

**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

ANNUAL REPORT 2020

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***“Children are
one third of our
population and
all of our future.”***

Select Panel for the
Promotion of Child Health,
1981



ORGANISATION OVERVIEW & HISTORY

WHO WE ARE

A community-based organisation with a mandate to meet the need for quality early childhood development interventions in Khayelitsha.

OUR VISION

To see every preschool child in Khayelitsha given the opportunity to develop to his or her full potential in a safe, stimulating and loving environment.

OUR MISSION

To offer early childhood development training and support to the parents, caregivers and preschool teachers of young children living in Khayelitsha, located in Cape Town, South Africa.

Our programmes include:

- **Teacher training** including registered training to ECD practitioners who run their own preschools.
- **Coaching and support for ECD practitioners** within the context of their own preschools and on-site at the Harare library resource centre.
- **Training and support for families and care-givers** in their homes and by using community spaces.
- **Community outreach projects** in specific communities in Khayelitsha, with an emphasis on reaching children who do not go to preschool.
- **Toy library services** which take toys and learning to communities which do not have toys, facilitators, educators and/or play facilities available.
- **A Fatherhood Network** which equips and encourages fathers to take an active role in their children's lives and development.

OUR HISTORY

In the 1980s/90s Khayelitsha's communities were in turmoil and there was a dire need for proper housing, in addition to health and educational facilities.

In early 1990 Claremont Methodist Church responded to these needs. The Church established its Social Impact Ministry and began building houses in the Harare area of Khayelitsha. The plight of young, unschooled and vulnerable children became apparent to members of the church who were working in the township, and Sikhula Sonke came into being in 2001 with the specific purpose of addressing these needs.

Now, nearly 20 years later, Khayelitsha remains one of the 22 identified Presidential Poverty nodes in South Africa, and Sikhula Sonke Early Childhood Development remains focused on ensuring Khayelitsha's children reach their development milestones and seeing communities empowered.

BELIEFS THAT GUIDE OUR WORK

We believe that all children have the right to be loved, cared for and developed physically, intellectually, emotionally, morally and socially.

We believe that women are uniquely placed to protect and enforce the rights of children - and that women need to be supported, encouraged and equipped with the necessary skills to do so.

We believe that by nurturing and building our children, we nurture and build our nation.

We believe that all parents and caregivers of young children should be knowledgeable about early childhood development so that they can play an active role in nurturing and enhancing the development of the children in their care.

We believe that our united efforts will significantly and positively impact the future of our young children and afford them the opportunity to realise their potential, and in so doing, secure the future of our country.

ABOUT KHAYELITSHA

Khayelitsha, or 'new home' in isiXhosa, is the second largest township in South Africa after Soweto in Johannesburg. It is situated on the periphery of the city of Cape Town (30-35km from the CBD) and next to the N2 leading into Cape Town. Officially established in 1983, Khayelitsha was constructed to resettle African residents from the Western Cape.

Khayelitsha currently consists of a minimum of 22 separate settlements. It has the largest single concentration of informal settlements in the City, many of which are located on land that is unsuitable for housing because it is subject to seasonal flooding.

Khayelitsha is characterized by both formal areas and informal areas. The newer areas have been built up around the older areas and include Site B, Site C, Green Point, Litha Park, Mandela Park, Makaza and Harare. Other notable informal settlements in Khayelitsha include QQ Section, TR Section, RR Section, Enkanini, Nkandla and Mew Way.

The original planned population size was 200,000 people; in the last 10 years the population has gone from 400,000 to an estimated 1.2 million, 50% of which are under 19 years of age. Over 70% of Khayelitsha's residents live in shacks and 89% of homes are considered moderately to severely food insecure. The unemployment rate is 73%.

