



CHILD PROTECTION EMPOWERMENT PROGRAMME SEPTEMBER TO NOVEMBER 2022

**Ezrah Community Training
and Development NPC**

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WORDS THAT DESCRIBE THE CHILD PROTECTION EMPOWERMENT PROGRAMME

PROVIDED BY STEERING GROUP DELEGATES ON 9 NOVEMBER 2022

Supportive

Informative

Interesting

Bridge-building

Networking

Educational

Encouraging

Fun, exciting, happy

Resourceful

Empowerment

Positive

Holistic

Teamwork

Engaging

Creative

Reflect

Practical

Trauma-informed

Insightful

Vital



PROGRAMME MISSION

Implementation of the Child Protection Empowerment Programme with the goal of empowering organisations as child protection champions and to strengthen the child protection system across South Africa.

"We want to strengthen the child protection system through innovative models, capacity building and value-based collaboration. Results? Ethical service delivery where children matter."

— **Mariëtte Jacobs**

(Managing Director of Ezrah Community Training and Development NPC)



CHILD PROTECTION EMPOWERMENT PROGRAMME

"I learned to collaborate with my community
(parents, staff and learners).
I could draw up my school's child protection
policy."

BEULAH MINNAAR
(LITTLE RASCALS DAY CARE,
9 NOVEMBER 2022)





PROGRAMME DESCRIPTION

Programme goal:

Child Protection Programme

To strengthen the larger child protection (CP) system in South Africa through collaboration and through empowering child-focused organisations as child protection champions.

Direct beneficiary reach:

The following Valcare members have participated in a project or capacity building opportunity that form part of the Child Protection Empowerment Programme during 2022:

- ACVV Noorder-Paarl
- Aitsa Aftercare
- Athlone House of Strength
- Badisa Wellington
- Change within Development.
- Fountain of Hope.
- Grassroots Sport and Culture
- Huis Andrew Murray (HAM)
- Kathy's Educare
- Kin Culture NPC
- Marge Soup Kitchen.
- Miqlat MCM
- Mosaic Community Development
- Rise up with Advocacy and Action.
- Sp(i)eel Arts Therapies Collective.
- The Grape Community
- The Royalty Project
- ACVV Paarlvallei
- Amazing Brainz
- Badisa Paarl
- Bridges Retreat Centre
- Drakenstein se Jong Doudruppels.
- Good Hope Psychological Service
- HearX Foundation
- Ikamva Foundation
- Khula Development Group.
- Little Rascals Day Care
- Ma's vir Wellington
- Mbeko Ecoclub
- Orchard Africa
- Salt and Light Kids
- Soutkorrels
- The Pebbles Project

In addition, the following stakeholders participated in this programme through the working group, stakeholder meetings, case management discussions and capacity building opportunities: Thuthuzela Care Centre (Paarl), Childline Western Cape, the Department of Social Development, FCS (SAPS), Ukukhanye, Stellcare Stellenbosch, Norsa Community Care, Curro Holdings, Child Welfare SA: Wellington, Realdeal Trust and Drakenstein Association for Persons with Disabilities.

