

Residence study session

Period: 17 February till 22 may

Yolanda Guma Residence hosted successful Study Sessions aimed at promoting academic focus and peer support among students. The session took place at second avenue campus classrooms for 2hrs (19h00 till 21h00) Monday to Thursday for the whole 1st semester learning cycle and was attended by both first year and senior students.

Mentors and RSA facilitated the session by helping to organize study groups based on academic disciplines and providing study materials. The environment was quiet, focused, and supportive, allowing students to concentrate and collaborate effectively.

Many students expressed appreciation for the dedicated study time and the opportunity to receive help from peers and senior students. The session also encouraged good study habits and time management as exams and assignments approach.

Overall, the study session achieved its goal of creating a productive academic atmosphere in the residence and will be considered for regular implementation.



Safety Awareness Campaign in collaboration with South African Police Services (SAPS), Yolanda Guma Residence, NMU Protection Services

25 February

The SAPS visit was an awareness campaign whereby SAPS and Metro Police were sharing safety tips to new students as they navigated their new university environment and around Gqeberha.

1.Preventing Crime and Educating Students: Police came to visit and to provide educational sessions on personal safety, crime prevention, and legal issues. This helps students understand how to protect themselves and avoid risky situations.

2.Collaboration with Campus Security: Universities often work with local law enforcement to improve campus safety. Police may visit to collaborate with campus security on safety protocols and emergency response procedures.

3. Emergency Response: In the event of an emergency, such as a medical situation, assault, or any urgent matter, police may visit to help and coordinate with other emergency services.

4. Community Outreach: Police may also visit to engage with students and create a positive relationship with the community, addressing concerns and building trust between law enforcement and university residents.



Alcohol and Drugs Awareness

26 February

We hosted alcohol and drugs awareness where we invited a Ms Khanyisa Zibe from Emthonjeni as a guest speaker who touched on the following topics.

- **Education:** The program educates individuals about the risks and consequences of alcohol and drug use, including their effects on physical and mental health, relationships, and academic or professional success.
- **Prevention:** It aims to prevent the initiation or escalation of substance use by raising awareness of the dangers and providing alternatives to harmful behaviors. Programs often teach coping skills to handle stress and peer pressure.
- **Promote Healthy Choices:** By providing information and support, these programs encourage individuals to make healthier, informed decisions regarding alcohol and drug

consumption. This can be particularly important for young people, who may be more vulnerable to peer pressure.

- **Encourage Responsible Use:** For those who choose to drink alcohol or use substances, such programs can help promote responsible and moderate use, reducing the risk of addiction, accidents, or other negative consequences.
- **Reduce Harm:** These programs often emphasize harm reduction techniques, teaching individuals how to reduce the negative impacts of substance use if they are already involved in such behavior. This could include information on safe drinking practices or how to avoid risky situations.



Sports

Period: 1st semester (February till may)

Yolanda Guma Residence sport launched its sports program at the beginning of the academic year to promote fitness, teamwork, and healthy competition among students.

Team formation and trials began in February-march, with open trials held for sports including soccer and netball. Our late Sport manager Nwabisa Mmangweni and Siphe Jack coordinated the selection process, encouraging participation from both new and returning students.

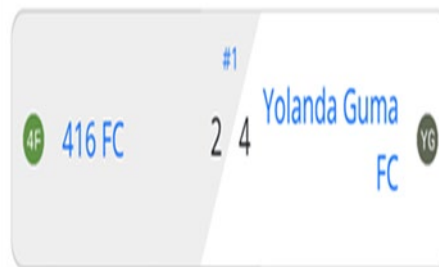
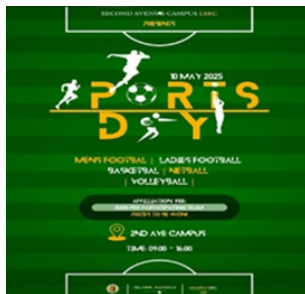
Once teams were formed, regular training sessions were scheduled. Student athletes showed strong commitment and teamwork, improving steadily over time. Coaches and team captains played a key role in motivating players and fostering discipline.

By April the residence team began participating in residence leagues and university-wide tournaments. Their performance has been impressive, with the soccer team reaching final rounds and earning recognition for position 1 on the finals of 2nd avenue campus sport day

and netball in position 3. Overall, the sports program has been doing well and strengthened community spirit and pride within the residence.

