



Sikhula Sonke

Early
Childhood
Development

A community-based organisation
addressing the need for
early childhood development
in Khayelitsha
by providing access to quality ECD training and resources

A wide-angle photograph showing a large group of children and adults gathered in a dusty, open outdoor area. The children are mostly wearing colorful clothing, and many are carrying backpacks. They are standing in lines or small groups. In the background, there are some small, simple buildings and a large, green-roofed structure. The sky is clear and blue. The overall scene suggests a community event or a school gathering in a rural or semi-rural setting.

ANNUAL REPORT 2017

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

OVERVIEW OF THE YEAR

This year under review has taken us through a full view and a true reflection of what has been achieved by the community of Khayelitsha through Sikhula Sonke's interventions.

The non-profit sector has continued to emerge in meeting the due diligence requirements, despite government enterprises failing audits and other due diligence requirements. It is important in this country that we have people who against all odds will always diligently stand to serve others and distance themselves from all forms of corruption.

"But you, my friends, already know this. Be on your guard, then, so that you will not be led away by the errors of lawless people and fall from your safe position. But continue to grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To Him be the glory now and forever"

2 Peter 3: 17-18.

INTERNAL REFLECTIONS

It is important to acknowledge the value of connecting and collaborating. Being part of the Connect Network has tremendously developed the services offered by Sikhula Sonke in many ways.

Through organisational capacity development, Sikhula Sonke received an independent verification certificate on *Commitment to quality* in the following areas: Governance, Project Planning and Design, Financial Accountability, People Care, Child Protection and Child Care. As a result of this verification we received a due diligence certificate from Community Chest which has increased our eligibility for funding.

PARTNERSHIPS AND COMMUNITY CAPACITY BUILDING

Our **Mikhulu Trust** partnership has encouraged and improved family relationships, bonding and parent-child relationships through training of our facilitators. **Joint Aid Management** continued to be a poverty relief partner in our circles, with many children eating JAM's nutritious porridge as their main meal for the day.

Inclusive Education has made sure that no children are left out in the system by empowering our facilitators, ECD practitioners and parents in all aspects of inclusion.

Persona Doll has ensured that issues of diversity are dealt with in all our programs.



The Unlimited Child - together with our Imbewu programme - has played a major role in capacitating the ECD facilities and teacher development in the community of Khayelitsha.

BrainBoosters' programme has assisted in shaping the lives of young children in Monwabisi Park and other communities of Khayelitsha.

Four of Sikhula Sonke's practitioners have been trained and received accreditation as **Early Learning Outcome Measure Assessors**.

Partnering with **Cotlands** has enabled the development of more toy library sites.

Wordworks has seen the promotion of early language and literacy development of the children's lives through capacitating our practitioners, toy librarians and fieldworkers.

Our **ECD facilities** have continued to be recipients of change in Khayelitsha's communities and Sikhula Sonke prides itself for being a local service provider which builds on local knowledge and understands the dynamics of these communities.

City of Cape Town officials have worked tirelessly to immunise children in the Emthonjeni spaces and held awareness campaigns all over Khayelitsha around childhood illnesses and hygiene.

Community Resource Organisation (CORC) has been instrumental in developing outreach for Sikhula Sonke playgroups in the Site B area.

FUNDING PARTNERS

It is important to us to acknowledge our funding partners because all of the work done in the year under review wouldn't have happened without their investment in our programmes.

Those partners include **Violence Prevention Through Urban Upgrading (VPUU)**, **AFGRI Group**, **Jim Joel Foundation**, **Department of Social Development**, **First Rand Foundation**, **Home Choice Development Trust**, **Mapula Trust**, **Percy Fox Foundation**, **R.B. Hagart Trust**, **Community Chest**, **E. Bellairs Trust**, **First National Bank**, **J.H. Richards Trust**, **L & S Chiappini Trust**, **MAID Foundation**, **NORDEX IV**, **Solon**

Foundation and individual partners including private individuals and Sikhula Sonke staff members.

A CLOSING THOUGHT

In closing this year's report, I feel that it is very important to encourage South African citizens to find all possible ways of maintaining and sustaining the non-profit sector.

The non-profit sector has proven that it can do much to assist government initiatives to improve the lives of millions of South Africans, especially those of women and children.

It remains our vision that every child experiences a safe, stimulating, loving and nurturing environment in the communities of Khayelitsha.

