Change can happen
Foreword

I am pleased to present the 2017 Annual report of Inclusive and Affirming Ministries. This has been a very successful and eventful year for IAM. Our organisation has expanded significantly over the last 12 months and we have made significant strides, some of which are highlighted in this report. “Change Can Happen” reflects not only the organisational change (internal) but also the external change within the ambit of IAM’s work. As part of IAM’s transformation, we will be launching our new organisational branding, and improving our targeted communications with our core audiences over the coming year.

As we celebrate the milestones of 2017, we also reflect on the lessons we learned that informed the strategy of IAM and the holistic wellbeing and sustainability of the organisation.

We look forward to the continuous transformation that is taking place within; building a skilled, diverse team; refining our dialogue, diversity, human sexuality and contextual Bible study workshops; making IAM’s contribution and impact on the African Continent known. All of these initiatives are done to accelerate our mission of activating faith communities to recognise and celebrate LGBTI people in Africa.

- Rev. Ecclesia de Lange, IAM Director
“Liberation goes beyond resisting a brutal and oppressive regime. Understanding the power that your foe has over you is important. Whether that power has the ability to influence your mind, or whether that power is structural and how it enables your oppressor to determine the rules according to which you have to operate - it’s only when you clarify how you find yourself in this, that you can come up with the strategies and tactics to resist and to liberate yourself from the power that is being exerted over you.”

– 2017 Queer Think Tank Panelist
IAM catalyses faith communities to recognise and celebrate LGBTI people in Africa.

IAM has a vision of faith communities in Africa that are welcoming and affirming; where Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Intersex people can participate fully and be strengthened in their spiritual, psychological and sexual identity as human beings. IAM works towards this vision through programs that support and empower the LGBTI community, parents, family and friends and people living with HIV to stimulate dialogue in building welcoming, affirming and inclusive faith communities.

At IAM, we believe that religious fundamentalism, the evil of patriarchy, ignorance around the full diversity of sex, sexual orientation, gender identity and gender expressions, in combination with a lack of exposure to diverse interpretations of sacred texts and the lived realities of sexual minorities, stand in the way of true democracy and the full realisation of human rights for all people in South Africa and the rest of Africa.

Africa needs an alternative, constructive religious voice

Religious fundamentalism, patriarchy, heteronormativity, stigma, shame and forced secrecy are affecting every single LGBTI individual, regardless of whether he, she or they are a person of faith or not. The ever increasing religious homophobia excludes LGBTI’s from basic human rights, and in many ways and contexts religious leaders are at the forefront of teaching negative beliefs about sexuality, voicing views such as “homosexuality is un-African”. This in turn produces or condones violence against LGBTI people and reinforces anti-homosexuality legislation. While this concern is shared, an alternative constructive religious voice against the detrimental effects is not heard strong enough in Africa.

IAM partners with human rights organisations, faith-based organisations and concerned individuals that take the strategic engagement of religious leaders and communities seriously. IAM works to address the negative beliefs, stigma and discrimination generated within religious contexts around sexual orientation and gender identity and gender expressions. The work IAM does is critical in countering the condemning homo/transphobic attitudes and beliefs being voiced in many religious communities.

INTERSECTIONALITY AND IAM’S WORK

There is a “constellation of factors” that contributes to the marginalisation and/or oppression of a group. The axis of oppression can best be found at the crossroads where race, class, gender, sexuality, health and socio-economic status meet. If any group or study focuses on only ONE of these dimensions alone, they are missing (or avoiding) the complexity of the holistic picture. There is a growing need to better understand the complexity of this intersection in order to navigate effectively and safely through all these issues. It is very difficult to understand the extent of the oppression and act effectively if you do not take all the intersections into account.
IAM opens minds, hearts and doors for transformation

Since 1995, IAM has worked as a catalyst for transformation, addressing the challenges from many angles simultaneously. IAM uses its Wheel of Change to describe the areas we work in:

**OPEN HEARTS:** Awareness Raising
IAM lobbies and educates people on all levels of faith community participation to raise their awareness of diversity regarding sexual orientation and faith interpretation, to re-examine their beliefs and attitude towards homosexuality.

**OPEN DOORS:** Encouraging Concrete Actions of Change
IAM encourages its allies to commit to specific actions that will bring about change and transformation in religions communities, becoming themselves the catalysts for change.

