



CHILD PROTECTION EMPOWERMENT PROGRAMME

SEPTEMBER TO
NOVEMBER 2023



**Ezrah Community Training
and Development NPC**

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PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

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 **September to November 2023** is as follows:

Total number of individual persons: 78

Total number of NPOs and ECDs: 32

Total number of government departments: 5 (WC Dept. of Community Safety; Thuthuzela Care Centre, Paarl; Dept. of Social Development, FCS (SAPS) and the Dept. of Health)

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
- Service delivery registers

THEORY OF CHANGE:

CHILD PROTECTION EMPOWERMENT PROGRAMME

Goal: To strengthen the larger child protection (CP) system 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

QUARTERLY HIGHLIGHTS

In the Media

Our article “**Profits beyond Profit: The returns in investment in Nonprofit Support**” was featured by Hashtag at <https://hashtagnonprofit.org/insights/profits-beyond-profit-the-returns-on-investment-in-nonprofit-support>.

Global Ethics Day: ThinkEthics Online Course Campaign

During October, as part of celebrating Global Ethics Day, we launched a special campaign on Ethics in the Nonprofit Sector and gave free access to our ThinkEthics Online Course to advance ethical maturity on Global Ethics Day to eligible organisations.

Collaborative project: Child protection training for Orchard Africa

During November, we trained a group of community and church leaders from Orchard Africa on identifying and reporting child abuse. This collaborative project was so successful that we will continue with similar workshops for Orchard Africa during 2024.

Annual evaluation celebration of our child protection empowerment programme

In November, we presented the PERMA self-care model with our child protection community of community workers, social workers and ECD practitioners who provide child-focused services to vulnerable children. We also celebrated our joint progress through our annual evaluation celebration. Here are the words shared by our delegates to describe this programme: **amazing, eye-opening, knowledge, awesome, child-friendly, fantastic, encouraging, uplifting, informative, empowering, relevant, supportive, safety, love, equipping, accurate, practical, collaborative, valuable, enjoyable, helpful, connecting, strength, engaging, interactive.**





OUTPUTS ACHIEVED: September to November 2023

**TOTAL NUMBER OF CHILD
PROTECTION ROLE-
PLAYERS EQUIPPED
THROUGH EZRAH CHILD
PROTECTION EVENTS
DURING THIS QUARTER**

78



**NUMBER OF ORGANISATIONS
STRENGTHENED IN OUR
CHILD PROTECTION
PROGRAMME DURING THIS
QUARTER**

37

**NUMBER OF CHILD
PROTECTION
STAKEHOLDER
MEETINGS DURING
THIS QUARTER**

15



OUTCOMES ACHIEVED:

September to November 2023

"One important thing I learned is that every church/NPO/NGO should have a child protection officer and again, regardless of the position, every case should be reported."

Patrick Mokgosi
(Orchard Africa, 1 November 2023)

"This programme is incredible valuable to me as I gain knowledge and add to my skills base at each of these meetings. It is an awesome networking space. "

Lee-Anne Jones
(Kin Culture NPC, 18 October 2023)

"Children should be our first priority, because they are our future."

Benjamin Mogale
(Fountain of Hope, 1 November 2023)

"I want to thank you for the opportunities presented to expand my knowledge as well as the networking opportunities with other organisations. The child protection steering group platform is a value-add for every organisation in terms of service delivery."

Charmornay Singh
(Badisa Paarl,
14 November 2023)

"Excellent progress in resilience building to assist FCS detectives and forensic social workers. Valuable insight into services rendered by other child protection stakeholders"

SAPS FCS
(15 November 2023)



CHILD PROTECTION STEERING GROUP EVENTS (18 OCT & 15 NOV 2023)

Themes: Reporting domestic violence and annual celebration

Feedback:

- What stood out on GBV is the fact that we can take hands and help all those that are vulnerable. I really appreciate it to be part of the child protection steering group (Siphokazi Silandela, Ikamva Foundation, 18 October 2023)
- These events bring perspective, knowledge and trauma-informed experiences (Nanine Steenkamp, RealDeal Trust, 18 October 2023)
- Awareness - there is help, there are people who share the same heart and vision. Thank you for these wonderful opportunities (Carla Viljoen, The Grape Community, 15 November 2023)
- The biggest impact is to learn as much as possible about different topics (Alta Bester, YearBeyond, 15 November 2023)
- (This programme) leads to informed, motivated and empowered workers (Samantha May, Pebbles Project, 15 November 2023)
- I learned how to be resilient in my field of work (Ivy Semmery, Childline, 15 November 2023)
- It expanded my knowledge, especially to share with others and to awaken the community (Nomzamo Julayi, Inceba Trust, 15 November 2023)

"The value of the child protection programme = access to resources, advice towards ethical principles and networking."