Khayelitsha's high density population which struggles with extreme poverty and unemployment, coupled with poor community infrastructure (crowded shacks, inadequate sanitation and water, lack of electricity), continues to experience high crime rates, gang activity, violence, alcohol abuse, drug use and other societal ills.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE



INTRODUCTION

I would like to applaud the South African NPO Community for its sterling efforts towards building resilient and responsive communities for children in difficult situations within a deeply divided country with vast economic and social inequalities. Our children grow up in communities where poverty, hunger and violence continue to compromise their development, stimulation, health and future prospects of becoming active economic citizens. This means that we still have a long way to go towards making our communities safe and creating conducive environments for young children's development.

At the same time, we are grateful for the efforts of all sectors involved towards the provision of better Early Childhood Development services. Thank you to our government who is working for upliftment. Thank you to those entities (like Sikhula Sonke) who have stood up to be counted towards providing a basket of Early Childhood Development (ECD) services including child protection services, family psycho-social support and community advocacy programmes while trying to leave no child behind.

THE YEAR UNDER REVIEW

I can confidently state that during this year Sikhula Sonke Early Childhood Development has managed to fulfil all its contractual obligations with funding partners and our donor community, including Western Cape Provincial and Local government, the community of Khayelitsha, and most importantly, provide excellent services to our primary beneficiaries, Khayelitsha's children.

It was indeed a great year of success despite some turbulence, but much was achieved hand-in-glove with our partner organisations and government departments.

I salute all those who were involved in different ways.

"I would like to applaud the South Africa NPO community for its sterling efforts towards building resilient and responsive communities for children, within a deeply divided country with vast social-economic inequalities."

- Mdebuka Mthwazi, Executive Director



MEASURING IMPACT

The impact of our programmes at different levels has seen households and families thrive through our set pillars i.e. general psycho-social support, early stimulation and development, nutrition, child protection, healthcare and extra care. Sikhula Sonke Early Childhood Development's commitment around these pillars resulted in:

- Early identification and speedy referrals
- Psycho-social support for families and preservation of families from falling apart
- Improved children's healthy growth and development (prevention of stunting and malnutrition)
- School-ready children when entering Grade R in January 2020
- Upholding children's rights as per South Africa's regulations
- Antenatal support and extra care for safe childbirth for mothers enrolled in our 1000 Days programme

OFFERING THANKS

Our greatest appreciation goes to all the government departments and agencies that have been very instrumental in assisting our social work department, who has been working tirelessly to serve at-risk families throughout the year. These departments include, among others, the Department of Social Development, Department of Home Affairs, City Health and South African Social Security Agency.

Our dedicated and highly competent staff have made sure that they leave no stone unturned and made this

year a great success. Thank you folks - you never cease to make your mark and I appreciate your efforts to make this organisation a leading entity meeting the needs of the communities of Khayelitsha.

Our donor community - including individual donors and friends of Sikhula Sonke - have taken Sikhula Sonke to your hearts. You have made sure that we have wings to fly, and at the same time, you are the wind beneath our wings! Thank you.

The Management Team and Board of Directors are such an amazing team of caring and professional people who always provide great strategic decisions towards the sustainability of the organisation. Your guidance and support has taken us this far. Sikhula Sonke Early Childhood Development is now standing solid as we finalise our 19th year because of your unshakeable governance and leadership.

Thank you to our partners for empowering us with training, resources and encouragement. It is a privilege to work together.

A special thanks to the networks that Sikhula Sonke is affiliated to. Connect Network has strengthened us with their Quality Improvement System and network activities which continuously guide and improve our work. The National Early Childhood Development Alliance (NECDA) advocates for early learning and development of more than 2 million children in South Africa.

My thanks also to the Toy Library Association of South Africa and the many other networks who have made a difference to Sikhula Sonke.

"Sibamba ngozo zozibini. We persevere."



CHAIRMAN'S REPORT



- Evan Torrance, Chairman of the Board

AN OPEN LETTER

Every year I enjoy taking time to step back from the busyness of daily life, to reflect on the successes, achievements and challenges of the previous financial year for our beloved Sikhula Sonke. As always, the overriding sense I have is one of great appreciation for all the hard work that Mdebuka and his incredible team have undertaken to support our beneficiaries and their families. And secondly, I'm overwhelmed by a sense of thankfulness that we've once again managed to successfully navigate the operational and practical complexity of running an NPO in South Africa, largely as a result of our ever-committed funders and partners continuing to walk this journey with us. To all of you, I say thank you.