OPERATIONS REPORT

"The 2016 - 2017 financial year was one of the most demanding years Sikhula Sonke (and South Africa) has experienced since we started working in Khayelitsha. Our team participated in intense staff development training facilitated and presented by various partners. This led to growth, depth and broadness in providing effective services to the Khayelitsha public.

This growth extended to the Early Childhood Development Centres through the impartation of skills by training and support. Many centres and outreach teams are responding to the special needs of our children.

As a team, we have been rewarded and fulfilled through the visible difference that has been displayed by our primary and secondary beneficiaries."

- Thembi Nxesi, Programme Manager



Thembi (left) with FCM graduate Nolubabalo Sijentu

EMTHONJENI PLAYGROUP PROGRAMME

The main goal of the Emthonjeni programme is to reduce the percentage of children who do not access formal early childhood development by reaching out to them in their communities.

Children were stimulated in all themes as outlined in the NELDS curriculum: children between 0-2 years participate in the 1st 1000 days programme with their parents and those between 3-6 years receive holistic stimulation for three days in a week in a playgroup and one day in toy library sessions.

Emthonjeni reached out to a total of 200 families.

TERM	FAMILIES REACHED	CHILDREN	REFERRALS	NO ACHIEVED
1	189	394	1	1
2	396	825	5	1
3	215	665	4	0
4	93	369	4	0
TOTAL	893	2253	14	2

The Emthonjeni team and programme did exceptionally well in facilitating 2253 individual interactions with children this last year.



IMBIZA FAMILY AND COMMUNITY MOTIVATOR PROGRAMME

The FCM programme is another form of a non-centre-based programme that seeks to address the needs of parents and children who cannot afford to take their children to an ECD centre.

Children receive stimulation three days in a week in play groups and two days in home visits. Children were developed holistically. Most children between ages 3-5 struggled a lot emotionally and in fine motor skills when they started, by the end of 2016 many of them showed progressive development in these areas.

The Brain Booster learning programme has been a source of fun filled activities which improved children's numeracy and literacy concepts.

Parents received report cards for every quarter in order to keep them continuously informed about their children's progress.

QUARTER	FAMILIES	CHILDREN	VISITS	SPECIAL NEEDS CHILDREN	REFERRALS	ACHIEVEMENTS
1	173	212	713	8	41	5
2	183	221	866	24	53	8
3	138	201	1044	21	36	15
4	180	258	948	22	21	5
TOTAL	183	258	3571	22	53	33

FUNDA UDLALE TOY LIBRARY PROGRAMME

The Funda Udlale programme reaches out to children around Khayelitsha from all sectors of the community. It serves children from outreach programmes, the formal ECD centres and the community at large; it is open six days a week (Monday to Saturday).

The team works hand-in-hand with ECD practitioners and fieldworkers to identify the development gaps or areas which need to be reinforced through developmental stimulation of the children. Lesson plans are aligned to the themes covered at the centres or learning spaces.

This programme often runs big and play-filled events for children which create awareness of the significance of play. Even in this difficult financial year the World Play Day was an event packed with indigenous games for all children who attended.

Our Funda Udlale programme was nominated for the National Development Agency provincial awards.



QUARTER	FCM SESSIONS	SATURDAY SESSIONS	EMTHONJINI SESSIONS	ECD VISITS	COMMUNITY VISITS	BOYS	GIRLS	TRAINING SESSIONS	ATTENDEES
1	1	0	2	2	1	241	229	1	23
2	8	10	11	21	26	1005	1159	2	53
3	6	10	8	33	29	815	1041	2	86
4	0	4	9	27	19	511	589	1	38
TOT	15	24	30	83	75	2572	3018	6	200

IMBEWU TRAINING AND SUPPORT PROGRAMME

The Imbewu programme serves to capacitate ECD practitioners with basic and effective skills to stimulate children and create a conducive environment for learning. Sikhula Sonke has seen this programme bearing fruit in many ECD centres.

Practitioners showed an increase in confidence in development stimulation skills in the ECD facilities and they can now develop their own lesson plans, daily programme and re-arrange play rooms for a conducive learning environment; accepting and respecting the fact that all children are unique in some way and have different learning needs.

At first practitioners were excluding children with special needs yet now they can identify, accommodate and assist children with learning barriers. Children are empowered with good life skills especially with the implementation of the Persona Doll training.