The current result in the leagues Yolanda Guma netball team is in position 4 after playing against 18 teams in the first semester leagues

Yolanda Guma soccer team is in position 4 after playing against 16 teams in the first semester leagues. Yolanda Guma soccer Team wan 1st place in the RSC Residence leagues where they wan a trophy and Prize money.



Karaoke night event

Period :1 March

We hosted a fun and lively Karaoke Night for students on 1st of march aimed at promoting relaxation, social interaction, and student engagement.

The event took place in the Mens tv and featured a variety of music genres to cater to different tastes. Students had the chance to perform solo or in groups, and the atmosphere was filled with laughter, cheering, and community spirit.

Student leaders facilitated the event and ensured it ran smoothly, with light snacks and refreshments provided. The Karaoke Night was well attended and received overwhelmingly positive feedback, with many students requesting similar events in the future.

Overall, the event successfully strengthened community bonds and offered a joyful break from academic routines.



Safety, Health and environment at the residence

4 March

The Residence Community Watch Team, in collaboration with the SHE Department through SHE Representative Mohau Kgadile and his team, Ms. Sonelia Gelant, was trained on how to use fire extinguishers to enable them to respond effectively in emergency situations. The training was highly effective, and the team gained valuable knowledge on how to properly operate and maintain the extinguishers. It also emphasized the importance of quick and correct responses during emergencies, which helps to ensure the safety of all residents. As a result, the team is now better equipped and more confident in handling fire-related incidents, thereby contributing to a safer and more prepared community environment.



Emthonjeni Student Wellness Meet and Greet Yolanda Guma Residence leaders

20 March

- Emthonjeni Student Wellness dedicated to promoting the mental, emotional, and physical well-being of students, visited Yolanda Guma Residence for a meet-and-greet interaction.
- The aim of this visit was to introduce the residence's student leaders to the resources and support systems available through Emthonjeni, fostering a stronger connection between the wellness services and students' day-to-day lives.
- During the interaction, Emthonjeni's team provided information about their various wellness initiatives, including mental health support, stress management programs, physical health resources, and peer counseling services. The organization also highlighted upcoming workshops, wellness events, and personal well-being strategies that students
- Overall, the visit successfully strengthened the relationship between Emthonjeni Student Wellness and Yolanda Guma Residence, laying the groundwork for ongoing collaboration and support for student well-being throughout the academic year. access for free or at reduced costs.





Campus life 2025 29 March

- Yolanda Guma Residence participated in the annual Campus Life event, which included a variety of activities designed to promote student engagement, physical activity, and community spirit. cultural significance, history, and meaning of the Students’ Formations, particularly as it relates to values of unity, strength, and identity.

- A key part of the session involved a live demonstration of the Haka and Formation, where students were invited to observe the movements, chants, and the powerful energy behind the dance. The leadership explained the meanings behind the various gestures and sounds, such as the rhythmic stomping, facial expressions, and vocal chants, which all play a role in expressing emotion and asserting group identity.

- After the demonstration, the students were given the opportunity to participate in a group activity where they learned the basic movements and chants of the Haka and Formation.

- Throughout the session, emphasis was placed on the values that the Haka represents—such as respect, resilience, and community cohesion—which align with the residence’s own values of inclusivity, strength, and mutual support. The session encouraged students to embrace diversity and understand the importance of respecting and celebrating different cultures.

- Activities: The event featured a diverse range of activities such as:

Soccer: A friendly, competitive match that brought students together for fun and teamwork.

o Haka Formation: A traditional cultural performance where residences competed in a powerful and expressive display of unity and strength.

Netball: A team sport that fostered friendly competition and cooperation among participants.

• **Haka Formation Achievement:** Yolanda Guma Residence earned 3rd place in the Haka Formation competition, showcasing their commitment, teamwork, and respect for cultural traditions.

• **Team Spirit:** The event was an excellent opportunity for students to bond, develop leadership skills, and experience the importance of working together as a team, whether on the field, court, or in cultural expression.

• **Outcome:** The participation in Campus Life was a success, with Yolanda Guma Residence not only excelling in the Haka competition but also fostering a sense of pride, community, and fun within the residence. The event strengthened relationships between students and contributed to an inclusive and vibrant campus culture.





2nd TERM RESIDENCE REPORT 2025

Comfort and Conversations by Simnikiwe Tsetsana

Period: April -May

Comfort and conversation is one of the beautiful project that one of the students come up with, which is about good comfort and conversation that gives students a platform to have conversations about topics or issues they face in their everyday lives but never really talk about. This create a comfortable space for students to bond as a residence and to creating unity.