It's hard to think about a world pre-COVID, but that is largely what the 2019/20 financial year was. Following the President's declaration of the COVID-19 pandemic as a national disaster on 15 March 2020, our team transitioned to working remotely with all playgroups suspended indefinitely. To support our children and their families, we sought support from Joint Aid Management (JAM) and other partners to care for them physically and to safeguard the health and safety of our staff, and the people we work with. Thankfully, this approach was largely effective. That said, achievements and notable activities from the past year include:

- Achieving a positive Early Learning Outcomes Measure (ELOM) assessment showing that our

children in the Emthonjeni spaces are performing with materially higher results when compared to other children from the same quintile across the province and even nationally.

- Having our Emthonjeni Outreach and Funda Udlale Toy Library programmes nominated as finalists in the Community Chest Impumelelo Innovation Awards.
- Seeing our Emthonjeni Outreach Playgroup programme nominated for the MTN Awards for Social Change, reflecting the level of impact that these and other programmes are having nationally.
- Expanding our partnership with HomeChoice Development Trust who funded Sikhula Sonke operationally and funded Breadline Africa's construction of a beautiful new facility including a big classroom, kitchen and storeroom in one of our Emthonjeni sites in the Mew Way Green settlement. This location is also home to Caring Network - a local NGO - that utilises the facility to assist in monitoring health issues in children and older people who take medication for gestational diseases.
- Sikhula Sonke remains the key partner for child protection activities with the Harare Police Station both during and beyond Child Protection Week. This includes preparing for the launch of 16 days of Activism on Violence Against Women and Children.
- Continuing our partnership with JAM and Rise Against Hunger to increase the nutrition base for our programmes and ECD facilities.
- Partnering with Mikhulu Trust, Book Dash and the Solon Foundation to provide books and promote literacy through imagination and storytelling.
- Attending the Eyentsatshane conference where team members Makhosazana Padi and Nolubalalo Sijentu were wonderful ambassadors for Sikhula Sonke in presenting the First 1000 Days programme and teaching attendees more about creative learning props to support development of children.
- Successfully completing the project work funded by The First National Bank Fund team via their Tshikululu Social Investments initiative.

As always, a depth of gratitude is owed to our funders for their ongoing support and commitment to this work. A list is included on the final page of this report.

Finally, a special thank you goes to all of our team and board members, the management team, Mdebuka, Janet and Kerry for their tireless work, their resolute and positive attitudes, and their openness to tackling this challenge in the only way they all know how, head-first and with optimism.

Nkosi sikelel' iAfrika.



***“Children are our greatest treasure.
They are our future.”***

Nelson Mandela

OPERATIONS REPORT 2019/2020



“It is our passion to see the development and growth of healthy and holistically balanced children.”

- Ms Thembi Nxesi, Operations Manager

OVERVIEW

Sikhula Sonke is an organisation founded on the values of quality, care and diligence. The excellent results that we attained from ELOM assessments, high level of child registration in Grade 1 and superb feedback on the performance of our graduates at primary school showcase the profound difference that this organisation is bringing in the Khayelitsha community at large. As we reached our 2019/2020 year end, the organisation has yielded beautiful and wide-ranging successes. These included empowering parents and ECD practitioners with effective skills to stimulate childhood development and see the growth of healthy and holistically balanced children.

Our communities continue to face unemployment, substance abuse, gender-based violence and child neglect. Malnutrition and stunting are also some of the greatest challenges that we face in our communities. These challenges make non centre-based ECD / reach-out programmes such as our Emthonjeni programme and Toy Library services most relevant.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR

1062 children participated in the World Play Day and Child Protection Week launch on 28 May.

Every site at Sikhula Sonke received a weighing scale and a height chart. This improved the analysis of results in the nutrition programme. Children who were under- or overweight were easily identified and referred for specialized services.

