



**OUTWARD BOUND  
SOUTH AFRICA**

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## Outward Bound South Africa and the Global Covid-19 Pandemic

At Outward Bound South Africa, we take risk management very seriously. In normal times, this means ensuring that the programmes we run deliver high levels of impact and engagement in safe, but challenging, environments. These are the day-to-day risks that our expert managers and instructors understand and manage – changing weather, hazardous environments, and all the other challenges that nature can present.

However, these are not normal times. The global Covid-19 pandemic has forced us to stop and think again about how we keep our participants safe. Having reviewed the current effects of the pandemic on the people of South Africa, and having taken the best advice possible, we have concluded that it is currently not safe to deliver our programmes. We have undertaken risk assessments, revised procedures, trained staff but, in the end, we have concluded that there are too many unknowns for us to operate with a critical level of certainty. For now, our responsibility is to do all we can to help prevent the spread of infection.

All of us at Outward Bound South Africa are determined that we will be there at the other side of this unprecedented and unpredictable situation, to support young people. The challenges that young people face will not have disappeared, but in many respects will have been exacerbated by this pandemic; if anything, the need for the values of Outward Bound – for space, freedom, adventure, and fresh air – will have been strengthened.

Considering the above, Outward Bound South Africa will not be offering courses as of 1 August 2021. The Board and Management Team will review the situation at the end of October 2021. If appropriate, and in the event of greater certainty and taking into account relevant risk analyses, we will then put processes in place to start offering courses from the end of January 2022.

During this period, we will continue to work hard with the maintenance of our centre, driving our fundraising activities, reviewing our strategic plan, and updating our website and social media platforms so that as soon as we have the green light, we can focus on providing a safe and engaging experience for young people in 2022.

Rest assured that as information regarding the COVID-19 pandemic continues to evolve, Outward Bound South Africa's guidelines and field protocols will be sufficiently robust to ensure the wellbeing of our participants and staff when we are fully operational again. We will keep you informed of developments after our assessment at the end of October 2021, so that you are able to plan to utilise our offering again in the support of youth development.

**CONFIDENCE, RESILIENCE AND WELLBEING IS NEEDED MORE THAN EVER.**

### OUR SCHOOL PROGRAMMES

We are developing post Covid-19 interventions to equip young people with a stronger sense of self-belief, able to cope better with stressful situations and interact more positively with others. We're adapting our schools' programmes so that we can keep supporting young people in the outdoors when they need it most, as this cannot always be achieved online or in a classroom. The outdoors is vital for young people's recovery in a post Covid-19 world.

OUTWARD BOUND SOUTH AFRICA Board of Directors:

J. Hanks (Chairman), D. Snyders (Executive Director), M. Scholtz (Safety Director), J. Dixon (HR Director),  
N. Mlalazi (Financial Director), M. Mtati (Marketing Director), P. Maphumulo (Fundraising Director)

Fundraising no: 099 000129 000 2 • Association incorporated under Section 21: 1959/00004/08

## YOU CAN SUPPORT YOUNG SOUTH AFRICANS

You can help young people to defy their limitations and realise they are capable of more. Donate today and your gift will mean disadvantaged children in South Africa can attend a life-changing Outward Bound programme in 2022. Give disadvantaged young people a gift for life. Increasing their self-belief, resilience, and ability to trust in others by simply clicking on the link below.

<https://www.backabuddy.co.za/obsa-fundraiser>

## HOW YOUR BUSINESS CAN HELP

Your business can directly help young people recover, reconnect, and rebuild after Covid-19. We'll work with you to make sure our partnership is mutually beneficial, connecting with your CSI strategy, building sustainable relationships with your community and showcasing your company as an aspirational and philanthropic brand.

In the months to come we must all dig deep and remember the force that drives us to achieve our goals. For now, we take strength in knowing that skills learnt at Outward Bound are giving millions of young people across the world the ability to step up to the very real challenge we face now.



Deon Snyders  
Executive and Operations  
Director



Jonathan Hanks  
Chairman



Martin Scholtz  
Safety Director



Dalit Shekel  
Fundraiser

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