

62^{of} 100**Bridget
Moema**

Here to be Devoted

Teaching hope beyond the classroom walls.

When Bridget Moema returned home to Hammanskraal after completing her university degree, she was struck by the hunger among young people in her community for the same opportunity to further their education. It was a hunger she understood personally, having worked as a domestic worker to support her studies.

Realising that her story could offer hope to others, the educator decided to pen a letter of inspiration. It touched a nerve in her community and ultimately led to the creation of Being Refined: The Seed of Hope, an organisation dedicated to bringing hope and opportunity to underserved communities like the one in which she grew up.

Today, this Grade 12 history teacher extends that sense of possibility beyond the classroom through mentorship, outreach programmes, camps and community projects. A qualified life coach, award-winning philanthropist and community builder, she demonstrates that you don't need vast

resources to make a difference. Often, determination and a willingness to start with what you have are enough.

Whether it is providing school shoes to children from disadvantaged families, helping to empower young boys and young girls through seminars and camps or hosting an annual fun day at a local orphanage, Bridget is proving that impact needn't be measured by scale. A young child gaining confidence, a young woman discovering her potential or a community knowing that someone believes in them, can be the catalyst for meaningful change.

One powerful initiative to grow from this vision is Seedling Academy, an early childhood development centre in Kanana, Hammanskraal, which moves beyond the classroom to create a nurturing environment for children to blossom and build strong foundations for their future.

Bridget acknowledges that the journey hasn't always been easy. Building a community initiative comes with financial and resource constraints, uncertainty and moments of doubt. It also demands pragmatism. As a result, this community leader continues to teach full time, entrusting the academy's day-to-day management to its staff, allowing it to operate independently while she remains involved in its broader vision and impact.

Bridget's story offers a powerful reminder, particularly to women with ideas they are waiting to act on, that you don't have to wait until everything is perfect. Start with what you have, learn as you go and bring others along. Because one small idea can become one child helped, one family supported and, eventually, a community transformed.

Through her unwavering devotion to uplifting youth and nurturing community resilience, Bridget embodies the true spirit of leadership. Her journey stands as an inspiring testament to how single-minded commitment, paired with grass-roots action, can spark a legacy of lasting social empowerment.

Your
story
matters

