



Roll A Hippo Foundation

Impact Report

Food Security Training Program

Program funded by:



Fund for Innovation
and Transformation
Fonds pour l'innovation
et la transformation



In partnership with
Canada

Simple solution High impact



In December 2021, the Roll A Hippo Foundation, in collaboration with two local non-profit partners: Wana Johnson Development, and Harvest Health, embarked on an ambitious project through the Fund for Innovation and Transformation (FIT) to provide 600 beneficiaries from marginalized communities with the means to achieve water and food security.

Participants in the program were provided with a hippo water roller, a home garden kit, and a comprehensive gardening training program to help them improve their food production skills.

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If a hippo water roller can save a woman 20+ hours of work per week, imagine what she could do with that time. Imagine what a community of women could do. Or a nation.

Luke Vorstermans

Co-Founder, Roll A Hippo Foundation

Participants took part in a series of assessments including a pre-post survey and focus groups, to understand progress in the following outcomes:

- Improved and diversified livelihoods in rural South African communities.
- Greater economic opportunity.
- A greater sense of empowerment.
- Time savings due to the hippo roller, which they are able to re-allocate to economic and educational opportunities
- The achievement of greater financial independence
- Improved water security
- Access to gardening tools that has assisted with their food production capacity

Overall, the results indicated that the project had a profound impact on the lives of participants, especially women and girls, who achieved greater independence and an overall improved quality of life.

The Project in Numbers

600 hippo rollers

Beneficiaries each received a hippo roller - a re-invented wheelbarrow designed to transport 90-litres of water by placing the water inside its “wheel.” This innovative design allows a burdensome task to be done easier and with more efficiency.

600 home garden kits

Beneficiaries were each provided with a Home Garden Kit which contained essential gardening tools and supplies such as a spade, trowel, hoe, watering can, compost, fertilizer and seedlings.

300 training participants

300 of the beneficiaries were provided with a three part training series focused on the following core topics:

- Permaculture and homestead gardening
- Soil and resource management
- Indigenous crops and nutrition

55,000+ data points

Extensive feedback was gathered from beneficiaries throughout the project by making use of surveys and focus groups. This allowed the Roll a Hippo team to assess the efficacy of the program, and to fully understand the impacts to inform future scaling efforts.

Did you know?



26%

of people in the world lack access to safe water



2.3B

people live in water-stressed countries



200M

hours are spent collecting water daily by women and children.