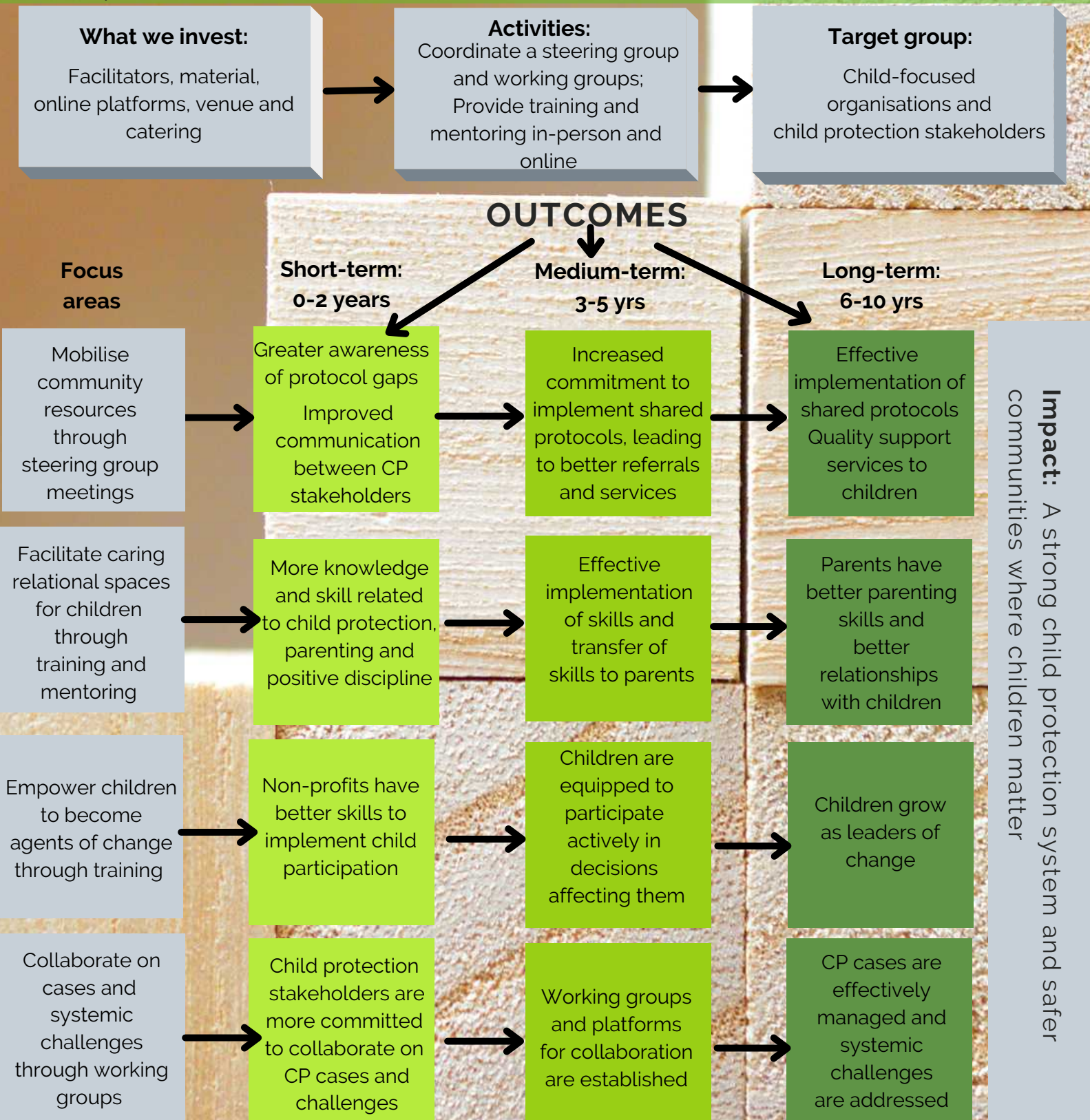
Monitoring, evaluation and reporting tools:

- Attendance registers
- Feedback forms
- Meeting summaries
- Email communication (where organisations share their progress)
- Stories of change
- Time-logs
- Project reports and photos

THEORY OF CHANGE:

CHILD PROTECTION EMPOWERMENT PROGRAMME

Goal: To strengthen the larger child protection (CP) system in South Africa through collaboration and through empowering child-focused organisations as child protection champions.



OUTPUTS ACHIEVED:

SEPTEMBER TO NOVEMBER 2022

NUMBER OF VALCARE
MEMBER ORGANISATIONS
THAT PARTICIPATED IN OUR
CHILD PROTECTION
PROGRAMME

33



NUMBER OF PERSONS
THAT ATTENDED THE
BUILDSMART PARENT
MENTORING WORKSHOP

30



NUMBER OF SOCIAL SERVICE
PROFESSIONALS WHO
RECEIVED SACSSP CPD
CERTIFICATES ON
COMPLETION OF OUR CASE
MANAGEMENT FORUM

41



NUMBER OF PERSONS WHO
ATTENDED A SHORT
WORKSHOP ON PLAY TO
STRENGTHEN LEARNING
AND RESILIENCE

19

NUMBER OF CHILD-
FOCUSED
ORGANISATIONS THAT
WERE MENTORED

10



NUMBER OF PERSONS WHO
ATTENDED A SHORT
WORKSHOP ON SELF-CARE
AND THE INNER CHILD

22



NUMBER OF ORGANISATIONS
THAT FORM PART OF THE
WESTERN CAPE COUNTER
CHILD TRAFFICKING FORUM

15



ESTIMATED NUMBER OF
CHILDREN WHO CAN
POTENTIALLY BE IMPACTED
BY THE DRAKENSTEIN CHILD
PROTECTION PROGRAMME*

11 322

*AS SHARED BY OUR
STEERING GROUP MEMBERS

Outcomes:

