



Addressing the need for early childhood development in Khayelitsha by providing access to quality ECD training and resources since 2001

CELEBRATING 20 YEARS

Q1 AT A GLANCE

EMTHONJENI PLAYGROUP OUTREACH TO CHILDREN NOT IN SCHOOL

Reaching out to Mew Way, Enkanini, Khunkqu, UT Gardens, K2 Section, Monwabisi A Section, Site C and Taiwan

284 families in the programme
 297 children registered for playgroups
 2090 interactions through Emthonjeni in Q1
 8 special needs children supported
 Psycho-social support for parents/caregivers

FAMILY COMMUNITY MOTIVATOR PROGRAMME

Working in UT Gardens, C Section, A15 Section, Taiwan, Khunkqu, Enkanini

Support for 215 families and 175 children
 687 door-to-door visits made
 8 cluster workshops for parents
 5 special needs children support
 3 referrals made
 Psycho-social support for parents/caregivers

FUNDA UDLALE TOY LIBRARY PROGRAMME

Serving ECD centres, distributing educational toys, gross motor coordinations play times.

62 borrowed toys
 4 ECD Centre visits to Harare Library
 87 children reached

IMBEWU PRACTITIONER COACHING/ TRAINING

Supporting and equipping early childhood development practitioners by registering ECD practitioners, ECD training and baseline assessment skills

169 ECD Centres registered
 29 ECDs visited in person
 1106 children impacted through teacher support

FLYING WITH THE EAGLES



Thanks to Eagle Encounters for generously hosting a group of our children from the Emthonjeni programme at their wildlife rescue, rehabilitation and conservation centre at Spier Wine Farm. Our children loved meeting Cape foxes, touching owls, seeing eagles and learning lots about South Africa's amazing animals. What a wonderful experience!

FATHERS IN ACTION



The Fatherhood Network has increased to 30 men registered for the programme. We're excited that several fathers are looking after the community food gardens and the first harvests are happening. In addition, some fathers assisted with building a new Emthonjeni classroom in K2 Section.

Watch this space for the big opening!

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S DESK

Greetings from Harare, Khayelitsha

ON YOUR MARKS: As we started 2022, the COVID-19 fog started to finally lift and we are grateful that we can draw closer to each other again. We opened our doors this year in phases: the management team opened on the 10th January, a second group on the 17th and the 3rd group on the 25th January.

GET SET... Our first phase pulled management back together to plan and work on all possible avenues to improve quality in our services and also to put in place measures to support our teams with all means possible to make Sikhula Sonke more sustainable and impactful to the communities in 2022.

When the second and the third group opened, the teams started with debriefing sessions. Holidays combined with family matters/issues can be tiring, on top of the ongoing stress of the previous year. This was a good start to reflect, reset and move into our new work.

Debriefing was followed by initial strategy sessions and a three-day annual planning time in Strandfontein. This exercise included everybody in the organisation, including volunteers, so that everyone is well versed with the activities of the organisation. We made sure that no one was left behind as this will help during job rotation. Once everything was set, tasks allocated, and calendar was completed, we sealed it with prayer, ready to go and make a difference.

READY... The team kicked off immediately with its fieldwork activities which are all highlighted in the operations section. Amongst many activities this quarter, it was great to see most of the children who attended



Some of the playgroups in action

our programmes last year had been enrolled in local primary schools. Our fieldworkers assisted those who were of school-going age but left out by the system for various reasons.

Another highlight was seeing our implementing partners throwing their weight behind our programmes making strides with innovations and amazing interventions.

The ECD facilities, under the guidance and support of Sikhula Sonke, started the year at a slow pace but they are now doing well and the number of children attending the facilities has increased. The parent cluster workshops have kicked in with parents/caregivers coming in numbers with eagerness to learn and share their parenting experiences.

As part of the winter strategy in K2 informal settlement, we built a sturdy, insulated and rain-proof structure thanks to a generous donor and individuals. This will be used as a classroom for Emthonjeni children and for community interactions.

To strengthen the organisation, I attended the Papillion Fundraising conference to learn about new trends in fundraising.

GO! Thank you to all our funders and donors who have made the first quarter a success, especially those who have dedicated a certain portion of their funds towards conducting annual planning, staff well-being and more.

My greatest appreciation also goes to our Sikhula Sonke friends (both overseas and in South Africa) for their contribution towards making the first quarter a success.

Our implementing partners started this



quarter with a bang! JAMSA, FAMSA, Growing Together, Wordworks and others, I see you and I salute you.

My hat off to my team who never cease to amaze me with their dedication and passion towards providing much-needed services to the community.



Donations from The Unlimited Child for our ECD practitioners during their training

The management have kept the ship so tight, ensuring that everyone is on-board: this is so highly appreciated.

