

#UTEForce affects change in uMkhanyakude through soccer

Over the past two years, Chevrolet Ute Force, in partnership with Dreamfields, the non-government organisation that focuses on football development, targeted 76 primary schools across four provinces, providing scholars with a soccer kit, setting up soccer leagues and promoting competitive play.

Now it's rolling out an interschool soccer league with 18 primary schools in the uMkhanyakude District, an impoverished farming community in Pongola, at Injula Primary School.

According to Chevrolet Brand Manager Tim Hendon, football provides an opportunity to develop young talent, keep children off the street and transcends all cultures, genders and age groups. "To this end, we have revitalised soccer pitches to enable play, donated close to 60,000 One World Futbols, the nearly indestructible ultra-durable ball, and provided soccer equipment to schools in needy communities," he said.



The 18 primary schools participating in this week's programme will likewise receive DreamSeed Kits that contain equipment, practice bibs and soccer balls. Schools will also each receive an additional One World Futbol from Chevrolet for practice sessions plus goal posts.

In addition, Chevrolet Ute Force and Dreamfields will also provide training for local coaches in order to make the league self-sustainable. John Perlman, Dreamfields' Founder, points out that it is the strategy of Dreamfields to ensure communities take full responsibility and become the masters of the leagues; this has been a winning strategy since its

inception. "Our goal is to ensure that communities - teachers and young people - can run the DreamLeagues for themselves," he said.

Starting off with boys, aged 11 to 13, the leagues aim to be inclusive of both girl and boy teams in future. "The more football can be part of school life for all the children, boys and girls, the richer will be the change in the positive atmosphere at that school," Perlman added. "We want what we do with Chevrolet to be as inclusive as possible."

Bringing this story to life and introducing people to the Ute Force's journey across the country are filmmakers Bolton Inc. Hendon went on to add that Bridgette and Louis Bolton capture the essence of each project and allow others to see firsthand the impact being made. These mini documentaries can be viewed on YouTube and bring attention to issues impacting children thus inspiring others to be change agents in their very own communities.

Earlier this year similar projects were rolled out in Petrusburg, Botshabelo, Vosloorus, Johannesburg, Port Elizabeth and Hammanskraal. Next year Chevrolet and Dreamfields will continue to bring soccer development to various communities.

South Africans are asked to show their support by interacting with the Chevrolet Ute Force team on [Facebook](#) and [YouTube](#), or by following the action on [Twitter @chevroletsa](#) using the #UTEForce hashtag.

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