

Kallis makes boys' dreams come true

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SOUTH African cricketing great Jacques Kallis, believes that it's the small individual contributions that will go a long way towards making a progressive change to the country.

Recently retired from international cricket, the all-rounder is helping promising youth from disadvantaged backgrounds to realise their dreams through education.

Through the Jacques Kallis Foundation, which was established in 2006, Kallis has helped 18 matriculants and is currently assisting 16 promising young boys.

"Setting up this foundation was an opportunity for me to try and give something

back to cricket as well as South Africa," he said.

Each year a group of high school pupils from across South Africa are selected to join the foundation.

They are then given an opportunity to attend one of four established cricket schools – Wynberg Boys' High, Maritzburg College, Selborne College and Pretoria Boys' High.

As their mentor, Kallis pays for their education, their boarding as well as cricket equipment.

The pupils are selected based on academic performance, financial need and cricketing potential.

"It was a small way of saying thank you. It is great to see these kids arrive as boys and leave as well-educated men, who now, because of the foundation, have a chance in life," said Kallis.

The foundation is aiming to help at least 100 boys in the coming years.