



# CHILD PROTECTION EMPOWERMENT PROGRAMME

DECEMBER 2022 TO  
FEBRUARY 2023

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**Ezrah Community Training  
and Development NPC**

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# PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

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## **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:**

Ezrah's clients are a combination of child protection role-players including child-focused NPOs, government departments, ECDs, NPO networks, SAPS and FCS. The breakdown in terms of child protection stakeholders that engaged with one or more of our projects for the time period **December 2022 to February 2023** is as follows:

**Total number of individual persons (child protection role-players): 73**

**Total number of organisations: 34**

**Total number of individual persons from Valcare member organisations: 50**

**Total number of Valcare member organisations: 22**

**Total number of government departments: 6** (WC Dept. of Community Safety; Thuthuzela Care Centre, Paarl ; Dept. of Social Development; SAPS Wellington, FCS and the Dept. of Health)

**Total number of NPOs and ECDs: 26**

**Private practice or business: 2**

## **Monitoring, evaluation and reporting tools:**

- Attendance registers
- Feedback forms
- Meeting summaries
- Email communication (where organisations share their progress)
- Stories of change
- Time-logs and service delivery register
- 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.

### What we invest:

Facilitators, material, online platforms, venue and catering

### Activities:

Coordinate a steering group and working groups; Provide training and mentoring in-person and online

### Target group:

Child-focused organisations and child protection stakeholders

## OUTCOMES

**Short-term:**  
0-2 years

**Medium-term:**  
3-7 yrs

**Long-term:**  
8-10 yrs

### Focus areas

Mobilise community resources through steering group meetings

Greater awareness of protocol gaps  
Improved communication between CP stakeholders

Increased commitment to implement shared protocols, leading to better referrals and services

Effective implementation of shared protocols  
Quality support services to children

Facilitate caring relational spaces for children through training and mentoring

More knowledge and skill related to child protection, parenting and positive discipline

Effective implementation of skills and transfer of skills to parents

Parents have better parenting skills and better relationships with children

Empower children to become agents of change through training

Non-profits have better skills to implement child participation

Children are equipped to participate actively in decisions affecting them

Children grow as leaders of change

Collaborate on cases and systemic challenges through working groups

Child protection stakeholders are more committed to collaborate on CP cases and challenges

Working groups and platforms for collaboration are established

CP cases are effectively managed and systemic challenges are addressed

**Impact:** A strong child protection system and safer communities where children matter

**Assumptions:** Commitment from child protection stakeholders to implement training and to collaborate on child protection cases and protocols as well as to participate in child protection campaigns, working groups and case management discussions



# OUTPUTS ACHIEVED:

## DECEMBER 2022 TO FEBRUARY 2023



NUMBER OF PERSONS FROM  
VALCARE MEMBER  
ORGANISATIONS THAT  
PARTICIPATED IN OUR  
CHILD PROTECTION  
PROGRAMME DURING THIS  
QUARTER

50



NUMBER OF ORGANISATIONS  
THAT PARTICIPATED IN OUR  
CHILD PROTECTION  
PROGRAMME DURING THIS  
QUARTER

34

Total

22

Valcare members



NUMBER OF CHILDREN  
TRAINED IN LEAD  
CHILD PARTICIPATION  
SKILLS BY THE  
BRIDGES TEAM

104



TOTAL NUMBER OF CHILD  
PROTECTION ROLE-  
PLAYERS THAT  
PARTICIPATED IN EZRAH  
CHILD PROTECTION  
EVENTS DURING THIS  
QUARTER

73



NUMBER OF PERSONS WHO  
ATTENDED OUR LEAD CHILD  
PARTICIPATION WORKSHOP

38





# Outcomes:

Child protection steering group event facilitated by The Royalty Project (25 January 2023)

## Most important knowledge and skills learned by participants

- Knowing there's a network for referrals.
- How we perceive the internet and how we can protect the children.
- Online resources that can be used. It is important to connect with your community and support each other.
- New resources on how to educate our children.
- Online safety for kids - teaching parents to help their kids stay safe online.

## General comments from workshop participants

- Realised how passionate people are about creating platforms for change. Inspired!
- It was such an encouraging and inspiring session.
- This child protection group always surprises me with powerful programmes, so I just can't wait to learn more in 2023.
- Amazing, fruitful and inspirational session. Well presented!



Nelmarie Pitout from the Royalty Project

# Outcomes:

## LEAD Child participation Workshop (16 February 2023)

### Feedback:

- I liked the exercises and workbook. Very helpful.
- I will implement LEAD at our team-building and camp.
- It was fun, interactive and informative.
- I learned how to empower children and how to include them in the process.
- Learned a lot on how to be a leader.
- I learned how important it is for mentors to be in a good space.
- Let me think again on the importance of the voice of children.
- Session was well prepared and presented. All the activities that were used are practical and easy to remember.
- It is important that the voice of the child should be heard. The child should be involved in the decision-making process.
- The mentoring workbook is of great help.
- Will implement LEAD at our organisation.
- Brilliant, thanks for sharing with us and empowering us to move forward.
- Keeping LEAD principles in mind - adopt it as a way of life.
- Really enjoyed the facilitation - practical and fun.
- I learned the importance of parents participating in the LEAD model and not just the children.

