

CHILD PROTECTION WEEK 2018

WORLD PLAY DAY

We celebrated Child Protection Week in the first week of June this year. The launch was on the 28th May and Sikhula Sonke planned a huge picnic for children and their caregivers at Khayelitsha Wetlands Park in Makhaza.

Much to our joy there was heavy rain on the day, alleviating Cape Town's desperate need for water... this meant however that the team had to quickly move the Play Day indoors to keep children warm and dry!

A local church offered shelter in their meeting venue, so 602 children from Sikhula Sonke outreach programs and from 25 ECD Centers filled the hall with laughter, games and energy.

The planning team had a full program:

- Carel du Toit's medical team offered audio and visual screening for children aged 5 years and 6 years.

- Children watched a great performance about hygiene education, presented by Hot Box Theatre, a local community theatre group.

- Cape Town's Fire and Rescue Department did a demonstration on how to escape where there is fire at home or at school.

- The Metropolitan Police K9 Unit did a gang and drug awareness demonstration using their dogs

- CTMPD Equestrian Unit Display facilitated a presentation.

There was also face painting, games, blocks, storytelling and many more activities.

Many thanks to all our partners and to JAM SA and Hilltop Spar who provided meals and snacks for the children and caregivers on this cold and rainy day.

COMMUNITY DIALOGUES

The community dialogues were conducted in three different areas on different days: Site B UT Garden, Site B K2 Section, Site C Taiwaan and Khunkqu. Our partners facilitated presentations and we hosted discussions empowering adults communities with information on how to protect themselves and how to protect their children.

Fire and Rescue taught caregivers how to react when there is fire at home, in a neighbor's house or in the community. They discussed how you can protect your children and how you can take them out and make sure that there is no one inside the house. The different groups learnt step by step what actions to take when there is fire and also received a card with Fire and Rescue's direct number. A demonstration on how to use candles safely was also done.

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FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S DESK

The big question I have been asking this quarter is "What are South Africans doing in order to provide the best early childhood development for young children?"

The truth is that although this question may sound very easy to answer, there is a lot of complexity that surrounds the answer. Many organisations are doing all they can at different levels to provide programs around Early Childhood Development. In actual fact, everybody takes part in the early learning and development of children, whether that particular individual is conscious or unaware of the role they play in society.

What really appeals to me in our circles are the growing partnerships to make early childhood development work. Early childhood development is also being broadcast from different platforms. Over the years Sikhula Sonke (like other like-minded organisations) has learnt that we need different partners in order to deal with issues surrounding early learning and development.

Children from the communities that we work with require a very strong support structure to enhance their capacity to develop and learn to the fullest. This calls for strong partnerships in our developmental approach.

We see this practically: partners who provide nutritious meals for our children are contributing to reducing the number of stunted children in the community. Psycho-social organisations and our own social workers provide great support for families which in turn contributes to the learning and development of a

child. Organisations which work with special needs in children specialise in identifying and removing possible hindrances to the educational development of young children.

We greatly value these partnerships in different areas of need; they help us to unpack the big question of what we, as South Africans, are doing to provide the best early childhood development opportunities for young children.

We are also very grateful and thankful to our funding partners who, through

their practical contribution of finances, ensure that our programs are successful.

This quarter was full of very interesting and amazing activities but what stood out for me was the children's campaign, international World Play Day, where we saw over six hundred children come together with the collaboration of SAPS, Metro Police, the community of Makhaza, ECD facilities, Carel Du Toit and many other ECD partners.

THIS is change in action. - Mdebuka



PARTNERING FOR CHANGE

CAREL DU TOIT CENTRE

This innovative organization deals with audiology and visual screening. The team travels to different parts of Cape Town and surrounds to offer free hearing and eye screening for children aged 5-6 years.

Once caregivers give their consent, the children are tested using mobile phones to deliver sound / view eye charts. The results are then texted (sms'd) to the caregivers.

Where there is a negative result, Carel Du Toit will contact the caregiver and test the child again; if further intervention is needed then the child is referred to Khayelitsha District Hospital for follow up treatment.



VIVA NETWORK TRAINING - PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

Viva is hosting network training for 24 networkers from 10 safe communities. Two of Sikhula Sonke's staff have joined these lead agents for Child Protection to be equipped via Viva's Network Training Course. Topics include 'Building blocks for network development' and 'the value of working together in unity'.

The course comprises 10 sessions over 10 months, providing not only training but great networking with like-minded organisations and individuals.