Children's holistic development showed good progress, also confirmed through the ELOM assessments which were done in September showing considerable progress with children between 0-5 years. A child with special physical needs showed much improvement in his speech as he continued to attend the programme.

The addition of a junior social worker boosted Sikhula Sonke's referral system services and expanded our social work support capacity.

The Toy Library received 201 chairs and five tables.

Sikhula Sonke received 253 reading and story books as a donation through Solon Foundation and Book Dash.

There is an improvement in family hygiene: children come to the space in clean clothes.

142 children participated in the joint Annual Graduation event, 90 children were from our outreach programmes and 52 from the ECD facilities that we coach.

17 children received certificates for sport activities from the safe hub in Site B.

IMBEWU - COACHING & SUPPORTING ECD PRACTITIONERS

This programme identifies ECD practitioners in Khayelitsha who would like to obtain and/or update their qualifications. The training and support programme saw 40 practitioners register this year.

A total of 169 ECDs participated in the Imbewu programme this year. The Sikhula Sonke teams conducted 372 site visits at which they spent time to mentor, encourage and coach practitioners. They also assisted with story times, health assessments and referrals for children who need specialist help. The Social Work team also assisted in this regard as ECD practitioners dealt with parents, home situations and personal issues too.

The Unlimited Child offers training sessions for ECD practitioners on using toys for play and development. We were delighted to have 30 practitioners participate in the Unlimited Child course. On completion of the course they received certificates and toy boxes with their own educational toys (see photo below).

Nineteen ECD centre practitioners also received Inclusive Education training which equipped them to deal with children who have special needs.

36 CLASS
SESSIONS

169
PARTICIPATING
ECDs

372
ECD VISITS
THIS YEAR

5264
ECD CHILDREN
IMPACTED



IMBIZA FCM - FAMILY & COMMUNITY MOTIVATOR

The FCM programme ran smoothly in this financial year. The annual immunisation activities, in partnership with City health providers, ran smoothly and 174 children were immunised.

Parents were empowered with parenting skills through cluster workshops held in the different sites across Khayelitsha.

Pregnant mothers were supported with health messages through the First 1000 Days programme and we were delighted to welcome 17 healthy babies this year. The Family Motivators also made sure that all the babies were officially registered for their birth certificates, received their Road to Health Cards and that the babies/mothers were also registered for their social grants.

In addition to the normal activities, the FCM facilitators were trained to weigh children and monitor children's physical growth in order to quickly flag any developmental problems.

Inclusive Education for all

Inclusive Education South Africa (IESA) trained our playgroup, FCM facilitators and ECD practitioners in inclusive education. This gave them the skills to be able to identify and help children with special needs. IESA's contact monitoring of our facilitators has professionally developed our team towards case presentation on referrals.

219
FAMILIES
PARTICIPATED

2812
HOME VISITS
THIS YEAR

240
CHILDREN
REACHED

24
SPECIAL
NEEDS KIDS
HELPED

61
REFERRALS TO
SPECIALISTS



EMTHONJENI - A WELLSPRING OF LEARNING

The Emthonjeni programme is executed at designed community spaces next to communal water taps and in community parks like that of UT-Gardens. The main goal of this programme is to provide ECD stimulation to children who cannot access formal ECD learning or preschools due to lack of access to finance, transport or for other reasons. During the year these children were introduced to different themes of ECD learning and had the opportunity to go on two outings - a real highlight!

The playgroup programme started on a good note. We set a target of enrolling 250 children as per our strategic plan. By the end of second quarter 259 children were already registered in the programme. Children's attendance in playgroups increased quite a lot in summer and we are happy to report that children looked more healthy during this season.

New Emthonjeni facilitators participated in the nutrition and growth monitoring training, and identified three children with malnutrition and five children who were stunted. These children were referred to relevant institutions for specific care and follow up.

Caregivers also received robust psychosocial support from the social work team led by Dumisani Samson, our experienced senior Social Worker.



