

Sikhula Sonke offers early childhood development, training and support to parents, caregivers and pre-school teachers of young children in Khayelitsha.

Sikhula Sonke ECD News: March 2017

#### **HIGHLIGHTS OF THIS FIRST QUARTER**

- Sikhula Sonke received prestigious awards!
- 95% of the children who graduated from the outreach programmes are registered and continuing their education at primary schools
- Children from the outreach programmes participated in the measles immunization campaign
- There is a noticeable increase in attendance of children in the FCM playgroups
- Sikhula Sonke and Nal'ibali hosted Read Aloud Day which was well attended and lots of fun
- Training sessions equipped our staff and local ECD facilities

## QUICK STATS FOR Q1, 2017

# IMBIZA FAMILY & COMMUNITY MOTIVATOR PROGRAMME

Reaching Enkanini, Site B, Khunkqu & Taiwan
Making 1398 home visits
Impacting 203 families & 235 children
Supporting 48 special needs children/families

#### **EMTHONJENI PLAYGROUP OUTREACH**

50 playgroup sessions in public spaces Reaching out to 249 children Supporting 63 caregivers

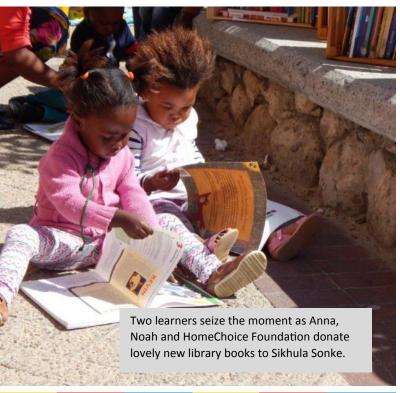
#### **FUNDA UDLALE TOY LIBRARY SERVICE**

38 caregivers trained in play skills
Hosted 19 ECD centre sessions
Hosted 7 FCM sessions
Hosted 1 community session
Hosted 6 Emthonjeni playgroup sessions
Play interactions for 216 boys and 304 girls

## IMBEWU COACHING & SUPPORT FOR ECD PRACTITIONERS

4 class sessions held for 126 ECD centres 49 visits to ECD centres Impacting 2169 children







## From the Executive Director's Desk

"It takes the whole village to raise a child." Old African saying.

Wow!!!! What a start!!! Year 2017 is one of those years that started at a high pace! The team of Sikhula Sonke came back in full force with the exception of

one employee who couldn't start the year with us due to illness, but we thank God because she is recovering well.

#### **Training and Staff Development**

Without wasting any time in 2017, ten of our staff members were trained on book sharing. This is a wonderful resource for our out-of-centre programs as it promotes literacy in the family and home environment. This resource especially encourages bonding and also improves parent-child relationships. Thanks to Mikhulu Trust for providing and facilitating this training for our facilitators.



As part of our internal improvements, our Imbewu training has been merged with the Funda Udlale toy library programme. This move was encouraged by strong commonalities that have been shown by the two programmes, especially in training and development. Immediately, this merger conducted a successful Unlimited Child training for ten ECD facilities who were part of the 2016 baseline assessment yet still untrained. The ECD facilities were given toy boxes as part of capacitating them to conduct a full uninterrupted programme.



Sikhula Sonke added in some tools at our 2017 ECD Orientation for the ECD group trainees. We then workshopped with these facility principals who attended, discussing useful tools to support staff retention and management.

As part of Sikhula Sonke's staff development at our annual planning held in February, we focused on the Children's Act and regulations under Children, Church and Law, and also orientated on the new National Integrated Early Childhood Development Policy. Our staff also contributed valuable insights and ideas for improving our programmes.



The Unlimited Child trained 20 ECD practitioners in their programme which is aligned to the national curriculum framework (NCF) as per the Department of Education's requirements.

Thanks to the Solon Foundation who has made the training possible and for sponsoring learning materials for the children in these ECD facilities.



#### **Partnerships and Collaborations**

This quarter has seen renewals in partnerships and collaboration with other organisation and signed MOAs and MOUs. Through these partnerships, we have seen feeding of 4000 children through JAM initiatives, immunized 94 children in the satellite Toy Library bus in Emthonjeni through the City of Cape Town's Department of Health and also facilitated new partnerships with people from the Gardens area in Khayelitsha.

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## From the Executive Director's Desk

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#### **Awards**

Our Emthonjeni program was recognised as the "Best Non-Center Programme 2016" in the Western Cape Province and the Funda Udlale Programme was awarded a provincial "First Runner Up" award in the non-centre based programme category for 2016. We are very proud of the programmes and the teams whose efforts and dedication have been recognised.



And so, as I look up at the certificates hanging in our offices,

let me end this review of Q1 with: "Wow!!!! What a start!!!"

childhood development play and literacy



## **Operational Feedback**

Thembi Nxesi shares some ongoing challenges

- Child neglect remains one of Khayelitsha's greatest challenges.
- Some parents have claimed that they secured admission for their children at local schools yet by March we are still finding their children at home and not attending school during the day.
- (3) In Khunkqu the space used by children was closed by new shacks; spaces for community play have become fewer as demands for housing rise.
- Water shortages in Monwabisi Park have become more frequent; Cape Town has implemented strict water rationing due to the ongoing drought in the Western Cape.







## SIKHULA SONKE ECD IN ACTION

Sikhula Sonke has four active early childhood development-related programmes, reaching out to and supporting Khayelitsha's children, caregivers and families.

- The **Funda Udlale Library Project** provides a range of educational toys and books via a Toy Library, a mobile Library bus and Library workers to individuals, families and ECD centres;
- **Emthonjeni** is a community-based programme, offering ECD interactions in public spaces and at the communal water taps of Khayelitsha's informal settlements (hence the name, which means 'well');
- The **Family Community Motivators Programme** takes ECD interventions into individual households, with its main goal being a reduction in the number of children who have no access to early childhood development services;
- The Imbewu Training, Coaching and Support Programme actively trains and supports enrolled ECD practitioners.



## **BUILDING FOR THE FUTURE**

Sikhula Sonke is a Section 21 NPO which is wholly funded by donations. Would you consider partnering with us in reaching the children of Khayelitsha and giving them a solid foundation to start their school years?

We have a track record of faithfulness in our spending, and are happy to share our financial information with you. All donations can be EFT'd directly to our account and tax certificates are available on request.

#### Sikhula Sonke

Bank: ABSA Bank, Claremont Current account: 405 820 4765

Branch code: 632005





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