**OPEN MINDS:** Creating Safe Spaces for Dialogue Encounters
IAM engages a wide variety of individuals in different types of dialogue, including trainings and workshops, as a method to manage diversity in an affirming and inclusive way.
2017 PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS
IAM targets the leadership and wider congregations of select denominations in South Africa that we work with to encourage their movement towards more inclusive and affirming positions of the full diversity of sexual and gender identities and people living with HIV. IAM also works with the next generations of church leaders to spark a demand for greater inclusion and transformation.

In 2017, IAM worked closely with several prominent South African churches, including the Dutch Reformed Church (DRC) (see below), the Uniting Reformed Church in Southern African (URCSA), the Anglican Church of Southern Africa, and the Methodist Church in South Africa (MCSA). Some of the highlights of the processes and dialogues that IAM helped foster include:

**URCSA**
As part of a growing awareness that sexual and gender identity are community issues, the URCSA invited IAM to participate in three conversations around human sexuality in rural areas of the Western Cape (Porterville, Piketberg and Wellington). The faith community and social communities aren’t currently safe spaces for LGBTI, and committed to continuing the dialogue.

**MCSA**
IAM Director Ecclesia de Lange’s unsuccessful seven-year battle with the MCSA ended in June 2017, garnering much media attention, public interest and debate which furthered the LGBTI cause in general. Ecclesia initiated a conversation with the MCSA leadership in October, seeking a path of reconciliation and inclusion. IAM is hopeful that the MCSA will open space for conversation to fully embrace diversity within the church.

**ANGRICAN CHURCH**
IAM hosted five dialogues on human sexuality with dioceses within the Anglican Church in the Western Cape, with participants reporting that the majority of them could better understand the complexity sexual and gender identity at the end of the discussions, and in one training 30% of the lay leaders reported changing their minds to be inclusive of same-sex marriages and blessings of marriages by the church. Additional training and support from IAM has been requested.

**UPCOMING FAITH LEADERSHIP**
IAM partnered with a number of theological training partners, including the Gender Unit at the Faculty of Theology of Stellenbosch and the College of Transfiguration, to increase students’ awareness of sexual and gender identity and expression, challenge existing assumptions, and provide a safe space for self-reflection and insight.

**LOOKING FORWARD**
In 2018, IAM will continue to engage thoughtfully in change processes with the targeted denominations, challenging their entrenched positions and advocating for change from within the churches.
IAM’s work with the Dutch Reformed Church (DRC) in 2017

After the historic 2015 ruling recognising same sex unions and allowing ordination of gay ministers, the result of years of advocacy and work by organisations including IAM, the DRC ultimately reversed the decision 2016 based on a complex process of appeals from some of their membership, individuals and groups of clergy, and several regional synods. In 2017, the DRC leadership approached IAM for guidance and expertise to help navigate this difficult period. IAM is now taking part, at their request, in a dialogue with the leadership of 30 congregations who oppose the 2016 ruling. After the ruling, IAM helped facilitate a number of dialogues and workshops in reaction to the decision, allowing participants to express their own pain and disillusionment with the church’s decision. IAM has been instrumental in the process challenging the decision in court on procedural grounds, and three staff members are part of the group of eleven taking legal action against the church. The case is set for arbitration in 2018. IAM’s “Love is Love” campaign slogan was brought to life again when a group of more than 800 lay and clergy members came together on social media to share ideas on how to move forward to reinstate the inclusive decision of 2015.

One highlight in the year was the formation Churches for Inclusive and Affirming Ministries in Port Elizabeth, a “pressure group” formed independently of IAM, as a sign of the growing resistance to fundamentalism within the DRC. The group requested our support for their work, and IAM is helping strengthen their capacity to transform the church from within. IAM’s work remains vital in the DRC as leaders who had become open to dialogue on LGBTI issues are replaced with others who are not yet supportive.

“I cannot help but wonder what the result would be if every congregation is accompanied through this process. Thank you IAM, for the gospel that came to make tangible. We have moved – towards greater inclusion and celebration of diversity. Thank you that you remain our partners and that you are prepared to be invited by other congregations.”

- Rev Eugene Malan of PE Hoogland
“Embodied Resistance” – 2017 Ecumenical Queer Think Tank

In 2017 IAM hosted the second Ecumenical Queer Think Tank at Stellenbosch University, with 62 participants from six churches, donors and allied organisations. Through the lens of three themes, Inspiring Change, Strategising for Action, and Horizons of Possibility, participants connected within and across denominations to reflect on their current work and ground future strategies in contextual realities and opportunities.