"Ek wil weereens baie dankie sê vir die insiggewende werkswinkel wat jy aangebied het. Dit het my weer opnuut geïnspireer om my passie uit te leef."

– Alda Wilson (Soutkorrels Maak 'n Verskil)."





# Outcomes:

## Child protection working group (December to February 2023)

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### 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:

- At working group meetings, we continue to build relationship, gain perspective and work towards closing gaps.
- The resilience pilot project from Sp(i)eel Arts Therapies Collective (to strengthen resilience in staff members of FCS Paarl and the Thuthuzela Care Centre) was well received and is gaining momentum. There is a potential opportunity to expand this project to all forensic social workers of FCS in the Western Cape.
- Delegated members of the working group are meeting on an ongoing basis with both the local FCS commander in Paarl as well as the Provincial Commander from FCS (Forensic Social Services) to collaborate on the referral process from FCS units to therapeutic service providers.
- A ThinkTank is planned to unpack referral opportunities between stakeholders on both local and provincial level for later this year.





# COUNTER CHILD TRAFFICKING ACTIVITIES

The Western Cape Counter Child Trafficking forum had three online meetings during this time period. As co-founder of this forum, Ezrah NPC is responsible for the secretariat position and plays an important coordination function between forum delegates.

As a result of forum meetings, the following outcomes were achieved during this time period (December to February 2023):

1. The National Freedom Network shared more about their online platform, which will facilitate more effective collaboration.
2. A21 gathered information on the different training service providers during the training working group meeting and will compile a database of these service providers.
3. The forum is rendering assistance to Free to Fly and S-Cape in the establishment of specialised child- and youth care centres (CYCCs) for victims of child trafficking. Two CYCCs are in the process of being established.
4. Feedback was obtained related to the progress of child trafficking cases in terms of the court process.
5. The forum's activities highlight the need to have a specific focus building skills related to responding to child trafficking and not just trafficking in general.



# TRANSFER OF SKILLS TO COMMUNITIES

On 3 February 2023, Linda Zietsman who is the programme coordinator of Khula DG's School2Home programme presented an excellent refresher session on Ezra's BuildSmart Parent Mentoring Tools to the **Khula** Team. At Ezra, we love it when organisations walk the extra mile to transfer skills from our workshops to their teams and eventually to the community.

"Thank you for the opportunity to present the BuildSmart tools.

We are excited to use the tools and our facilitators are looking forward to build smart parent skills in the community."

**-Linda Zietsman (Programme Coordinator of School2Home, Khula DG)**

We are also very proud of the team of **Change within Development Consultancy** for training learners in our LEAD life- and leadership skills, specific to their context. Although their focus is on education support, they believe in supporting learners holistically. Their project amplifies our vision of promoting ethical service delivery and quality education where children matter.





# SUCCESS STORY OF EMPOWERMENT

Our child protection empowerment programme is now entering its 6th year since its establishment at the end of 2017. Therefore, we are grateful for collaborative projects where skills get transferred by our programme participants to community members in line with our medium-term outcomes.

In 2022, Ezraah and the Bridges Retreat Centre - Outdoor Education Programme started with a collaborative project to train Gr. 7 prefect and educators in Ezraah's LEAD child participation skills. This strengthens our mission to empower the next generation as leaders of change.

As part of this project, Ezraah trains and mentors the Bridges team to host outdoor camps for prefects and educators and to implement an in-school mentoring programme.

From 24-26th January 2023, the first prefect camp was hosted where 104 prefects were trained in implementing the LEAD leadership skills. Here is just one learner's feedback (courtesy of Claudine Cooper, Bridges facilitator) on completion of the camp:

**"At the camp I have learned a lot from the leadership on how to be a leader - you must be kind and you must forgive."**

Ezraah is looking forward to be the master facilitator at a Bridges Educator Camp, planned for 12-14 May 2023. Together we can do so much more to empower the next generation as leaders of change.



# FUTURE PLANNING

## (March - May 2023)

### NEXT CHILD PROTECTION STEERING GROUP EVENTS

- 29 March 2023
- 17 May 2023
- 14 June 2023
- 10 August 2023
- 18 October 2023
- 15 November 2023

Child protection policy workshop:  
13 April 2023



### #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.



### 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 and wider Western Cape.



### 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.



### COLLABORATIVE LEAD PROJECT WITH BRIDGES RETREAT CENTRE

We are looking forward to be the master facilitator at the LEAD Educators Camp scheduled for 12-14 May 2023.

### ONGOING COLLABORATIONS

We value our collaborations with both government departments and NPOs to address child protection challenges.



# INVITE TO JOURNEY WITH US

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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

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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 our 2023 financial year. 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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**NPO:** 133-155

**NPC:** 2013/227807/08

**PBO:** 930050983 with Section 18A status

### **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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