Q2 PROGRAM STATS

Imbewu

3438 interactions with boys
3004 interactions with girls
Assisted 19 children with special needs
109 ECD visits by our team

Emthonjeni:

Reaching out 245 families in Nkanini, Khunkqu, UT Gardens, K2 Section, Taaiban and Monwabisi Park
Interacted with 280 children
Assisted 35 special needs children

FCM (First 1000 days group)

Reaching out to 202 families in Nkanini, Khunkqu, UT Gardens, Taaiban and Monwabisi Park, impacting 216 children

Funda Udlale (Toy Library)

18 ECDs used our Toy Library
1621 child interactions took place



SISO ON THE AIR!

Tune in to Radio Khatsha 97.1fm every Wednesday between 10h00 and 12h00. We have partnered with Radio Khatsha since 11 April 2018 to raise awareness of child protection and the need for holistic development. Our vibrant presenters are Papama Mateza and Winkie Cebisa.

It's a privilege to be given air time to reach out to listeners in their own homes who might not come to a public talk. So far we have discussed children's rights and responsibilities, child protection, child sexual abuse, emotional versus physical abuse, child labour, trafficking, exploitation, neglect and the challenges faced by child-headed homes.

Winkie and Papama host other guests too, like Mrs. Mazosiwe of Simameleni Child Care Centre who joined the panel on a discussion about child sexual abuse.

Another topic we have talked about is the importance of the "first 1000 days" of a child's life. That's the time from the moment of conception until a child turns two years old: the time of the most growth in a child and the time

when the brain is experiencing huge change (it doubles in size!) and can be most impacted either positively or negatively.

During this show our presenters broke down the meaning of the term "first 1000 days" and invited professional nurses from Kuyasa Clinic to talk about why immunization is important and how to ensure healthy nutrition during the first 1000 days of a child. Some of our male facilitators from Sikhula Sonke also talked about the role of a father to his child, starting from the time of early pregnancy.

During the winter holidays we spoke about how to take care of your child during holiday times and in cold weather. We also emphasized how important it is that children get time to play outdoors and with a variety of toys during this time - we let people know our Toy Library was open during the holidays as a great resource for kids and caregivers.

Many thanks to the great team from Radio Khatsha for this opportunity to be a voice into the community and reach out to families in Khayelitsha.





OFFERING QUALITY EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT, TRAINING AND SUPPORT TO THE PARENTS, CAREGIVERS AND PRESCHOOL TEACHERS OF YOUNG CHILDREN IN KHAYELITSHA SINCE 2001



IMBEWU TRAINING COACHING & SUPPORT

Actively training and supporting ECD practitioners to achieve full government registration and meet the standards required for running early childhood development centres.

IMBIZA FAMILY AND COMMUNITY MOTIVATORS

Taking ECD interventions into individual households and reducing the number of young children who have no access to early childhood development services.

FUNDA UDLALE TOY LIBRARY

Providing a range of educational toys and books, individually and through ECD centres, also using a Toy Library bus to take the library to remoter areas.

EMTHONJENI - MEETING AT THE WELLS

A community-based programme which offers ECD services to children and reaches out to parents and caregivers at the safe open areas of the communal water taps in informal settlements.

Sikhula Sonke ECD is a member of ...



THANK YOU TO ALL OUR PARTNERS & SPONSORS THIS QUARTER!

Harare South African Police Services (SAPS)

Metropolitan Police K9 Unit

Fire and Rescue (City of Cape Town)

Emergency Medical Services (EMS)

Government Communications and Information System (GCIS)

Radio Khaltsha

Amandla Edu Football

Joint Aid Management (JAM)

Heads Up

Hot Box Theatre

Carel du Toit

Hilltop Spar Supermarket

Albany Bakeries

SUPPORT THE WORK OF SIKHULA SONKE TODAY!

DONATIONS CAN BE MADE TO

SIKHULA SONKE ECD
ABSA BANK, CLAREMONT
CURRENT ACCOUNT: 4058 2047 65
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EMPOWERING EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT PRACTITIONERS

Sikhula Sonke continues to empower Early Childhood Development practitioners through *The Unlimited Child* training partnership. The library was full to capacity with 30 ECD principals and 30 Educare practitioners in a full week of Unlimited Child training during the last week of June.

Each ECD facility was awarded with a kit of two boxes packed to the brim with educational toys in line with National Curriculum Framework (NCF) and National Early Learning Development Standards (NELDS).

It was a privilege to host this training time and interact with these innovative and eager ECD practitioners.



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