A new ECD centre for Mew Way

On 18 July we were delighted to open a new preschool for our Emthonjeni children in the informal settlement of Mew Way, in partnership with Breadline Africa and HomeChoice Trust. The ECD has a large double container classroom with a second container converted into a kitchen and storeroom. Thanks to Mikhulu Trust who donated books and toys.



878
PLAYGROUP
SESSIONS

155 BOYS
REACHED BY
EMTHONJENI

143 GIRLS
REACHED BY
EMTHONJENI

271
PARENTS &
CAREGIVERS

118
REFERRALS TO
SPECIALISTS

FUNDA UDLALE TOY LIBRARY PROGRAMME

The Funda Udlale Toy Library had a very good year in terms of attendance and learning. In the second quarter of the year the Toy Library was engaged in different national and world activities. These included Child Protection Week and World Play Day. The Toy Library team assisted the outreach programmes in improving the implementation of learning programmes. Special emphasis was placed on fine motor and cognitive development.

The Funda Udlale programme has helped many children in their development. Many children in our programmes are from the poorest areas of Khayelitsha, where parents simply cannot afford to buy toys, let alone educational toys. The Toy Library helps these children to learn through play and broadens their environment through access to and interaction with different educational toys, games and books.

Funda Udlale showed good growth and improvement. In the previous financial year there were only three preschools which consistently attended the Funda Udlale library programme. At the beginning of the year this number doubled to six regular preschools. All the activities planned were accomplished, although the last quarter of the year was much quieter with lower attendance as families prepared to travel for holidays to the Eastern Cape.

The Toy Library team were privileged to attend a conference on play in Johannesburg in July, bringing back new ideas and fresh vision for the programme.

218

TOYS & BOOKS
BORROWED

6101

CHILD VISITS TO
THE LIBRARY

72

PLAY
SESSIONS FOR
EMTHONJENI
GROUPS

82

ECD CENTRE
VISITS



HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR

KHETHOKUHLE CELEBRATES

After a disastrous fire burned down Khethokuhle ECD over the April holidays, Breadline Africa, HomeChoice and Sikhula Sonke joined hands to provide a new and upgraded ECD facility for this special school and its pupils which has been active in the community for more than 10 years.

Upgraded containers were refurbished into classrooms fully equipped with toys and games, a small kitchen was added and a second classroom was included. For the first time Khethokuhle's children have their own private bathroom with child-sized toilets. The facility was opened with much joy and celebrations on Mandela day in July.



HEALTHIER LIVES WITH COCT

City of Cape Town Community Health trained our staff on various health subjects including interpretation of the Road To Health Cards and how to monitor the health status and needs of every child in our programmes. Our staff were empowered to deal with unforeseeable conditions that can arise during the running of our programmes. COCT have been very instrumental in making immunization drives possible and are a helpful point of referral to fast track health issues.



THE TEAMS IN BLUE

The South African Police Services always provide security and safety of our children during our events and also assist with security on risky home visits relating to gender-based violence issues. A special thanks to Captain Vukubi and his team for their quick responses to our calls for help.

Metro Police have also been outstanding in bringing educational and awareness programmes during child protection events and we're grateful for their ongoing commitment and support.



LIVE ON AIR

Sikhula Sonke continues to partner with Radio Khaltsha 97.1fm where we have been given a platform to promote our campaigns and communicate with Khayelitsha community listeners about early childhood development topics. Community feedback and engagement continues to be encouraging.



CHECK UPS ARE GOOD!

The Carel du Toit Eyes and Ears organization came out to Khayelitsha and screened our children for health issues involving eyes, ears and teeth. Children with flagged health issues were further referred for specialized services into our local clinics. What a great partnership!



PARTNERING WITH GOVERNMENT

Sikhula Sonke enjoyed a visit from the Department of Social Development, showing them some of our sites and the work we are doing.



PORRIDGE FOR BREAKFAST?

