working towards a similar resolution that protects intersex people together with SIPD Uganda and the Centre for Human Rights
- The resolution will be a guideline for African countries
- It visibilises intersex human rights issues on the African continent
- The recommendations include:
  - ending intersex genital mutilation (IGM)
  - ending intersex infanticide

Julius Kaggwa, Director of SIPD Uganda strategising on intersex advocacy at the ACHPR

### Leadership Development

- Currently working on self-study Leadership and Wellness guide
- Create accessible content
- Eliminate economic barriers in relation to conferencing and facilitation
- Strengthen the capacity of trans and intersex organisations

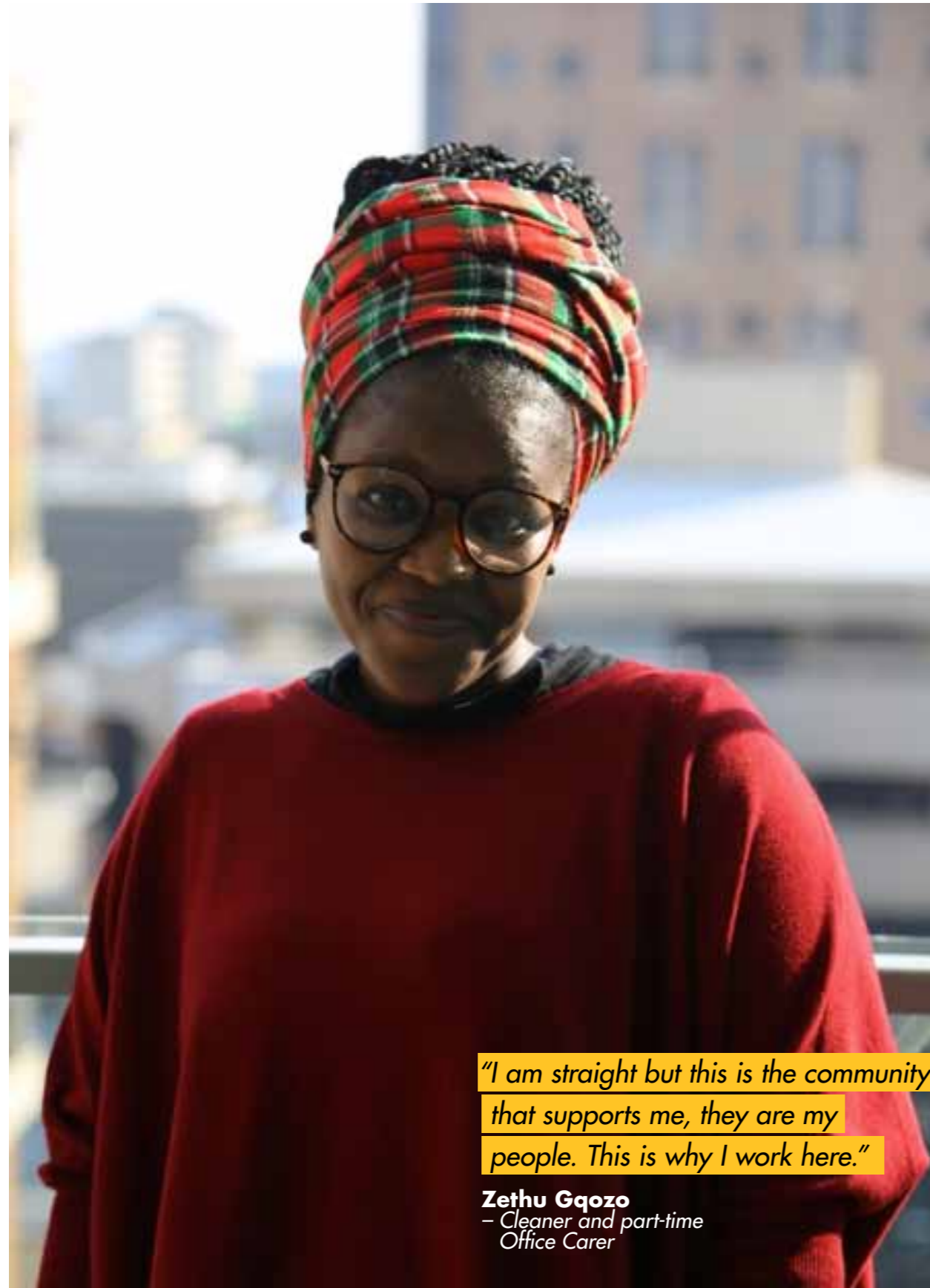


Monique Salomon facilitated the follow-up Leadership and Wellness Training, Johannesburg, 2017



Ruth Baldacchino facilitating a sessions and giving feedback at the Leadership and Wellness Training, Johannesburg, 2017





*"I am straight but this is the community that supports me, they are my people. This is why I work here."*

**Zethu Gqozo**  
- Cleaner and part-time Office Carer



Zwakala Co-ordinator Nomsa Manzini was the note taker during the PFSAQ/Limpopo dialogue with parents, Tzaneen, 2018

**Zwakala**

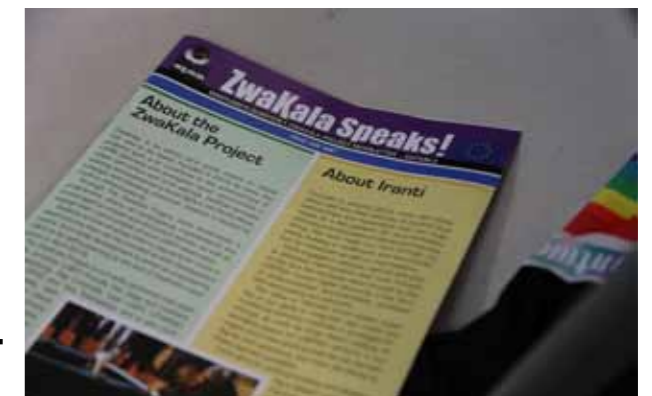
- This project was funded for three years, it is now over, but the links and networks remain, they will never be lost. It is imperative to continue this work and to find ways of future collaboration
- Made up of eight organisations in three provinces, Limpopo, Gauteng and North West:
  - Gay Umbrella
  - Parents and Family of SA Queers (PFSAQ) (not a founder member)
  - Limpopo LGBTI Proudly Out
  - Vaal LGBTI
  - UTHINGO – the Dream
  - IHAWU
  - EPOC
  - Tisa Tshireletso

**Aim:**

- Collaborate to build capacity in organisations