Delegates found the conference a safe space to express their fear, anger and frustration within their faith tradition. All of the delegates were inspired and encouraged by the sharing of experiences, to continue the struggle for full inclusion and celebration of diversity within their denomination.

Ecumenical networks and strategic alliances were formed, and denominational lobby/pressure groups were established. Participants left the conference with concrete, actionable next steps to set their strategic plans in motion.

[The conference] was an inspiring encounter that was so full of hope for the future and affirming the agency of LGBTIQ Christians who are holding the bull by its horns”.

- Teboho. The Other Foundation

Liberation goes beyond resisting a brutal and oppressive regime. Understanding the power that your foe has over you is important. Whether that power has the ability to influence your mind, or whether that power is structural and how it enables your oppressor to determine the rules according to which you have to operate - it’s only when you clarify how you find yourself in this, that you can come up with the strategies and tactics to resist and to liberate yourself from the power that is being exerted over you.

- Queer Think Tank Panelist

IAM convened a diverse group of 62 participants to take part in the second Queer Think Tank, “Embodied Resistance”
IAM supports the development of strong, mature LGBTIs (including PLHIV) and PFFs who are empowered to assert themselves and embrace diversity in all contexts, based on an integration of their faith and understanding of their own and other’s diversity.

IAM uses a variety of different methods to reach out to the different communities and interest groups, from the Journey of Hope curriculum, presentations to youth groups (including PLHIV). In 2017, IAM undertook the following initiatives to support individual transformation and empowerment:

**TRAINING CURRICULA**
IAM’s *Journey of Hope* curriculum is a process-based training that takes people through an exploration of their sexuality and faith, helping participants integrate their spirituality with their sexual identity and HIV status. The training looks at specific readings in the Bible, how they can be interpreted, and guides the participants along a path of self-reflection and contextual awareness. In 2017, IAM facilitated a number of *Journey of Hope* trainings. IAM is also in the process of developing a resource for caregivers, “A Spiritual Pilgrimage to Integral Wellness for People Living with HIV in Southern Africa,” which will be distributed in 2018.

**OUTREACH TO YOUTH CLUBS**
Presentations, such as the 2017 session at the Heideveld Clinic to assist the People Living with HIV/AIDS Youth Club, introduce sexual and gender identity concepts, and LGBTI and health issues to youth.

**RESOURCE DISTRIBUTION**
In 2017, IAM distributed 5646 resources, including IAM brochures leaflets on human sexuality (in Xhosa and English), on slavery, women and homosexuality, and a call for more pastoral response. Resources are shared through workshops, requests by synods for discussions and individuals, and verbal and written feedback shows that they are seen as useful tools in assisting individuals and congregations engaging with sexual and gender identity and contextual Bible studies.

**SOCIAL MEDIA ENGAGEMENT**
IAM is slowly growing its social media presence to raise awareness of issues facing the LGBTI faith community, particularly on Facebook and Twitter, growing its followers and impressions significantly over 2017.

**PUBLIC DEMONSTRATIONS**
IAM takes part in public demonstrations to raise awareness of LGBTI faith community issues and in solidarity with other LGBTI organisations. In 2017, IAM took part in Khumbulani Pride in Strand, an event hosted against the backdrop of the raping and stoning of Lerato “Tambaai” Molo, the second of three black lesbians murdered within just two weeks in 2017 in South Africa. The march was a powerful reminder of the collective commitment to building a movement to end homophobic, transphobic and xenophobic violence. IAM also took part in the 2017 Cape Town PRIDE march, despite some boycotts about the event’s lack of diversity, with slogans like “Faith Communities Unite Against Discrimination.”

**PUBLICATIONS**
IAM staff member Retha Benadé launched her book, “God, Gay and Grace”, a look at the ways that religiously instigated homophobia can translate into internalised homophobia and the effect on her life leading to unnecessary pain and agony for many years. Five book launches in four provinces provided a wonderful opportunity, with questions from the LGBTI community, students, clergy, congregants, parents in the audience around how to deal with being a gay parent and how to support their children.

**MEDIA TRAINING**
IAM participated in a training for journalists, editors and bloggers organised by the Religious News Foundation and Heinrich Böll Stiftung, introducing SOGIE terminology, encouraging participants to be sensitive and affirming when reporting on LGBTI human rights violations, and how to interpret the Bible responsibly.