The objective of Comfort and Conversations was to educate, foster a supportive community and break stereotypes. We managed to have two sessions this semester.

- The first session was on the 21st of April 2025
- For the first session the topic was Friendships where we defined what the term “friendship” means to every individual, looking at the different dynamics of a friendship. These questions allowed people to be vulnerable and share their personal experiences
- We had a great turn up for the first session, after the session we gave the students a survey sheet and the response to this.
- The second session was on the 01st May 2025
- The topic for the second session was Romantic Relationships, which was suggested by the students who attended the first session.
- We wanted to have a different location for the second session but due to the weather we ended up using the Men’s TV Room, however we did provide snacks to make the experience enjoyable for students
- In this session we looked at what a healthy relationship looks like, toxic traits and the importance of not losing yourself when you are in a relationship. We had different views and perspectives from both males and females which made the conversation interesting.

Students really enjoyed these sessions as they kept on asking when the next session was going to be. I plan on elevating the sessions to make them better and more enjoyable for the next semester.



Memorial service for student, Nwabisa Mmangweni

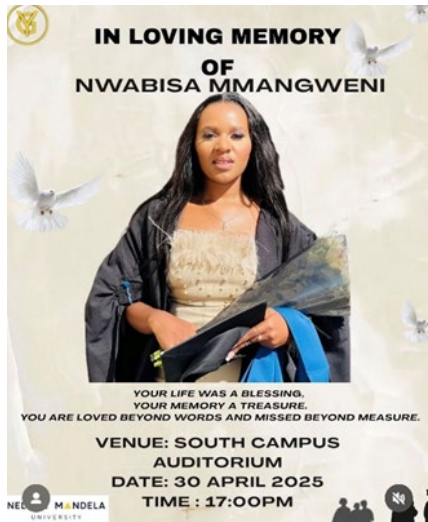
30 April

On the 22 of April when we received bad news about passing away of one of our students in the residence, Nwabisa Mmangweni. A heartfelt memorial service was held at the south campus auditorium 30 April 2025 to honor the life and legacy of Nwabisa, a dedicated student leader. The service brought together fellow students, staff, and residence leadership to pay tribute to her contributions and lasting impact on the residence community.

Nwabisa was remembered for her commitment to student welfare, leadership in organizing events, residence sports and positive influence on students. During the service, friends, student leaders, and staff shared messages of remembrance, gratitude, and support for the family.

A candlelight ceremony and a moment of silence were observed in her memory. A tribute board was also set up, allowing students to write personal messages and memories.

The memorial served as a touching reminder of the importance of compassion, community, and support during difficult times. The Residence continues to stand in solidarity with the family and friends of the late student leader.



Yolanda Guma Residence Choir

Period: April -May

On the 24th of April, the Yolanda Guma choir rendered an item at the Prayer night that was held at the cafeteria after a loss of one of our sport managers Nwabisa Mmangweni.



On the 30th of April, the Yg choir performed at Memorial Service of Nwabisa Mmangweni that was held in the South Campus Auditorium. The choir also performed at the funeral at Mthatha on the 3rd of May 2025



Room inspections By Residence Community Watch



02 May

A room raid was conducted in the early morning at 02h00 am on the 2 may at the Residence as part of efforts to ensure a safe, clean, and rule-compliant living environment for all students. The raid aimed to check for adherence to residence policies, including cleanliness, prohibited items, and safety standards.

Residence staff and student leaders carried out the inspections in a respectful and organized manner. Most rooms were found to be in good condition, reflecting residents' commitment to maintaining a healthy living space.

The raid also served as a reminder of residence rules and the importance of personal responsibility. Any minor infractions were addressed with individual feedback and guidance.

Overall, the room raid was successful in promoting a safe and orderly residence community.

Nwabisa Mmangweni 's funeral

Period :03 May

On 03 May, we traveled to attend the funeral of Nwabisa Mmangweni, a former student leader sport manager. The ceremony took place at Mthatha Mmangweni the family home in Mqanduli.

Nwabisa served as a dedicated and inspiring leader during their time at the university, known for their unwavering commitment to student welfare and student development. Her passing is a profound loss not only to their family and friends but also to the broader of the residence.

The service was attended by the residence manager and university staff members, Yolanda Guma Residence leaders, friends, yg sport members and yg choir members.