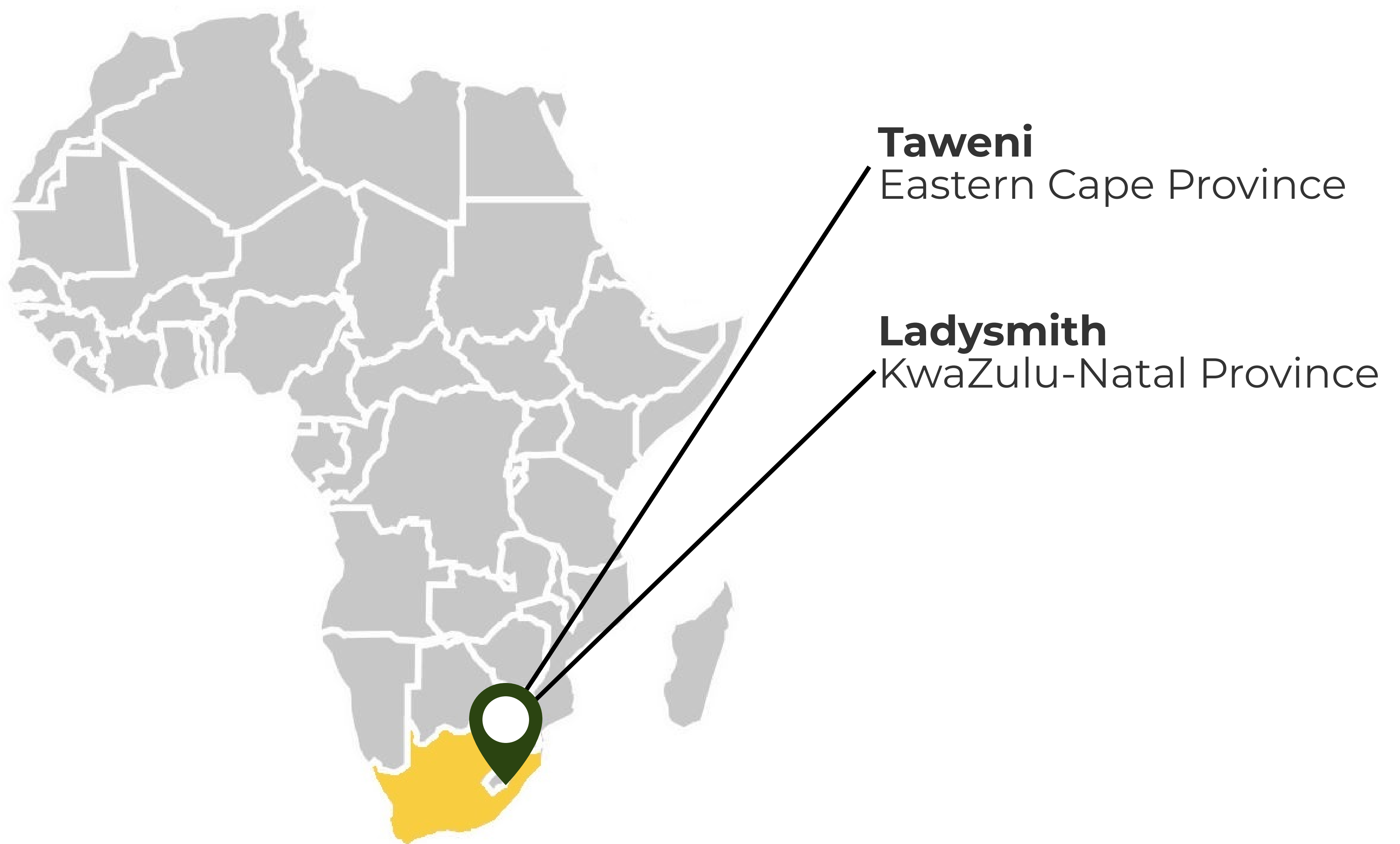


3.0B

people lack access to basic handwashing facilities

Communities of Focus

The program was launched in Taweni and Ladysmith, two communities in South Africa which are surrounded by rural and peri-urban communities. Both communities lack access to basic water infrastructure, and have high rates of food insecurity.



Beneficiary Information



600

Participants from two rural and peri-urban communities



4+

The vast majority of participants had over 4 children



80%

of beneficiaries were women and girls



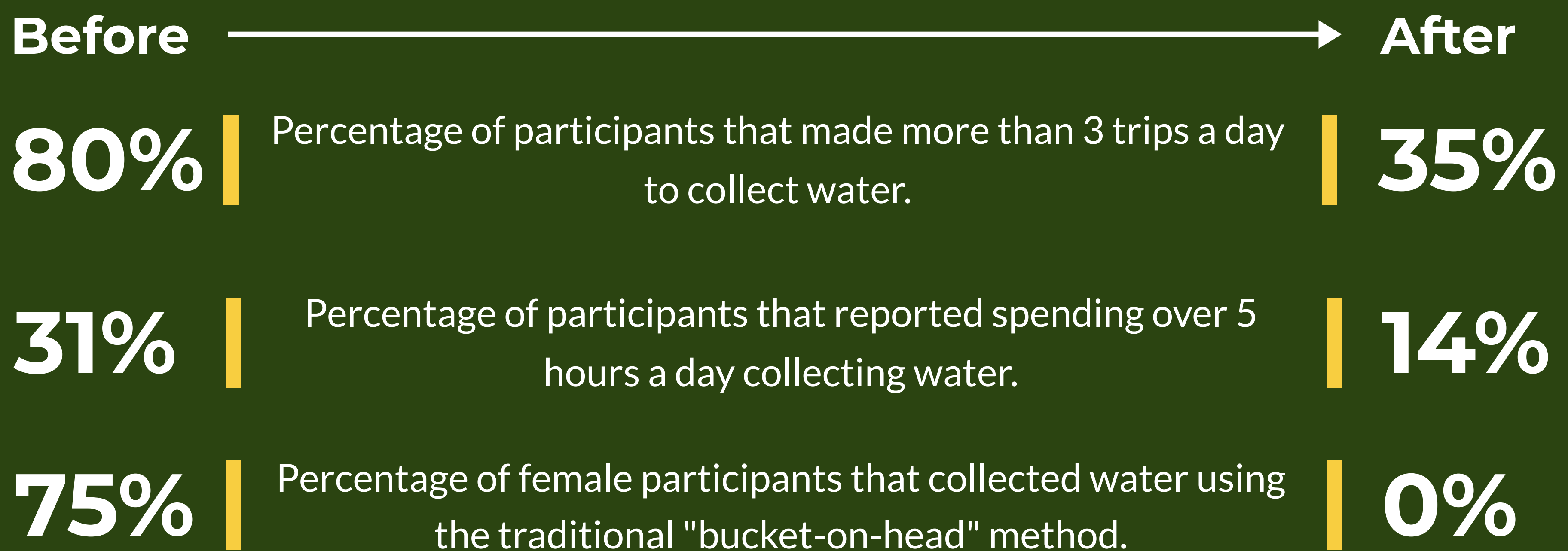
95%

of beneficiaries have a monthly household income of less than R5000 (~\$400 CAD)