QUARTER	CLASS SESSIONS	CENTRES	VISITS	GIRLS	BOYS	TOTAL CHILDREN	SPECIAL NEEDS.
1	9	60	74	1728	1666	3594	13
2	12	97	76	697	906	1442	14
3	18	101	140	1523	1380	2903	15
4	12	101	71	1530	1400	2930	15
TOT	51	101	333	1728	1666	3594	57

STAFF DEVELOPMENT

Sikhula Sonke's staff participated in the following courses and training sessions:

Inclusive Education: attended by all ECD practitioners registered in our Basic Programme.

FCM Programme training: All FCM fieldworkers participated in training.

Persona Doll training: Persona Doll facilitated follow up training and site visits.

Social Auxiliary Course: attended by team leaders Nolitha Gana and Bongiswa Malunga.

Leadership Course (through The Center for Early Childhood Development): completed by Mrs Gazi and Lindiswa Ngwendu.

National Curriculum Framework: Winkie Cebisa attended training in Pretoria

ECD Level 4: Congratulations to Phelisa Phenduka, Nomabaca Mthwazi, Nolusindiso Sixholo, Winkie Cebisa, Nothemba Nkolweni, Nokufika Mhlontlo and Nomathemba Peter.

ECD Level 5: Noluvuyo Makeleni and Vathiswa Combi.

ELOM ECD Assessor course: Paphama Mateza, Lizzy Magazi, Nomathemba Peter, and Mphokazi Malangeni

Unlimited Child Training: various team members.



Persona Doll Training



Inclusive Education Training



Unlimited Child Training



FCM training



HIGHLIGHTS

There were many highlights in this year. They included the following:

- An **increased awareness about the importance of early childhood development**.
- Many children who were formerly registered in our programme in the previous year have been registered in formal ECD centres.
- **Stationery and uniforms** were sponsored by Nordex Energy SA and presented to our 2016 graduates who were very appreciative.
- The appointment of a Social Worker - Mrs Ntshuntshe - has impacted positively in the referral system of children. There has been a noteworthy **increase of success in the referred and special needs cases**.
- After the Child Protection Week interventions which focused on child safety many caregivers showed **increased response in terms of hygiene and safety of the children**. Community dialogues and cluster workshops yielded **good behavioural changes** to many caregivers towards their children.

- The community radio station **Radio Khaltsha** has opened doors for Sikhula Sonke to spread the gospel of early childhood development not only for the Child Protection Week but for all other activities and needs that Sikhula Sonke would like to air.



A colourful and exciting and informative Kirstenbosch gardens outing for the children brought smiles and excitement to the little ones

- BrainBooster parent packs did wonders with **language and numeracy development** of children.
- The Persona Doll approach aided caregivers and children to **express their feelings clearly**.
- **World Play Day** was one of the greatest highlights of this quarter with an attendance of 810 children.
- Donation of face towels to ECD centres by Joint Aid Management was also wonderful.
- A successful **Heritage Day** event that was held on 24 September.
- **Awareness of children's rights is empowering** children SO much that they now demand their right to be washed and fed from their parents
- Many parents whose children graduated to primary schools in 2015 and those from the previous years are very pleased and show so much gratitude for their children's **good performance in the primary schools**.
- **Shoes donated by Joint Aid Management (JAM)** made a difference to many underprivileged children in our programmes (according to parents' feedback comments)
- The training offered by Inclusive Education South Africa (IESA) has brought remarkable change in **identifying and assisting children with special needs**.
- A successful and inspiring **ECD centre makeover project** visit by German volunteers.
- Children who had sores at K2 have been cured after intervention by the City of Cape Town's Department of Health
- On 14th October Sikhula Sonke had an annual celebration (AGM). Caregivers from different sections of our projects attended the celebration and testified of the **changes that happened in their children's lives** since they committed to the programme.
- Sikhula Sonke children had an exciting and playful end of the year **outing at Mnandi beach** on the 5th of November. Children also received shorts and shirts which were sponsored by Joint Aid Management.
- Eighteen Sikhula Sonke staff attended and completed the FCM training. This is the **first group of FCM graduates trained by the organization itself**
- On 2 December the class of 2016 **Basic Teacher Training held a graduation ceremony in which 35 practitioners graduated**. It was a time of harvest after sowing for a year in their training.



ECD makeover activities in partnership with JAM were very inspiring.



144 children from Sikhula Sonke out of centre programme and 77 children from the ECD centres graduated in a colourful exciting and massive annual joint ECD graduation on 25 November 2016.



Breadline Africa participated in a preschool makeover for Nonceba Crèche



AWARDS

Sikhula Sonke was nominated for the South African awards for the **Best Out of Centre Programme**. The NDA representatives visited Sikhula Sonke to adjudicate on the Emthonjeni and the Toy library programmes.