Representatives from the university were present to pay their respects. A heartfelt tribute was delivered by the residence manager (Ms Charity Ntseoane), Residence student assistance (Dakalo Sadiki) and YG sport member (Mava Sonamzi) highlighting Nwabisa' s leadership qualities, kindness, and enduring impact on those around them.



Mother-Daughter Event by Noluvo Mduna

09 may

Mother -daughter Event is an event that was an idea implemented by Noluvo Mduna. A student from Yolanda Guma residence.

The Speakers,

2.Speaker from ladies: **Ms Siwaphiwe Bangiso**, Student

Topic: **Sisterhood**

3. **Ms Charity Ntseane**, Yolanda Guma Residence Manager

- Topic: **"Challenges Faced by Young Girls: Navigating Relationships and Peer Pressure"**

- Subtopics: **Recognizing red flags, setting boundaries, self-care**

4. **Ms Sharon Masiza**, Acting Dean

- Topic: **"Knowing Your Worth: Empowerment and Self-Awareness"**

- Subtopics: **Self-esteem, self-love, recognizing toxic relationships**

5 **Mrs Nomhle Zako**, Former Lillian Ngoyi Residence Manager

- Topic: **"Standing Up for Yourself: Overcoming Fear, Doubt, and Peer Pressure"**

- Subtopics: **Building confidence, assertiveness, decision-making**

6. **Ms Siphokazi Silayi**, Indwe Senior Female Residence Manager

- Topic: **"The Importance of Unity and Transparency Amongst Girls"**

- Subtopics: **Building trust, inclusivity, effective communication, conflict resolution**

Open Discussion and Q&A

Participants will had the opportunity to ask questions, share their thoughts, and engage in a conversation with the guests.

In between we had Tea/Coffee with the ladies.

The event was meticulously planned and executed with the assistance of a dedicated team of female residents. Together, we ensured that all logistical and organizational aspects were taken care of. The event featured guest speakers sharing their experiences and advice on topics such as relationships, personal growth, effective communication, and the importance of sisterhood. With the objectives of Promote unity among female residents, provide a platform for learning from experienced mothers away from home and peers and facilitate meaningful discussions on relationships and personal growth.

There was a good outcome out of this event. Ladies gained valuable insights and perspectives from the guest speakers, and meaningful discussions took place. The student choir master's sharing of her experiences as a varsity student and the importance of

sisterhood resonated with the attendees. The Mother-Daughter event was a valuable experience for all participants, promoting unity, personal growth, and a sense of community among the female residents.



Safety, health and environmental

Period: May

On 22 May 2025, Yolanda Guma Residence hosted a **First-Aider Responder session** as part of its commitment to student empowerment and safety. The event was led by Mohau Kgadile, in collaboration with Anam Ramncwana and **Lutho Kwesaba**, both first aid responders. The session aimed to equip students with essential first aid knowledge and to build confidence in emergency response situations.

Objectives of the Session

- To equip students with basic first aid skills to respond in emergency situations.
- To raise awareness about the importance of first responders in everyday life.
- To promote confidence and preparedness among residents.

Key Topics Covered

During the interactive session, the following critical first aid topics were addressed:

- **Calling for Help:** Understanding how and when to contact emergency services, and what information to provide.
- **Controlling Bleeding:** Demonstrating how to manage wounds using pressure and bandages to prevent further blood loss.
- **CPR (Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation):** An overview of life-saving chest compressions and breaths for unresponsive individuals.
- **Recovery Position:** Teaching participants how to safely position unconscious but breathing individuals to keep airways clear.
- **Stabilizing Broken Bones:** Techniques to support fractures and prevent further injury before professional help arrives.
- **First Aid Kit Essentials:** A practical breakdown of standard items in a first aid kit and their proper usage.

The First-Aider Responder session proved to be an informative and empowering initiative for Yolanda Guma residents. By offering practical skills and foundational knowledge. As

emphasized during the event, “You don’t have to be a doctor to save a life just someone who shows up.” Continued workshops and training will help maintain this momentum and foster a culture of safety and responsibility within the residence.



Water Saving Campaign

24 May 2025,

Yolanda Guma Residence hosted an awareness session titled Water Saving Campaign to highlight the importance of water conservation. This initiative forms part of the broader effort to cultivate environmentally conscious and responsible students. The event encouraged residents to embrace sustainable water usage habits and to be ambassadors of change within the community, the event was led by Mohau Kgadile and the 2025 Yolanda Guma water saving champions

Objectives of the Session

- To promote water conservation as a key aspect of sustainable living.
- To educate residents on practical ways to reduce water waste.
- To empower students to become everyday champions of water sustainability.