Our comms department never disappoints in terms of social media updates; thanks to Kerry, who heads this department.

Last but not least, thank you to the board who is always so supportive, advising and encouraging at all times.

As this very busy term concludes things are seemingly slowly returning back to normal. I can report that this quarter has come to an end successfully.

- Mdebuka Mthwazi



FCM activities

OPERATIONAL REPORT & HIGHLIGHTS

The Sikhula Sonke ECD programme started on a good note with the COVID-19 statistics are very low until now.

We had a wonderful annual operational planning. Playgroups, the FCM and the basic training programmes have started well. The toy library is a bit delayed in terms of attendance of children, but registrations have progressed well and increased.

Our working structure has been reviewed because it was affected by the pandemic. We are now operating from Monday to Friday 08:00 to 16:30 in order to put more input in for our primary beneficiaries.

PROGRAMME HIGHLIGHTS

- The reach out team was able to reach 78 existing families and 120 new families.
- 31 Unlimited Child toolboxes were distributed to 31 ECD centres.
- 3 Unlimited Child toolboxes were given to Sikhula Sonke.
- The response from caregivers has been amazing especially during the recruitment of the children, with caregivers assisting in identifying possible new families.

- There has been an increase in caregivers in reporting at-risk family cases.

- The Social Work team assisted children who were struggling to find admission in schools to be registered.

- 15 parents attended a psycho-social support group session workshop facilitated by FAMSA.

- 6 parents participated on the one-on-one counselling sessions.

- There are 41 participants in our Basic Teacher Training programme for 2022, including 7 parents from the Outreach programmes.

- 168 children enjoyed an excursion.

- 127 children immunised in Enkanini and Monwabisi Park.

CHALLENGES

- Some children do not have basic documents.

- Children are overflowing in UT Gardens.

- Caregivers who do not attend referral appointments.

- We sometimes lack transport to visit cases in need, slowing our response times.



*Ntombovuyo Bongoza-Mthakathi
SISO Senior Social Worker*



Parent Cluster Workshop

! Can you help us? We need a **DESKTOP PC** for our teachers' Training Room.

A LIVING LEGACY - please consider leaving a bequest or legacy to Sikhula Sonke

STAFF TRAINING & ONGOING EDUCATION

Sikhula Sonke staff remain invested in personal ongoing education. We are happy to report that so many of our team are studying further, both at tertiary institutions and through various partners.

A CULTURE OF LEARNING

- On the 8th and 9th of February Nomvuyo attended the Unlimited Child revision training.
- Nomakhosazana Padi went for classroom observation training at Wordworks.
- On the 25th of February Nomvuyo attended the BrainBooster revision training. All playgroup and FCM facilitators were given training and refresher training (for old staff) in the BrainBooster programme.
- Team Leaders also initiated a training for parents with our partner FAMSA for psychosocial support (Gender Based Violence) as well as growing together to strengthen our Imbiza (FCM) programme.
- Two staff members are continuing with their diploma in ECD at False Bay college.
- Two staff members will complete ECD level 4 this year.
- Zingisa Ngcolo is her third year in Bachelor of Education

with Unisa.

- Congratulation to Ntombovuyo Bongoza Mthakathi who has completed her BA degree in Social Studies at UNISA
- One toy library staff member is continuing with online toy library study in new venture creation.
- The M&E officer has almost completed his Diploma in Community Development and is working on the last two modules.
- Nomabhaca Mthwazi is continuing with her Diploma in Community Development.
- We have some staff members who have applied to study diploma in ECD.

TEAM APPOINTMENTS

- Mphokazi Malangeni, one of our experienced long service employees, was promoted to lead Khunkqu Section.
- Winkie Cebisa was moved to lead the Imbewu Coaching and Support programme.
- Ntombovuyo Bongoza-Mthakathi was appointed as senior social worker after Mr Dumisani Samson moved back to the Eastern Cape last year.

OFFICE REFRESH

At the start of the year we are glad to report that our offices have been freshly painted and reorganised, making the space more spacious and efficient. At the same time, the kitchen has been refurbished with new shelving.

Sikhula Sonke received a donation of office desks, and two new laptops were bought for the operations manager and the monitoring and evaluation officer. Thanks to Phambano Technology for software support and NPO discounts.



PRACTITIONER TRAINING ON THE GO



Basic Teacher Training started at the beginning of March with 24 practitioners, 6 principals and 7 parents attending, as well as some SISO staff.

We visited centres to find out if they had reopened for 2022 and how things were going. We logged the number of children attending and checked who was using The Unlimited Child materials. We also helped a few centres set up for the new teaching year.

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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.

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.

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.



Sikhula Sonke ECD is a member of ...