To our delight Emthonjeni won the best out-of-centre based programme in the Western Cape, with Funda Udlale as the 1st runner up winner. Congratulations to both the Emthonjeni and Library teams!



*Babalwa Ndim - Team Leader of Emthonjeni
Lindiswa Ngwendu - First runner up winner Funda Udlale*

CONCLUSION

The team has seen tremendous change in many children's lives in Sikhula Sonke ECD's programmes, transitioning from a harsh, unhygienic and tense learning environment to a clean, loving and welcoming learning environment after programme interventions. We have seen withdrawn and physically delayed children blossoming into assertive and bright kids. Many parents were empowered with coping skills in midst of a challenging socio-economic milieu. This is what keeps the team continuing doing the good thing for seeing this progress is spiritually rewarding.

The introduction and implementation of Inclusive Education and Persona Doll Training in all our programmes has augmented the fieldworkers and ECD practitioners' skills to assist children with special needs.

To conclude, we are seeing a meaningful, realistic, transforming and holistic early childhood development that leaves no stone unturned.

THANK YOU

A heartfelt thank you to Sikhula Sonke's partners in this mission. May God give you the strength to remain true to the cause.





"This has been a year of hard work establishing a strong social work practice and building synergy between myself and social auxiliary workers at Sikhula Sonke. In this year under review I am so impressed by the operation of the organization, and Sikhula Sonke's strong commitment and dedication to the working team."

- Elizabeth Ntshuntshe
Sikhula Sonke Social Worker

STAFF/LEARNER EDUCATION SUPPORT

In 2016 Sikhula Sonke's Social Worker supervised six UNISA Social Work Students – two of which were from Sikhula Sonke. All the students passed their second year studies and started their third year. Unfortunately one had to drop out due to health reasons.

Sikhula Sonke had two Social Auxiliary Workers studying at PASCAP who were included in the supervision. They have developed a deeper understanding in their Social Auxiliary Work course. Working with these students, applying a holistic approach, it must be noted that it is their personal strength which adds value to Sikhula Sonke's growth and expansion.

Another two fully qualified Social Auxiliary Workers are also under Sikhula Sonke Social Worker's support. They are doing excellent work.

TEAM DEVELOPMENT

Sikhula Sonke's team has benefitted from workshops tailored to help those who are directly working with children and their care-givers.

The workshops dealt with the topics of:

- Self Awareness
- Counselling Skills
- Loss, Dying and Death
- Mourning, Grief and Bereavement.

One of Sikhula Sonke's fieldworkers was asked why the number of referrals from her area had dropped significantly. Her response was that after the Self Awareness and Counselling Skills Workshop, she became knowledgeable in identifying various problems in children and their caregivers. She also shared that she felt more able to guide her clients so that they are developing proactiveness in solving their own problems.

CHILD SAFETY... FIRST

Nineteen children were rescued from homes where they were sexually assaulted or neglected and placed with suitable caregivers.

Sikhula Sonke was able to partner with statutory Social Workers to ensure the children are safe and cared for.

INTERVENTIONS

INTERVENTION	NO. OF GRANTS & PLACEMENTS	GENDER (F)	GENDER (M)	AGES < 6	AGES ≥ 6	AGES < 18	AGES ≥ 18	ADULT
13CSG	43			22	13	5	3	
5FCG	8			3	5			
13 BCs	47			22	17	5	3	
ID	35							
Placement	10	2		5	4			
Education	31	17	14					
Negligence	214	17 4	40	97	82	33	2	
Abuse	285	17 4	40	97	82	33	2	71
Placement		3		7	6	3		
Marriage	35							
Alcohol abuse	82							
Domestic violence	19							
Rehabilitation	4							

The table above shows the prevalence of the social problems that we are faced with in our society. Khayelitsha and it's many communities face difficult challenges.

The psychosocial team dealt with 464 families in the last financial year; the table to the right describes cases which were successfully accomplished.



Working with FCM caregivers

ACTIVITY	ACHIEVED	
Child Support Grant	13	
Birth Certificate	13	
Identity Document	13	
Foster Care Grant	5	Children were fostered with their relatives because their care-givers passed on.
Children's placement	10	These children were all placed with their extended family members who volunteered to be their caregivers since the biological parents neglected and abused them.
Refrain from alcohol consumption	1	Client voluntarily sought help and went through rehab & counselling.
Adult placement	1	Client successfully achieved her security training course

FINANCIAL REPORT

The *Audited Financial Statements* (AFS) for the year ending 29 February 2017 are now available together with this Annual Report.