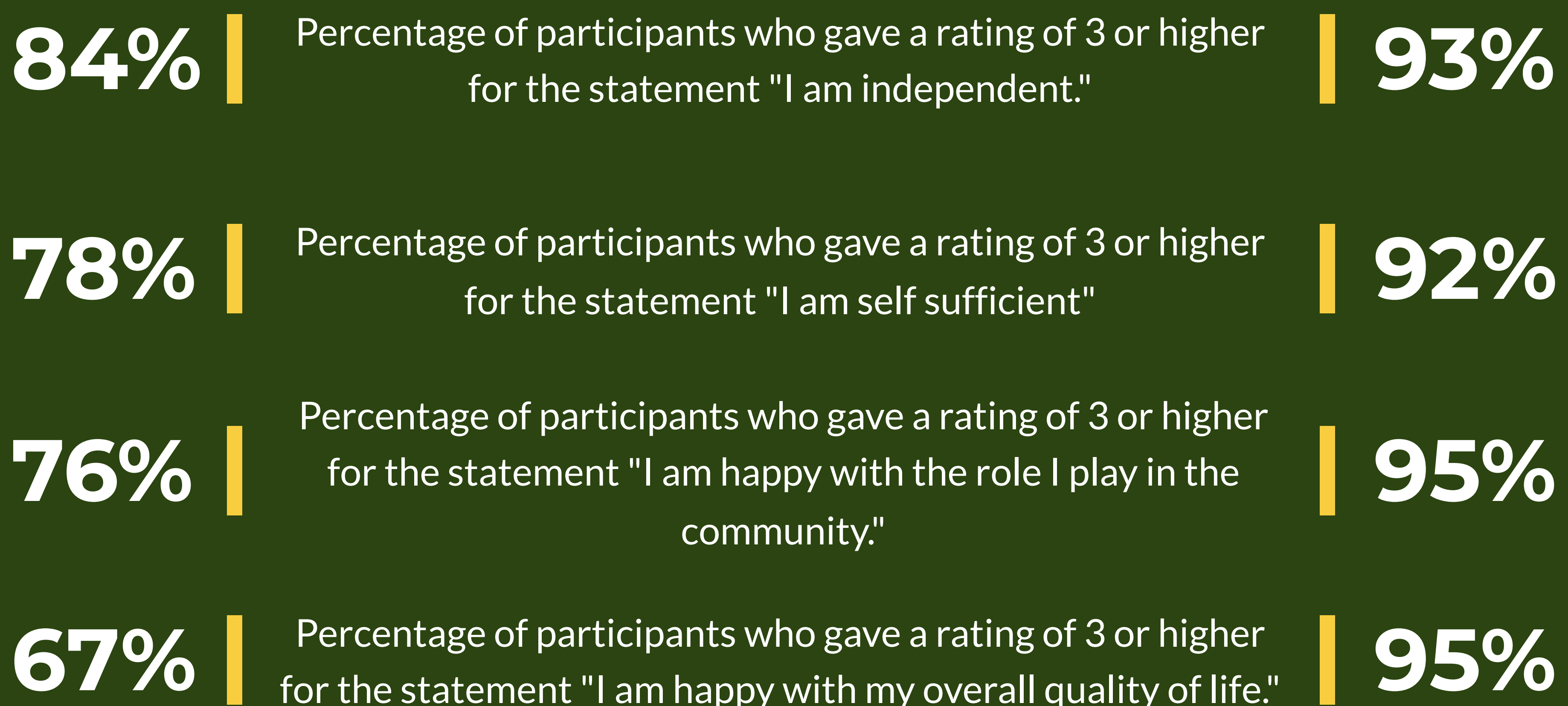
Key Findings

Below are some of the key findings from the study comparing beneficiary responses before participation in the program, and after participation in the program, only 6 months later.

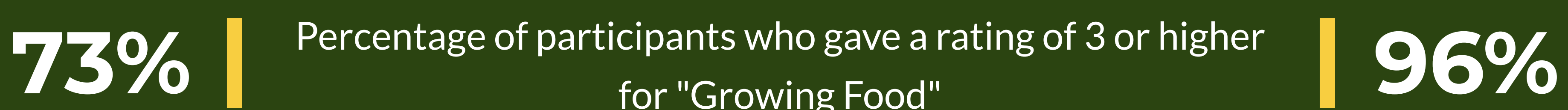
The data below is from the first cohort of participants who began the program in December 2021.