- Monitor and document Hate Crimes
- The gathering of LGBTI stories in communities
- Establish a network with institutions and groups that need awareness and education, for instance, police, community leaders and families
- Activities include community dialogues, beauty pageants, sports events, strategic meetings and workshops



IHAWU community dialogue hosted a community engagement on LGBTI Hate Crimes within the East Rand, Johannesburg, 2016



"Zwakala speaks" 3rd edition Newsletter handed to Zwakala participants, Zwakala Annual Learning Event, 2018.





The Zwakala Annual Learning group, 2018



Gay Umbrella Director Mildred Maropefela, Zwakala Annual Learning Event, 2018.



Akani Shimange spoke on the importance wellness within the LGBTI community, 2018



The wellness session during the 2nd Zwakala Annual Learning Event, Johannesburg, 2017



Director of the Positive Convention Network and Journalist, Pholokgolo Ramothwala, engages with Thabang Phetla during the session on using media for advocacy. Organisational Development, Johannesburg, 2017



Matshidiso Mofokeng from Vosloorus Activators engaging with participants. Organisational Development, Johannesburg, 2017



# profile people.



**Siya Hlongwa (South Africa)**

I was homeless; no shelter would take me in when they discovered my gender identity. Iranti helped me to get temporary accommodation and encouraged me to enrol at Wits University where now I am completing my Master's degree in Development Planning. Until now, I was homeless. Despite being one of the top students in the class, I had to sleep in the library and use the sports facilities to shower. Shelter and care are a basic need. After increased visibility of my story, the Wits Res Placement has accommodated me and I am getting counselling from the Gender and Sexuality sub-group of the Amnesty International Wits Chapter.

