

Celebrating World Social Work Day 2025 under the theme “**Strengthening Intergenerational Solidarity for Enduring Wellbeing**,” The South African College of Applied Psychology (SACAP) proudly hosted a memorable event on both our Johannesburg and Cape Town campuses. With over 60 students, faculty members, and external stakeholders in attendance, the energy and engagement were palpable, reflecting the essence of this year's theme.

We extend our deepest appreciation to the Association of South African Social Work Education Institutions (ASASWEI) for championing the annual observance of this important day. Your continued support inspires institutions like ours to unite in acknowledging the critical role social workers play in shaping a more just, compassionate, and sustainable world.

This year's event was enriched by our distinguished speakers, whose insights brought depth and resonance to the theme:

- **Dr. Poppy**, Head of Faculty for Social Work and Community Development at SACAP and President of ASASWEI, opened the event with a compelling address. Drawing on her expertise in school violence prevention, youth development, and human rights, she highlighted the interplay between global and South African social work landscapes. Her emphasis on the power of intergenerational solidarity in addressing systemic challenges served as a vital call to action for all attendees.
- **Mr. Asandile Mandlana**, a respected lecturer and social worker known for his impactful work in student support and community development, offered a profound exploration of both global and national social work trends. He contextualized the theme by underscoring the importance of inclusive education and ethical leadership. As a contracted SACAP supervisor and mentor, his presence further bridged academic theory and lived practice.
- **Ms. Tinyiko Gwambe**, a social worker, HR professional, and advocate for disability inclusion, delivered an inspiring presentation centred on her personal and professional journey. She exemplified resilience and the essence of intergenerational support through her storytelling and mentorship efforts. Her insights reinforced the role of social work in fostering intergenerational care, respect, and wisdom-sharing.
- **Ms. Abigail Dawson**, a development specialist and passionate advocate for refugee and migrant rights, guided us through a meaningful reflection on the accompanying **book and art exhibit**. Her talk on **Ilen Kuzwayo's book "Sit Down and Listen"** highlighted the powerful narratives woven into the exhibit, connecting it with Library Week's **Garment Talk**, which explored identity, history, and advocacy through fabric. This creative contribution deeply aligned with

SACAP's commitment to human rights, green social work, and disability inclusion.

The **Threads of Solidarity** activity was a true highlight, capturing the symbolic and literal connections between generations through shared experiences, wisdom, and compassion. It resonated strongly with the day's theme and served as a living expression of social work's enduring commitment to social cohesion and community transformation.

We are incredibly grateful to our Faculty of Social Work and Community Development, the BSW Student Association, educators, supervisors, support departments, and student leaders whose collective efforts brought this day to life.

Thank you, ASASWEI, for your continued leadership and vision. Together, we are building bridges between generations, advocating for justice, and empowering futures.

Here are some pictures:

