Joint Aid Management donated porridge for all the preschools under Sikhula Sonke and also trained our staff on food and nutrition issues, e.g. from feeding and weighing children as well as learning how to identify stunting and malnutrition. We are forever grateful for this partnership within our programmes.

LEARNING TO LOVE READING

Mikhulu Trust provided a much-needed literacy boost, helping provide language development and storytelling with their very popular picture books.

PERSONA DOLLS HELP KIDS

Persona Doll training for our staff and the programmes has helped us to identify and deal with issues that directly affect children in a safe and non-threatening way. Our staff use Persona Dolls to teach children and parents about the importance of hygiene, violence and other sensitive issues at our cluster workshops.

NALI'BALI TRAINING

Every year we partner with Nali'bali to learn about how to engage children with a love for reading. Thanks to Nalibali for the training for our practitioners this year!



CELEBRATING MANDELA DAY

Staff members celebrated Mandela Day at Khayelitsha District hospital where they interacted with some of the young patients in the wards.



LET'S TALK CHILD PROTECTION

This annual national campaign raises awareness of the rights of children to be protected from maltreatment, neglect, abuse and degradation as articulated in the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa and the Children's Act. It also mobilizes stakeholders and communities towards understanding the perspective of holistic development, care and protection of children. The campaign includes World Play Day and community dialogues which are conducted throughout the week.

COMMUNITY DIALOGUES

Sikhula Sonke hosted community dialogues in Enkanine, Site B, Site C, Taiwan, Khunqu and Monwabisi, in partnership with other stakeholders.

A total of 204 community members sat at the forefront of change, taking advantage of the community dialogues which provided opportunities for caregivers to understand, discuss, decide and act on issues affecting children's lives. Local stakeholders could listen to and understand caregivers' concerns in relation to protection of children and also educate and mobilize communities to put children first.

WORLD PLAY DAY

Every year Sikhula Sonke hosts World Play Day, an event which emphasises children's rights, how to create safe learning environments and the importance of play in children's development. The weather was clear and 1062 children from the ECDs enjoyed all the activities on offer for the day, including lunch, play areas, demonstrations by the dog unit and more.



UMHLOBO WENENE AWARDS

Shoprite Checkers, in partnership with Take My Hand, awarded SISO a R10,000 shopping voucher. A team of excited shoppers spent an hour at Khayelitsha Mall purchasing food for our early childhood development programmes in informal settlement areas as well as stationery for our teacher training programmes and office.



FATHERHOOD NETWORK

11 young fathers received certificates for the first time after participating in our Fatherhood Network.



ECD JOINT GRADUATIONS

The annual ECD joint graduation was well attended by young learners who had achieved the milestones required to graduate to primary school.

Nervous and proud parents waved at their smart children as they went up to receive their official certificates. We wish all these children a fulfilling journey into learning and applaud the teachers and caregivers who have poured lots of time, effort and sacrifice into ensuring that the children had the resources they needed to grow and develop to this point.



TEAM FEEDBACK

TEAM LEADER FEEDBACK

As leaders we can empower teams with valuable skills in making good decisions, how to manage conflicts and handle challenges. Working in an early childhood environment, we actively worked to promote an atmosphere that encourages friendship and loyalty. These close relationships really motivated our teams and aligned them to work harder, cooperate even more and support one another this year. The team leaders also empowered individual growth among the staff.

As team leaders, we are all eager to learn new things ourselves. We supported each other by exchanging ideas and sharing our knowledge with each other. SISO management emphasized and reinforced our learning with our daily activities as well as through monitoring our implementations. It was a great year together!

STAFF DEVELOPMENT

Sikhula Sonke prides itself for staff developmental opportunities to build a cadre of professionals within the ECD sector. Many of our team worked hard to further their education this year:

Winkie Cebisa and Phaphama Mateza made the organization proud by graduating with certificates in Networking from VIVA and Connect Network.

Four of our staff members have applied for ECD Level 4 at False Bay College and are awaiting admission.

Some of our staff members are continuing with their studies and anticipate completing them in 2020.

