

Phoenix rising



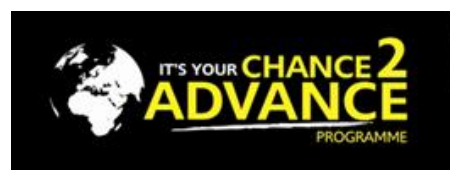
Above: C2A learning ambassadors in Phoenix

The Chance 2 Advance (C2A) programme, a community empowerment project in the Office of Unisa's Pro-Vice-Chancellor, is due to implement its Phoenix Durban mega learning initiative from 28 July to 9 August 2014.

Excitement on the ground is reaching fever pitch as community members from Phoenix, Inanda, KwaMashu, Ntuzuma, and 11 other surrounding communities have registered *en masse*. Community members have taken the opportunity to empower themselves and amplify their change agency. Community registrations now total 14 973.

The C2A Phoenix programme consists of 72 relevant workshops offered across the community in 14 venues. Sixty-five workshop facilitators, 69 community C2A learning ambassadors and five Unisa student learning ambassadors will join the Chance 2 Advance team in the roll-out of this mega event.

Project manager Dr Genevieve James explained that “informal learning is a powerful tool for community empowerment. By increasing awareness, mobilising knowledge and encouraging the confident participation of community members to become co-creators of knowledge, we hope to enable sustained involvement in the economy, social justice and active citizenship.”



Chance 2 Advance (C2A) is a community outreach programme in the Office of the Pro-Vice-Chancellor. Since its inception, C2A has moved from a summer school concept to a mega community-learning programme.

It has implemented 50 learning initiatives containing over 400 workshops. Participants represented over 100 communities across five provinces. The total number of participants stand at just over 50 000.

The programme is working to:

- Bridge the learning gap experienced by disadvantaged and marginalised communities through greater access to informal and lifelong learning.
- Address skills development by providing and encouraging relevant learning that can empower, enrich and reinvigorate communities.
- Positively contribute towards student readiness to enter into post school education.
- Enable unemployed people to develop resilience and self-confidence to respond to challenging situations through capacity development and skills training.
- Nurture and train Unisa students who have the potential to provide transformative leadership.
- Encourage academic activism.
- Create networks and partnerships towards education and social revitalisation.