**LOOKING FORWARD: INTERSECTIONAL COLLABORATION**
In addition to the current transformational initiatives, in 2018 IAM plans to partner with the Gender Unit at the Theological Faculty of Stellenbosch, the Desmond Tutu Institute at the University of the Western Cape, the University of Kwa Zulu Natal, and Ujama Centre on the Inter-sectional Collaboration Project. The research that comes out of this project will be immensely useful in informing and shaping IAM’s work at the crossroads of race, class, gender, sexuality, health and socio-economic status, where the deepest oppression occurs.
iThemba Lam

iThemba Lam (iTL), translated as “My Hope” in Xhosa, provides temporary shelter for vulnerable and threatened LGBTI people in Gugulethu township in the Western Cape. The reality of patriarchy, homophobia, prejudice and persecution of LGBTI people, combined with religious fundamentalism, negative beliefs and apathy of pastors and clergy in the township context is particularly severe.

In 2017, iTL housed people like Alvina, a South African transgender woman who never received a birth certificate. Her parents are unknown, and IAM is assisted her in the process of obtaining her birth certificate as well as finding work. It also housed Lindile Gantya, a destitute gay man, for several weeks, assisting him to be reunited with his family in the Eastern Cape. The centre underwent major renovations in 2017, including renovating an existing apartment in the centre that houses iTL’s new caretaker, increasing safety and security for those staying there.

But iTL provides more than just physical safe space. It is also a hub within the community that can engage community leaders and residents on issues around sexual and gender identity as well as its intersection with HIV in a way that speaks to the specific context of the community. In a recent sexual diversity workshop, community leaders had a breakthrough when talking about the plight and vulnerability of the LGBTI people within their community. The community forum requested and committed to fostering a stronger relationship with iTL, and invited iTL’s manager to become part of the community forum to represent LGBTI issues. A well-received presentation on iTL at a community World Aids Day celebration to over 120 people also showcased the work of IAM and the role of the centre. iTL also hosted a group of theological students and staff from University of Stellenbosch, who left feeling moved and enthusiastic to start a process of inclusion in their own church community.

“I am ashamed that I have been too silent for too long. I have believed in a God of love all this time, [and] if God is love, then God is also a black lesbian.”

- Theological student visiting iTL
Change isn’t restrained by borders. A strong network of IAM partners and allies exists throughout Africa, providing mutual support and solidarity to increase the legitimacy and visibility of local movements for LGBTI and PLHIV of faith. Partners make use of IAM’s transformational Wheel of Change (WoC) methodology, which includes sharing of life-stories, contextual Bible studies and dialogue to move towards inclusion by embracing diversity (both sexual and gender identity and people living with HIV) in their own country contexts. IAM supports the network both indirectly through support for implementing change methodologies, as well as directly through trainings and workshops. IAM is also a representative of the region at various global collaboration events and for a, amplifying an alternative voice of African faith community even further.

2017 AFRICAN PARTNERSHIPS

UGANDA

Despite the continued hostile and homophobic faith communities in Uganda, IAM’s partner St. Paul’s Reconciliation and Equality Centre (SPREC) continued to pursue dialogue with progressive clergy in three churches. SPREC also trained 15 peer educators, and held monthly trainings and Sunday devotions to equip them with the necessary materials and advocacy skills to engage the community.

ZAMBIA

IAM, ZANERELA and Friends of Rainka held a training with 20 participants from the Muslim, Christian and LGBTI faith communities, increasing participants’ knowledge about HIV/AIDS, the danger of discrimination and stigma related to HIV, and the intersection with sexual and gender identity and expression. The Journey of Hope curriculum was also used to facilitate a safe space for discussion and dialogue around the diverse interpretations of Sacred Texts. The participants committed to action, including using the ZANERELA scorecard to measure steps towards becoming LGBTI stigma free faith communities and increasing collaboration between the LGBTI and faith communities regarding access to health services.

BOTSWANA

IAM facilitated a two-day workshop with 20 participants from Lesbians, Gays and Bisexuals of Botswana (LEGABIBO) and their partners (including bloggers, activists, and other organisations). The training focused on developing strategies to mobilise faith communities and the society at large on issues related to the Bible and sexual and gender identity and expression. Participants committed to a variety of actions to mobilise stakeholders to engage with religious, tribal and community leaders, as well as with media outlets to increase appropriate and positive messaging in regards to LGBTI people.