Phaphama Mateza and Nolubabalo Sijentu completed ECD Level 4 training at False Bay College.

Nomathemba Peter and Nokufika Mhlontlo completed ECD Level 5 training at False Bay College.

Noluvuyo Makeleni and Vathiswa Combi completed their ECD Diplomas.

Ntombovuyo Bhongoza and Thabisa Menziwa are busy with their last year of Soc Work studies through UNISA.

WOMEN'S DAY 2019

Celebrating the women in our team, SISO headed to Silvermine Reserve for a lovely walk for the ladies while the men braided up a feast which we all enjoyed together!



SOCIAL WORKER REPORT

The Social Work team is very passionate about being change agents who advocate on behalf of vulnerable groups in Khayelitsha. Many residents of Khayelitsha have little or no access to basic services and are unemployed. Substance abuse is common.

The Social Work team provides holistic services to children between the ages of 0 and 6 as well as their caregivers.

This year we focused on prevention and early intervention, using a strength-based approach which is directed at assisting beneficiaries to help themselves using the resources they already have. We worked closely with other service providers, including SASSA, Social Development, Home Affairs, Health, Education and the Courts. We helped SISO beneficiaries to obtain birth certificates and identity documents, child support grants, maternity certificates and to register for Grade R. Some of our caregivers were referred to the courts for child maintenance and protection orders for allegations of gender-based or domestic violence. Cases which could not be mediated were referred to the Office of the Family Advocate.

The Social Work team also introduced an employee wellness programme, focused on employee relations and internal organisational cohesiveness. The EWP dealt not only with employee relations but also socio-emotional issues including loss, frustrations and stress.

The senior social worker also provided mentoring to the junior social worker and social auxiliary workers, who are doing well in case, group and community work. We are very proud of their progress this year developing skills in processing notes, in-take interviews and procedures.



FINANCIAL REVIEW

INVESTING WISELY

The Audited Financial Statements (AFS) for the year ending 28 February 2020 are now available, together with this Annual Report.

Once again, our thanks to all our funding partners for their continued support, faith in us and the work that we do. You have all been acknowledged in Note 12 to the Annual Financial Statements and your names and logos (where available) are also on our website www.sikhulasonke.org.za

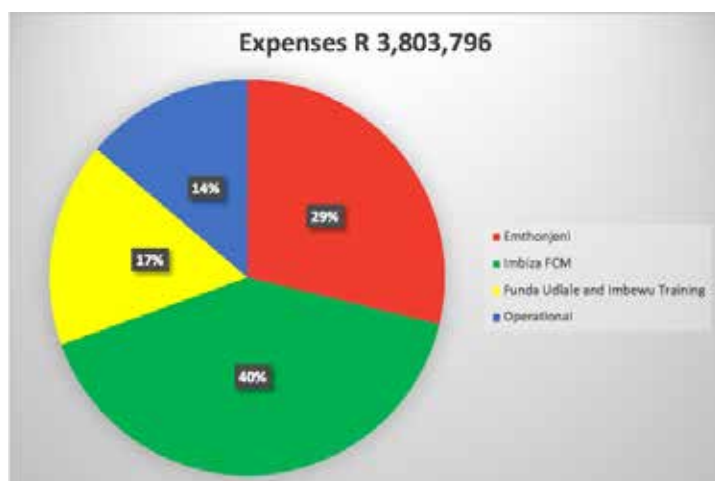
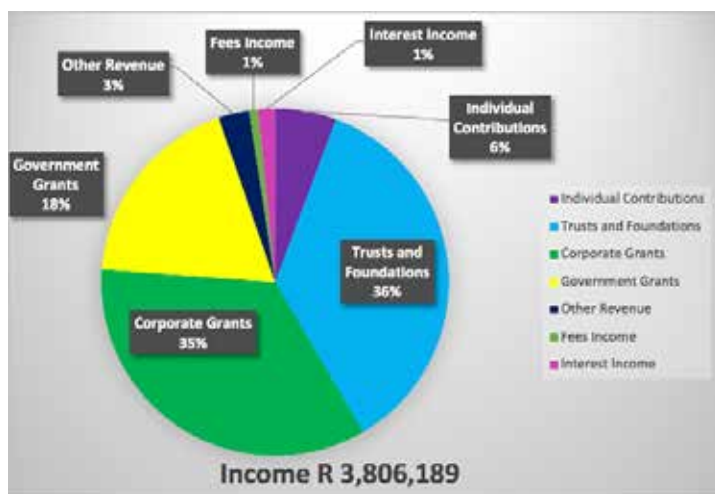
This year we managed to procure some new recurring funding which has helped us to stabilize our funding requirements.