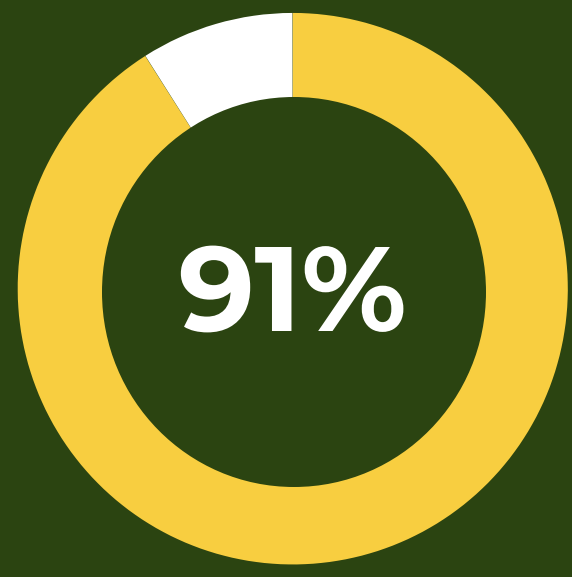
On a scale of 1-5 (with 1 being strongly disagree, and 5 being strongly agree):



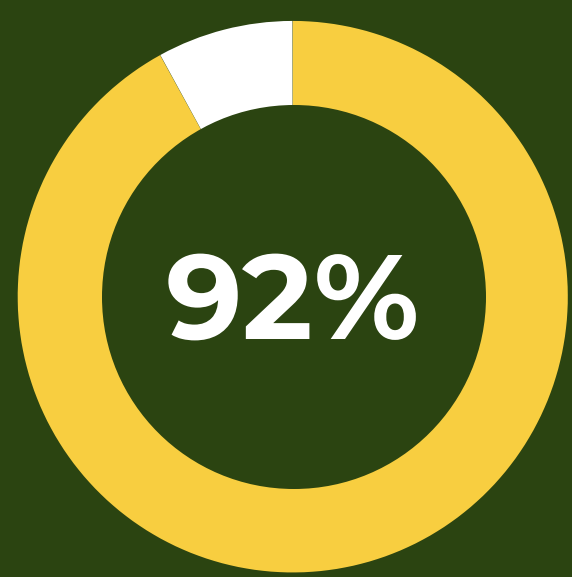
On a scale of 1-5 (with 1 being not confident, and 5 being very confident):



Stories of Change



of participants agreed or strongly agreed that the hippo roller has changed their lives for the better.



of participants agreed or strongly agreed that the hippo roller allowed them to spend more time on things important to them.



A beneficiary tests out their new hippo roller!



Khaya Mposula, Project Leader - Taweni, South Africa

"It has changed my physical, social and economic access to safe and nutritious foods whilst promoting a healthy life. I have become so much more grateful and happy to appreciate the soil and all that is around me."

"My health has improved as the carrying of water does affect the back over the years. I have had to carry water since a teenager well into my 30's and I can feel the effects. The hippo roller has changed my family's life."

"I have spent less time worrying about water collection. I have had the time to increase my garden produce and provide for my family."

"My life has changed drastically because I never used to be able to grow food. I am even healthier now as I have learnt about nutrition. My crops used to be eaten by insects and badly damaged. Now I know what to do."

"My life has improved as I get more water with the hippo roller. High food prices have not affected me as much as when I did not have a good garden."

What's next?

“

I came into this project with the hope that we will be able to help people to improve their lives and set the beneficiaries on a trajectory to transformation. Little did I know that the beneficiaries would set me on my own path to a deeper understanding of our communities in KwaZulu Natal, their real struggles with basic needs: food, health, education and access to water...This project was like the rekindling of a flame within each community, reigniting hope, love for neighbour, joy and resilience.

Iris Canham, Project Leader -
Ladysmith, South Africa



The hippo roller doesn't just impact individuals, it **EMPOWERS COMMUNITIES.**

The Roll a Hippo Foundation is on a mission to empower communities all over Africa by bringing the hippo roller, and all the benefits that come with it.

- Water security
- Food security
- Gender empowerment
- Greater employment and educational opportunity
- Improved sense of community

Help us empower the next community.

Will you join the movement and help us "roll out" thousands of more hippo rollers to women and families in need?

Learn how you can help make this a reality at rollahippo.org.



Thank you to our funders and program partners:

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A special thank you to:

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Harvest Health



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