NAMIBIA

IAM partnered with Tulinam to host a panel discussion at the Lutheran World Federation Assembly in Namibia. The discussion created a safe space for 30 people to intensely dialogue on difficult issues and with brutal honesty, highlighting the huge cost in pain, isolation, lack of support in living their lives while trying to integrate spirituality and sexuality.
MALAWI
IAM and its partner, the Centre for the Development of People (CEDEP), conducted a two-day workshop to review the history and discuss the future of the partnership. The groups agreed to produce a documentary showcasing the impact of the partnership in Malawi since 2008 to premiere at the 2018 World AIDS Conference.

LESOTHO
IAM and its partner, Matrix, co-facilitated a workshop on gender and sexuality for 18 participants focused on personal journeys as LGBTIQA+ persons, culture, their communities, the Bible/God/sexuality, family, acceptance, relationships and HIV issues. Matrix disseminated the information from the workshop to the participants via Facebook and WhatsApp, and will host monthly meetings to strengthen community outreach. The participants committed to start small village clubs for LGBTI people to support one another, and to increase their visibility in the community through acts of service.

KENYA
IAM supported its partner, the Nyanza, Rift Valley and Western Kenya (NYARWEK) network, in developing their new contextual manual to empower religious leaders to use dialogue instead of debate. IAM co-facilitated a clergy workshop for 16 clergy, some of who, through exploring their own biases on gender, agreed that diversity is positive, and became aware of how harmful their sermons can be against LGBTI people of faith. A second dialogue workshop using the manual was held for 18 religious leaders.

ZIMBABWE
IAM, with its partner ZINIRELLA, facilitated a training for 15 clergy, church leadership and LGBTIs focused on HIV, stigma and discrimination. This discussion provided a soft entry point into a further dialogue around sexual and gender identity and expression and scriptural interpretation. Participants requested that IAM and ZINIRELLA return in 2018 for further engagement.
AFRICAN REGIONAL PARTNERSHIPS

In addition to country-specific partnerships, IAM is active in a number of regional partnerships that span the African continent. These opportunities to bring African LGBTI faith communities together are critical to exploring dimensions that are specific to the region and developing a united voice. In 2017, IAM was involved in the following:

“SHAPING OUR NARRATIVES OF STRUGGLE AND FREEDOM” MEETING

IAM took part in The Other Foundation’s executive meeting for 25 leaders in the LGBTI movement in Southern Africa, sitting on a panel discussion on strategic alliance building. The meeting was convened to address and find a way forward through the current tension within the movement dealing with challenges around financial sustainability and ineffective collaboration due to working in silos. Some leaders were reluctant to address religion, seeing religion as one of the root causes of homophobia, transphobia, social exclusion and the many forms of hate crimes, violence, stigma and discrimination. IAM was able to address these concerns by discussing the nuanced, layered approach it takes towards transforming the faith community.

MULTI-COUNTRY TRAINING OF TRainers

For the third year, IAM trained 14 trainers from 8 countries (Malawi, Kenya, Uganda, Namibia, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Botswana and Lesotho) to prepare them to return home and train others. Trainees learned by doing, facilitating sessions around sexual orientation, gender identity and gender expression in sacred texts, and learned how to plan a training event from conceptualisation to evaluation.

ARCUS AFRICA CONVENTION

IAM presented a session on “Best practices to engage clergy” for 32 participants that included LGBTI people and clergy from Southern, Eastern, and a few from Western Africa. This document clearly outlines many of the lessons that IAM has learned over its 25 years, and IAM is proud that it will form the basis for a forthcoming training manual.

ACT ALLIANCE SOLIDARITY PLATFORM ON GENDER JUSTICE & SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH RIGHTS (SRHR)

IAM took part in a two-day session, making valuable contributions to the interactive reflections and strategic deliberations of the group. The need to have more voices around the table, especially those not speaking or visible, to be ruthless in addressing power dynamics in our engagements and collaborating more strategically across the board towards social justice emerged as themes from the session, which IAM intends to take into its own strategic planning process in 2018.

GLOBAL NETWORKING AND COLLABORATION

IAM takes part in international networking and collaborative bodies to represent the voices of LGBTI faith community in Africa and move the cause forward globally. In 2017, IAM was involved in the following:

VÄRLDENS FEST

IAM was invited by the Church of Sweden to participate in the “Feast of the World”, an international gathering of 5,000 people committed to and engaging with international and global issues. IAM sat on two panels about working for LGBTI rights within the faith settings, and connected with other global actors in the sector.