EXPENSES & INCOME

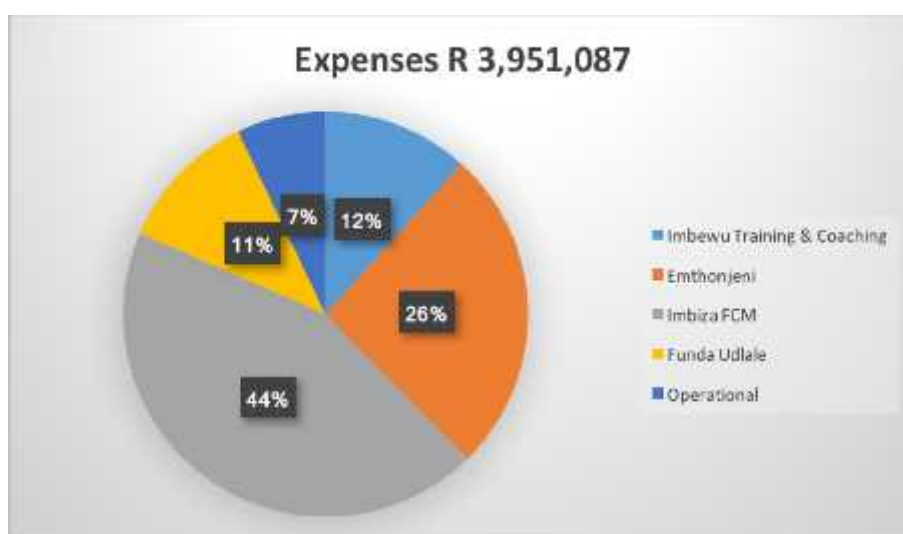
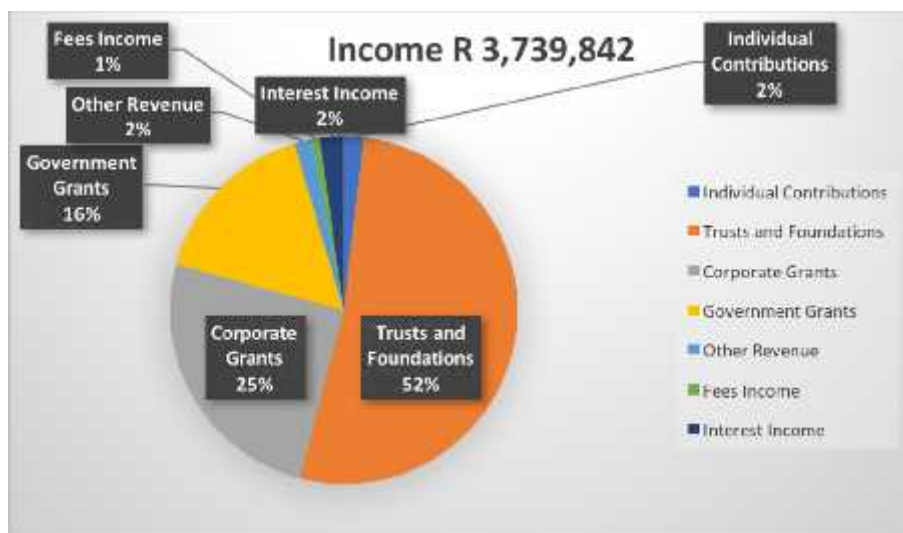
Expenses incurred per specific programme can be viewed in the *Notes to the AFS* which may be useful information for donors.

Our cash flow has been well managed in line with funding guidelines from funders and at year-end our total cash funds were R1,581,538. This is largely due to funds received in one lump sum from funders and then being appropriated across the period. The breakdown of these funds and which donors they can be appropriated to can be viewed in *Notes 4 and 5* to the *Financial Statements*.

Our thanks to Janet Glanville for her expertise and input into Sikhula Sonke's financial management.

MOVING FORWARD

Despite limited funding, Sikhula Sonke is financially sustainable and looking to grow further into the new financial year, dependent on the success of fundraising initiatives.





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REGISTRATION DETAILS

Non Profit Company Number: 2003/010956/08

Date Established: 2001

NPO Registration Number: 030-217 NPO

SARS PBO Registration Number: 930 004 377

Section 18A Registration: Yes

BBB-EE compliant: Yes