



## Mashatu Game Reserve

We had the extraordinary opportunity to enjoy an enchanting overnight stay in the renowned Mashatu Game Reserve, nestled within Botswana's pristine Northern Tuli Game Reserve. This reserve boasts unfenced borders that seamlessly connect with the South African and Zimbabwean national parks, creating an expansive haven for wildlife conservation. We were treated to immersive morning and evening game drives led by experienced guides. We saw cheetahs, lions, warthogs, wildebeests, and baboons. It was an experience that filled us with wonder, leaving us with a deep sense of gratitude for the opportunity to witness the wonders of untamed nature up close.



## Program Updates

The week marked a significant milestone for the Youth Development team as they showcased their groundbreaking work on July 26 and 27 to the community stakeholders, including the youth. Their presentations highlighted the results of their research focusing on the crucial insights on how to empower and engage the younger generation in the community's development. The significance of their work didn't go unnoticed, as a radio station from Gaborone caught wind of this exceptional event. The team has been granted the opportunity for an upcoming interview, which will provide them with a platform to reach an even broader audience.

While the Youth Development team took the spotlight, the Disability and GBV projects used the time to prepare for their upcoming presentations on August 1<sup>st</sup>.



## Setswana Word of the Week:

The Setswana word for “youth” is “banana,” a name that took on special meaning during the inspiring two-day Positive Youth Development presentations by Ivan and his survey team this week. The presentations offered insights and practical knowledge to empower the youth in their personal and collective development.



Ivan celebrated his birthday while we were in Mashatu. Happy Birthday Ivan!

## Spotlight of the Week: Divya Reddy



Meet Divya Reddy, a Ph.D. student in the College of Health, leading the Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH) project.

"The SRH project, at its core, is committed to enhancing the sexual and reproductive health knowledge of adolescents and their caregivers in Maunatlala. Divya and her team have diligently implemented the innovative SRH (*Re Mmogo*) program, carefully tailored to the community's specific needs. The program's approach is as thoughtful as it is comprehensive. The *Re Mmogo* project aims to create a nurturing and inclusive environment by engaging adolescents and their caregivers, fostering open dialogues and shared understanding around critical sexual and reproductive health matters.

Gauging the program's effectiveness is paramount to Divya and her team. After its successful implementation, they eagerly await feedback from the adolescents and caregivers. This input will serve as the cornerstone for refining the program, making it even more accessible and beneficial to its intended audience. Divya and her team plan to share the study findings with community stakeholders during a presentation in the first week of August 2023. This event will be conducted in both Setswana and English, ensuring that every voice is heard." Divya

## Photo Gallery

