



PRESS RELEASE

ACTIVATE! Change Drivers launches 250K A! Network Fund

18 July 2022

For Immediate Release

The young people in South Africa often face the brunt of the unending social challenges in the country and they have been adversely affected by the socio-economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic over the last two years.

In 2020, ACTIVATE! Established a COVID-19 Relief Fund which sought to provide relief support to the network initiatives adversely affected by the pandemic.

Informed by the need to maintain this support to the network beyond the Covid-19 pandemic, ACTIVATE! Change Drivers aims to launch the A! Network Fund will provide support to the network in the form of financial and non-financial resources to the tune of R250 000 for the year 2022.

The A! Network Fund seeks to contribute toward strengthening solidarity and resilience within the network by creating opportunities for Activators across all nine provinces. With the purpose of working across various sectors to connect, share ideas and collaborate in order to deepen the impact of the network in activating change in society. This initiative is grounded in the notion of a “hand up” rather than a “hand out” to the network as we firmly believe that Activators are self-reliant and capable change agents in their own right.

The purpose of the Fund

Whilst government and other civil society and private sector stakeholders have initiated some relief interventions in an effort to respond to the effects of Covid-19 on communities in general, a lot more needs to be done to reduce the vulnerabilities of young people.

Since its inception in 2012, ACTIVATE! has provided over 4325 youth leaders with platforms to connect and strengthen their abilities and skills set to meaningfully contribute towards the common good in communities across South Africa and beyond.

ACTIVATE! recognizes the capacity and agency of Activators (Young people who are part of the ACTIVATE! Network) to actively and positively respond to socio-economic challenges affecting society today.

Despite their commitment to influencing society positively, Activators are not immune to the effects of the Covid-19 pandemic and many other challenges facing youth in South Africa today.

Criteria and Application process

The A! Network Fund will target 25 Activator initiatives from across all nine provinces, with a particular bias towards rural and semi-rural initiatives because we realise that those in the outskirts of society are where the greatest needs and least help are found, and we wish to contribute toward the bridge of this gap.

Furthermore, the Fund will pointedly target collaborative Activator initiatives across various sectors and provinces. Moreover, the fund will target Activator-led entrepreneurial and social interventions including start-ups, cooperatives, NGO's, NPC's, and other registered and non-registered entities.

Selection Criteria

1. A member of the ACTIVATE! Network.
2. Currently running a pro-social/entrepreneurial initiative.
3. Demonstrate commitment to act for the benefit of others.
4. Demonstrate a willingness to collaborate with other Activators.
5. Have a positive attitude towards learning and development.
6. Application of critical thinking and innovation.

To apply:

Click on the link below:

<https://forms.gle/9C4ijQGwcUqZ9pBJ8>

Applications open on the 18th of July 2022 and close on the 19th of August 2022.

The first recipients of the fund will be announced during the month of September 2022.

For more information check out our website www.activateleadership.co.za

*****END OF PRESS RELEASE*****

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