**James Johnson (Nigeria)**

First I played for the women's football team, they did not want me, then I played for the men's and they did not want me either. The coach wanted me on the national squad, they did not want me. People want to know you as a male or as a female, I was neither. hope that I can contribute to change, for myself and others.



**Anna\* (Uganda)**

I am a transgender woman, once I was found kissing a guy, they thought we were gay and expelled us from school. I had to find money so became a sex worker. I hide my gender identity for my own safety, but I do this work in the hope that I can contribute to change, for myself and others.



# iranti growth.



*"I've learnt donors are partners, not to be afraid of them but to approach them. We have power too."*

**Sammie Ivy Foundation Malawi**



**Malume Intersex Advocacy Trust Zimbabwe**

*"After the training, I learnt that I need to stand for myself. We've forged a partnership with GALZ to sensitise journalists on intersex issues, to take charge of our voice in mainstream media."*



**Rachel Voice of Hope Trust Namibia**

*"I'm more mindful of how to respond, as well as of how to listen to understand, rather than listening to respond."*





# what we want in the future.



- Theory of Change – the Process of Institutional Strengthening
- Workshops were held to:
  - Understand and assess the strategic direction of Iranti, what we will and want to do.
  - Get input from partners across the region on the direction and impact of our work
  - Three main areas of work:
    - Education and Awareness
    - Health and Wellness
    - Violence
- We will work to develop our strategic direction and mission by:
  - Engaging with government and other policy makers to end discrimination
  - Participate in regional and continental programs, for instance, the African Commission, the United Nations and others to bring an end to discrimination.
  - Gather evidence on hate crimes: document, research and make awareness videos
  - Identify and develop educational material
  - Engage in regional and global health care programs
- Develop alternative and different media forms that are accessible to all LGBTI communities
  - Create advocacy platforms
  - Research and develop any LGBTI issues that will forward our vision and take our cause forward



# finance.

## Iranti-Org

(Registration Number 118-090NPO)

Financial Statements for the year ended  
28 February 2018

### Statement of Comprehensive Income

Figures in R	2018	2017
Income	7,584,030	7,711,152
Operating Costs	(7,336,993)	(7,363,008)
<b>Operating Surplus</b>	<b>247,037</b>	<b>348,114</b>
Finance Income	7,584,030	7,711,152
<b>Surplus for the Year</b>	<b>332,077</b>	<b>414,081</b>
Surplus for the Year	332,077	414,081
<b>Retained income at 28 February 2018</b>	<b>3,032,377</b>	<b>2,700,300</b>

## Iranti-Org

(Registration Number 118-090NPO)

Financial Statements for the year ended  
28 February 2018

### Statement of Financial Position

Figures in R	Note(s)	2018	2017
<b>Assets</b>			
<b>Non-Current Assets</b>			
Property, plant & equipment	3	466,679	555,454
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Trade & other receivables	4		139,373
Cash & cash equivalents	5	2,565,694	2,061,086
		<b>2,565,694</b>	<b>2,200,459</b>
<b>Total Assets</b>		<b>3,032,377</b>	<b>2,755,913</b>
<b>Reserves &amp; Liabilities</b>			
<b>Reserves</b>			
Accumulated surplus		3,032,377	2,700,300
<b>Current Liabilities</b>			
Trade & other payables	6	(4)	55,613
<b>Total Reserves &amp; Liabilities</b>		<b>3,032,373</b>	<b>2,755,913</b>









# iranti

Dignity, Equality and Freedom

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*Iranti envisions a just world where everyone lives with dignity, respect and equality and where diversity in sex, sexuality and gender is celebrated.*

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**Iranti**

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