Key Topics Covered

During the session, the following important messages and practices were shared:

- Water Awareness: Participants were encouraged to reflect on daily water use from drinking to cooking and bathing and evaluate their consumption habits.

- Sustainability Tips: Residents learned simple but impactful practices such as turning off running taps, fixing leaks, and using water-efficient appliances.
- Behavioral Change: Emphasis was placed on making mindful water choices, using only what is needed, and avoiding wastage.
- Reuse and Reduce: The concept of reusing water if safe and possible.

The Water Saving Champions session was a significant step in promoting environmental stewardship at Yolanda Guma Residence. With water being a critical and finite resource, the session reinforced the idea that every drop counts. Through small but consistent actions, students were reminded that they can collectively make a big difference. The campaign motto captured the essence of the session and will continue to guide future sustainability efforts in the residence.



Africa Day Celebration

23 May

Res Life and Student Development hosted a vibrant and culturally rich celebration to honor the diversity and unity of the African continent. Residences across campus proudly represented different African countries through music, dance, cuisine, attire, and stall presentations.

Yolanda Guma Residence proudly represented Ghana, showcasing the rich heritage, creativity, and hospitality of the Ghanaian people. The highlights of our presentation included:

A traditional Ghanaian dance performance featuring kente-clad performers and rhythmic drumming that captivated the audience. An authentic Ghanaian food stall that served popular dishes such as jollof rice, waakye, kelewele, and shito, drawing large crowds throughout the event. A cultural exhibition featuring historical artifacts, traditional attire, and educational displays about Ghana's history, languages, and festivals.

Yolanda Guma won first place for both Best Cultural Performance and Best Decorated Stall. This achievement is a testament to the hard work, creativity, and unity of our students. We extend our gratitude to everyone who contributed their time and talent to make this a memorable event.



Residence debate team

24 May

The residence Debate team has continued to grow in both skill and recognition over the semester, proudly representing the residence in MADIBAZ residence debate leagues.

This semester, the team participated in the MADIBAZ Residence Debate Tournament, engaging in intellectually stimulating discussions on key social, political, and economic issues affecting students and the wider society. Topics ranged from climate change policies to digital privacy and education reform. The YG Residence team came out position 1 in the first round and 3 in the second round.



Graduation celebration

01 June

This event served as a celebration for all the YG graduates, namely: Ms Charity Ntseane, Ms Mhlali Adonisi, Ms Siwaphiwe Bangiso and Mr Anesiphelo Mkula. The academic mentors planned the celebration to be an intimate celebration, inviting the Yolanda Guma Leadership. The event was in a form of a braai (lunch) where graduates came wearing their graduation MOTABOARDS as well as the MADIBAZ shirts to show that they have graduated. The leadership came together and shared beautiful messages to the graduates and well

wishes. The graduates later shared a few words of their own. After the great messages, the graduates and well as the leadership had a feast with the braai meat.



Exam Package

03 June

As the examination period approached, students at Yolanda Guma Residence received heartfelt and encouraging gestures from our Residence Manager. In a show of care and support, the Residence Manager bought, and distributed pens and personalized good luck notes to all students in preparation for their exams.

This thoughtful act was warmly received by students, who expressed appreciation for the motivation and the practical support. The good luck notes, filled with inspiring words and well-wishes, served as a reminder that the residence community stands behind every student during this stressful academic period

This simple yet meaningful initiative reflects the supportive environment we are proud to cultivate at the residence. We thank the residence manager for the kind gesture and continued dedication to student welfare.





RESIDENCE TUTORING PROJECT,

- Tutoring session calendar
 - Google review form
 - Tutoring venues
- 2nd Semester**
- Refresher training for the Tutors
 - Review of marks
 - Team building
 - Random visits

Conclusion

The first semester at Yolanda Guma Residence has been both eventful and enriching. We witnessed strong student engagement across academic, cultural, and social activities, reinforcing a vibrant and supportive community spirit. Despite the loss of a few students due to transfers and personal circumstances, the overall morale within the residence remained positive and united.

A major highlight of the semester was our victory in the Inter-Residence Competition, a testament to the dedication, teamwork, and talent of our residents. From participation in debate and cultural events to community initiatives, the residence has consistently demonstrated excellence, resilience, and a sense of unity.

As we reflect on the successes and challenges of the past few months, we remain committed to continuous improvement, supporting every student's journey, and fostering an inclusive environment. We look forward to an even more impactful and fulfilling second semester.