Buildsmart Parent Mentoring Workshop (8 September 2022)

Feedback:

- Excellent workshop - Required information was given and demonstrated with examples.
- I will present the building blocks of parenting to parents and help them to achieve these blocks.
- Very impressive tool.
- I have learned to look at my inner self as a social worker. Be kind, respect care-givers and remember their inner self and scripts. Build resilience with care-givers to best support their children.
- Great work Ezra!!! Well done!!!
- I have gained better understanding of safety, resilience is important.
- Workshop was very interesting and very productive and I will certainly implement the material with parent care-giver groups.
- I gained a different, more positive perspective towards parents and problems at hand. This will ensure service delivery that is more focused on strengths. Loved this so much!
- Workshop material was well prepared and logically presented. Theory was brought down to application.
- This is an amazing opportunity to work with the client.
- Excellent training - I would recommend it to everyone working and dealing with children.

"Thank you very much for this workshop. I enjoyed it so much and it gave me so many new ideas. It was great to focus with hope on a positive care-giving environment and positive outcomes for the child (September 2022)"
– Anneli Theron, Social Worker (Khula Development Group, Stellenbosch).



Outcomes:

Case management forum discussions (12 October and 9 November 2022)

Lessons learned

- To not just accept things, but do more inspections in a case.
- Unpack all the hidden risks when it comes to abuse. Make sure all factors are taken into consideration.
- Get collateral information on cases.
- The correct way to deal with parents who are intimidating. Put protective measures in place.
- Act in the best interest of the child.
- Be professional at all times and do proper recording of information.

General comments

- Presentation was explained very well. It provided a lot of details to gain insight on abuse.
- Thank you for the discussions, was very educational and refreshing.
- The case study was a good reminder of our ethical responsibilities towards our work and clients.
- Very informative and I gained good knowledge on how to improve my service delivery as social worker. Thank you so much for all the training. It really gives new perspective.



Outcomes:

Child protection steering group event on foster care, self-care and the inner child, facilitated by Kinculture NPC (12 October 2022)

Most important knowledge and skills learned

- You cannot give from an empty cup.
- Confronting deep rooted beliefs that drives my "why."
- The knowledge about foster care and the importance of proper screening.
- The steering group taught us that there is no one like us. Even though we are helping children, helping yourself through self-care is important.

General comments

- Having a positive focus is very important.
- Amazing facilitation.
- Lovely facilitation, thank you.
- We really appreciate this steering group.
- It was very informative and presented in a fun and exciting manner.
- I have learned to reflect on self.
- Great motivation for last 8 weeks of the year.
- It strengthens my network options.
- Enjoyed it so much! Thank you!



Outcomes:

Feedback after steering group event: Annual evaluation (9 November 2022)

Value-adds of programme

- Resources, getting to know what other organisations are doing.
- I will now focus on the child's strengths, establish relations and provide tips on what the child can do to regulate unwanted emotions.
- I know better how to work with children in trauma situations. I can teach them skills to lessen their load.
- The programme equipped social workers with skills and networks that they need to be able to help children and families.

General comments

- It surely sparked a new way of thinking and gave new ideas to develop (Clyne Martin, Mosaic).
- Thank you for the info, programme and support as well as networking opportunities.
- It is a good programme and makes it easy to practice in the community with parents and children.
- This programme helps with collaboration with different stakeholders and to keep us up to date with changes in policies.



Outcomes:

Child protection working group (September to November 2022)

MAIN GOAL:

To strengthen communication and collaboration between service providers so that children can receive quality support services from the child protection sector through a victim-centred, trauma informed approach to child protection care.