Together with our frugal and responsible spending in line with funding received, we managed a very small profit for the year. Our Cash Reserve at year end was a healthy R837,739.

Note 4 to the Financial Statements shows the Cash held at year end, and Note 5 shows how much of these funds are Retained Funding (R571,000), received from Funders, to be used in the 2020/21 Financial Year.

Expenses incurred per specific programmes may be useful information for donors. Note 13 relates to spending on the Funda Udlale Library Services and Training Programme, Note 14 to Emthonjeni Outreach and Note 15 to Family Community Motivator.

The included charts show which proportion of Income and Expenditure can be attributed to specific sectors of funding and programmes respectively.



Looking to the financial future of Sikhula Sonke in light of COVID-19

We were rigorously questioned and challenged by the Auditors regarding sustainability and strategy going forward as the pandemic started to impact our service delivery. We responded in 3 ways:

1. Sikhula Sonke was very pro-active in immediately switching focus to essential services provision. This involved feeding and supporting - emotionally and physically - the beneficiaries of all our programmes, the children and their families.
2. Along with a number of existing funders who immediately offered extra financial support, we also applied for and received new funding for essential services provision of food, hygiene and first aid items, including basic medicines. We were extremely humbled and grateful to see how much our existing funders valued our organization and that they were willing to further support and trust us to deliver on their expectations, which we tried our hardest to honour!
3. We applied for and are still in the process of receiving the government TERS benefit to support paying staff over this challenging time. We are able to meet our salary commitments to staff due to TERS and a few funders agreeing that we can shift their funds from a programme to operational focus. We are indeed very grateful to all who have supported us in this way and can state with confidence that Sikhula Sonke will ride out this storm into the next financial year, enabled by our faithful funders and government provision of TERS benefits for staff.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS & THANKS

WE APPRECIATE YOU!

Each year we pause to consider all that we have accomplished. And each year, we are most grateful for the contribution that has been made by our **partners in development** who support us in many different ways.

We are so thankful for our **individual donors** and **funders** who have trusted their investment into our hands for Khayelitsha's communities. A special mention of the following:

- Allan and Gill Gray Philanthropy
- Breadline Africa
- Connect Network
- Department of Social Development
- First National Bank Trust
- Gcogco Studio Sewing
- Harare Hilltop Spar
- HomeChoice Development Trust
- Inclusive Education
- Joint Aid Management SA
- Jim Joel Foundation
- MAID Foundation
- Mapula Trust
- National ECD Alliance
- Oppenheimer Memorial Trust
- Percy Fox Foundation
- Radio Khaltsha
- Santa Shoebox
- Shoprite Checkers
- Solon Foundation
- Survé Philanthropies
- Take My Hand
- The Lunchbox Fund
- Umhlobo Wenene FM
- The Unlimited Child

Finally, thank you to the **mothers, fathers, caregivers and guardians of the communities** in which we work. Thank you for opening your doors and trusting us with your children.

As seeds are planted and grow a crop 10-, 20- and 100-fold more, we trust that this report finds you satisfied with where we have sown your "seed". We bless you for your generosity and what it has helped to accomplish.

Thank you for uplifting Khayelitsha's communities. Thank you for making early childhood development services possible.

We salute you: *Maqobo nani maqobokazana - ukwanda kwaliwa ngumthakathi.*

"It takes a village to raise a child."

- Old African quote





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