WORLD COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

IAM played an active role in the Reference Group on Human Sexuality, co-convening the working group crafting the “The Church and Human Sexuality” chapter that will play a major part in forthcoming reference group meetings. For the third year, IAM was also a delegate on the Global LGBTI Coalition, an important voice for positive change and engagement with high-level church leaders.

GLOBAL INTERFAITH NETWORK ON SEX, SEXUAL ORIENTATION, GENDER IDENTITY AND EXPRESSION, (GIN) COLLABORATION

IAM continued as part of the GIN interim steering committee, actively contributing to the development of the network throughout 2017. Southern African GIN members released a press statement that condemns Gender Based Violence against women, children, LGBTIGQA and gender non-conforming people to express solidarity and call for faith communities to speak out against hate crimes, cruel violence, religious instigated homo / transphobia against sexual minorities and to speak out and act.

ICASA

IAM sponsored three network partners (GIN, Interfaith Diversity Network of West Africa, and Zanerela) to attend the conference, in part to take part in a reflective session donor RCNF.
LOOKING FORWARD:
CURRICULA FOR DIALOGUE
WITH FOCCSIA CLERGY

IAM has begun discussions with FRI (a national organisation of LGBT persons in Norway) to co-create a 5-day training curricula for LGBTI people of faith to prepare them for dialogue with clergy in the FOCCSIA (Fellowship of Christian Councils in Southern Africa) network. (FOCCSIA).

“When I leave here I am going to stop being apologetic and live my truth.”
- Participant in an IAM-facilitated workshop in Botswana
2017 OPERATIONAL HIGHLIGHTS
IAM staff changes and expansion

As IAM’s programming grows, so does its highly-qualified, dedicated staff. In 2017, IAM grew and strengthened, transforming into a more inclusive and diverse organisation itself. Rev Ecclesia de Lange, who has worked with IAM since 2011, was appointed Director in June 2017. The team expanded, with full-time Process Coordinators Hanzline Davids and Nokuthula Mjwara joining IAM’s ranks. Sindiswe Matiwane joined as the full-time caretaker for iThemba Lam safe house.

We would like to take this opportunity to express our sincere thanks and gratitude to Revs Pieter Oberholzer and Judith Kotze for their dedication, tireless and unselfish contribution to help grow IAM into the organisation that it is today. We also thank all the dedicated IAM staff and Board members for their contributions and direction.

IAM Staff

- Rev. Ecclesia de Lange
  Director

- Me. Ingrid Schoonraad
  Regional Program Manager

- Rev. Michelle Boonzaaier
  Process Coordinator

- Rev. Hanzline Davids
  Process Coordinator

- Me. Nokuthula Mjwara
  Process Coordinator

- Mrs. Bulelwa Panda
  iThemba Lam Process Fieldworker

- Me. Sindiswe Matiwane
  iThemba Lam Caretaker

- Mrs. Christine van Heerden
  iThemba Lam Administration

- Mrs. Alida Bergman
  Financial Administrator

- Ps. Retha Benadé
  Administrator

- Rev. Pieter Oberholzer
  Consultant

- Rev. Judith Kotzé
  Consultant

IAM Board

- Rev. Alan Storey
  Chairperson

- Rev. Siyabulela
  Secretary

- Rev. Phumzile Mabizela

- Rev. Patrick Godana

- Dr. Deon Snyman

- Ms. Vandy Fourie

- Prof. Sarojini Nadar
Financials

2017 was a very sustainable financial year for IAM, starting and ending with a healthy balance that will carry us over to 2018.

Donors

We want to thank all our donors, local, foreign, individuals and major donors who made our work possible. Individual donors (local as well as foreign) contributed 22% to the overall budget. This includes St Francis Congregation (ELCA in San Francisco) and our longest standing group of individual donors from the Netherlands. They started the initial funds for IAM 25 years ago. Our thanks especially to the three individuals who managed the fund for us the past fifteen years. They are Rev Hantie Kotze, Charlotte Venema en Riet Westera. from the SBPK (Stigting Bijzonder Pastoraat Kaapstad). Our deepest gratitude also to IAM’s institutional grant makers in 2017.
“I fully understand the link between the two (spirituality and sexuality). I am more comfortable with myself. Yes, I believe I am stronger since I understand this.”

– Participant in an IAM-led Journey of Hope workshop
Our sincere gratitude to our donors, without whom we could not continue our transformational work.
by the grace of God

INCLUSIVE & AFFIRMING MINISTRIES

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