Exciting progress:

- We are delighted that Sp(i)eel Arts Therapies Collective has launched their pilot project in November to support the staff of FCS SAPS (Paarl) and the Thuthuzela Care Centre (Paarl) with resilience-building skills. This pilot project is the direct result of a need identified by the working group and collaboration between Ezrah, the Thuthuzela Care Centre (Paarl) and Sp(i)eel.
- We have connected the staff from the Thuthuzela Care Centre (Paarl) with SAPS (Wellington) and Ma's vir Wellington to present a community session as part of 16 Days of Activism in the Wellington community.
- We are in the process of liaising with FCS (Paarl) to encourage them to refer child victims of sexual exploitation to Childline Western Cape for therapeutic support as early as possible.
- We have completed an evaluation on 9 November 2022 to assess the progress that the working group has made so far as well as identified the next action points for 2023.

"It increased understanding through communication, hearing different voices from different service providers" -**Carien de Klerk, Good Hope Psychological Service.**



COLLABORATION ON COUNTERING CHILD TRAFFICKING

Celebrating collaboration on countering child trafficking

"I want to say a huge thank you for the impactful work that you do. It is tremendously encouraging reading these updates. Well done for forging forward to bring change. We are excited to see certain members of the National Freedom Network coming on board and working with you."

- Marina Reyneke (COO, National Freedom Network)



PROGRESS

The Western Cape Counter Child Trafficking forum was established between Ezrah CTD, the Department of Social Development and the Western Cape Department of Community Safety together with several counter trafficking non-profit organisations. To our knowledge, this is the first collaborative forum in South Africa that focuses on child trafficking specifically.

As a result of forum meetings, the following outcomes were achieved during this time period (September to November 2022):

1. Both the multi-disciplinary and training working groups have been launched in September 2022 with specific goals to streamline counter child trafficking work. Ezrah will take the lead with the multi-disciplinary working group, while A21 will take the lead with the training working group.
2. We had a main forum meeting on the 11th of October, where we actioned the following key points:
 - Shared information related to the CESE summits that focused on sexual exploitation as well as received feedback on other child trafficking meetings.
 - Received feedback on watch briefs and liaised on specific child trafficking cases.
 - Shared information on the working group activities.



ONLINE DEVELOPMENT AND COMMUNICATION

In line with our digital strategy, Ezrah is very excited about the progress we are making to empower more people through our online resources and courses. This new strategy is helping us to transition from a child protection programme for the Cape Winelands to a national child protection programme.

During this time period, Ezrah shared online resources (infographics and Doodly videos) on using play to strengthen learning and resilience - see <https://www.ezrah.co.za/child-protection-resources/>.

We are looking forward to build this strategy, which will enable stakeholders to process child protection information in smaller chunks. This hybrid model of hosting in-person child protection events, while making online resources available strengthens the sustainability of our child protection programme and allows us to reach more beneficiaries.

"Such an honour to be part of Ezrah's child protection steering group.
Thank you for such an interactive and informative year."
- **Tatenda Pakai, Social Worker at the Pebbles Project**
(November 2022)



MENTORING OF CHILD-FOCUSED ORGANISATIONS

A big component of Ezra's child protection empowerment journey, includes the mentoring of child-focused organisations. During September to November 2022, Ezra was privileged to mentor the following child-focused organisations by providing strategic input to their planning for 2023, registration processes, services and protocols:

- Open Arms of Hope: 29 September 2022
- Ma's vir Wellington: 19-21 October 2022
- Renew your Mind: 24 October 2022
- Change within Development Consultancy: 26 October 2022
- Kathy's Educare: 24 October 2022
- Little Rascal's Day Care: 24 October 2022
- Drakenstein se Jong Doudruppels: 26 October 2022
- Bridges Retreat Centre: 11, 23 November 2022
- National Freedom Network: 21 and 28 November 2022
- Salt and Light: 16 November 2022

**Thank you for your guidance, not only for the program and work tasks,
but also for directing me back to why I am doing what I am doing.
I have earnestly started to think in a more positive way about the next plan for Change
within Development Consultancy."**
**- Albernita Francis (CEO, Change within Development Consultancy,
2 November 2022)**



SUCCESS STORY OF EMPOWERMENT

In 2018, a dynamic lady, Lizzie Arends phoned us to enquire about joining Ezra's child-focused workshops. When we heard Lizzie's remarkable story, we were eager to welcome her onboard - even though Lizzie Arends was born blind, she never felt disadvantaged through lack of eyesight. Instead, she describes herself as "an EAR - an eagle always ready." She lives this motto fully by working full-time at Paarl Hospital, while doing community work and acting as a motivational speaker to inspire others in her free time. Even more inspiring is that she raised her son single-handedly as a single mother and can therefore encourage other parents to parent joyfully in spite of life's obstacles. Her big need was to be equipped further in child-focused skills.

Lizzie Arends has not only attended Ezra's workshops steadfastly throughout 2018 to 2022, but has also arranged that our training manuals were translated into braille. This year, she took even a bigger step by starting to train her community in Kuilsrivier in Ezra's LEAD leadership model to promote child participation. Ezra provided her with the manuals and certificates and on 9 September 2022, Lizzie trained 18 community members in Kuilsrivier. We also connected her with a Badisa board member, where Lizzie acted as a motivational speaker at one of their community events in October 2022. We are looking forward to continue this exciting journey with motivated leaders in 2023 to empower more people in line with our motto: Grow Today. Lead Tomorrow. Together we can do so much more to create safe spaces for children.

To read Elizabeth Arends full story, visit <https://www.goodthingsguy.com/people/blind-woman-inspires-valcare/>.

Photo courtesy of Nadia Krige,
Valcare



FUTURE PLANNING

(December 2022 - February 2023)

NEXT CHILD PROTECTION STEERING GROUP EVENT

- 25 January 2023



COUNTERING CHILD TRAFFICKING

- Through the Western Cape Counter Child Trafficking Forum, Ezrah continues to play a vital role in coordinating joint efforts to respond to child trafficking cases and to build models of collaboration.



EZRAH CHILD-FOCUSED WORKSHOPS

- LEAD child participation workshop: 16 February 2023



REFERRAL WORKING GROUP ACTIVITIES

We will continue within working group meetings to draft a referral and communication flowchart to support child victims of sexual exploitation in the Cape Winelands-area.



#ONLINE CHILD PROTECTION RESOURCES

We are continually uploading valuable child protection resources onto our website for stakeholders to access. We are looking forward to share more Doodly clips and blogs on child protection to equip stakeholders with child protection knowledge.



COLLABORATIVE LEAD PROJECT WITH BRIDGES RETREAT CENTRE

We are excited to continue mentoring the Bridges Retreat Centre on implementing our LEAD child participation leadership model as part of their prefect and educator camps in 2023.



COLLABORATIONS

We value our collaborations with the Western Cape Department of Social Development, the Western Cape Department of Community Safety, A21, Sp(i)eel Collective, Valcare, the Thuthuzela Care Centre, Cause for Justice, Freedom Ports Alliance, Free to Fly, the National Freedom Network and others to address child protection challenges.



SUPPORT NEEDED



Our Child Protection Empowerment Programme has grown with leaps and bounds over the last two years as the Covid-crisis magnified the need for an integrated response to child protection. Ezrah responded to this challenge by stepping up our efforts to promote quality support services to children through collaboration, the development of innovative models and capacity building.

Ezrah's has expanded the child protection empowerment programme from its initial focus on the Cape Winelands to reaching beneficiaries across South Africa through online working groups and resources. We have also started to implement more collaborative projects with other child-focused stakeholders.

In order to implement these activities with excellence, we welcome the support of new stakeholders and donors, who share this dream of safer spaces for children with us.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Thank you **Valcare, the Ackerman Family Foundation Trust, the Rolf-Stephan Nussbaum Foundation, the Lombardi Family Charitable Trust and individual donors** for your kind financial support towards our Child Protection Empowerment Programme in 2022. We so appreciate it that you share this empowerment journey with us.

Together with other child protection stakeholders we can do so much more to strengthen the child protection system in order to enable change for children.



CONTACT US



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Banking Details

Account Name: Ezrah Community Training and Development NPC

Bank: FNB **Account Type:** Cheque **Account Number:** 625 131 931 86

Branch: Somerset Mall **Branch Code:** 200912 **Swift Code:** FIRNZAJJ

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