– **Brent du Toit (Bridges Retreat Centre).**



CHILD PROTECTION WORKING GROUP (SEPTEMBER TO NOVEMBER 2023)

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.

Progress report:

- The focus of the 2023 working group meetings was to gain a deeper understanding of the respective roles and mandates of the different child protection role-players.
- During this quarter, **Stellcare Stellenbosch** and **GoodHope Psychological Service** shared feedback on their specific child protection role and how they collaborate and liaise with other child protection role-players.
- We had a successful meeting with Mrs. Annemie van Reenen: (Chief Directorate: Service Delivery from the **Western Cape Department of Social Development** to discuss key issues. The Western Cape Department of Social Development will present their mandate in January 2024.
- One of the promising outcomes that was achieved as a result of the working group activities is that **Sp(i)eel Arts Therapies Collective** implemented several successful resilience sessions with the forensic social workers and detectives of **FCS** units in the Western Cape during September and October. An evaluation meeting with all collaborators was held during November to celebrate progress and to plan the way forward for 2024.



COUNTER CHILD TRAFFICKING ACTIVITIES

The Western Cape Counter Child Trafficking Forum made great progress during this quarter, both through the main forum- and working group meetings:

Training working group

The training working group is in the process of compiling a specific counter child trafficking manual based on the current trafficking in persons' legislation, frameworks and standard operating procedures. During this quarter a framework for the manual was developed and during 2024 working group delegates will work on the content.

Multi-disciplinary working group

The multi-disciplinary working group are working on several spreadsheets to capture awareness campaign data. Some of this information was shared with the Western Cape Provincial Task Team on Trafficking for their report to the Parliament. This working group will also compile a service delivery directory to assist with referrals within a holistic care framework during 2024.

Collaboration with the Western Cape Provincial Task Team on Trafficking in Persons

Ezrah furthermore represented the Western Cape Counter Child Trafficking Forum at the Western Cape Provincial Task Team meetings during this quarter. It is encouraging that the Task Team is gaining a bigger child trafficking focus and is planning outreaches to several areas in the Western Cape during 2024 where there are concerns about child trafficking cases.



MONITORING AND EVALUATION

As part of our monitoring and evaluation process, we had several evaluation meetings with stakeholders during this quarter to celebrate progress and to plan the way forward for 2024:

Resilience meeting with SAPS-FCS, Sp(i)eel Arts Therapies Collective and Thuthuzela Care Centre, Paarl

During the evaluation meetings of the resilience project, we celebrated that forensic social workers could learn resilience tools which they can use in the personal and professional lives. We also incorporated feedback into our planning for 2024.

BuildSmart Meeting with Love to Give, Legacy, RealDeal Trust and Good Hope Psychological Service

Key take-aways from this meeting include the value of training combined with mentoring, providing a reflective space so that facilitators can make the training their own and having regular follow-ups to help contextualise the training.

Child protection evaluation meeting with Orchard Africa

During this meeting, we celebrated the value of intergenerational peer learning in applying child protection knowledge within cultural context. We also planned the general themes for the 2024 child protection workshops which will include volunteer screening and management to create safe spaces where children matter.



FUTURE PLANNING

CHILD PROTECTION STEERING GROUP EVENTS FOR 2024

- 24 January 2024
- 10 April 2024
- 14 August 2024
- 6 November 2024



#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, online courses 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, Ezraah continues to play a vital role in coordinating joint efforts to respond to child trafficking cases and to build models of collaboration.



EXPANDING CONSULTANCY SUPPORT SERVICES TO NPOS

We are currently implementing a consultancy project for **Join Bands not Gangs** to assist them with strengthening their services to vulnerable children and communities.

ONGOING COLLABORATIONS

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

Our main collaborators include **Sp(i)eel Arts Therapies Collective, SAPS-FCS, the Thuthuzela Care Centre, Paarl, Orcard Africa, RealDeal Trust** and **Good Hope Psychological Service**.

INVITE TO JOURNEY WITH US



Ezrah is inviting child-focused organisations to connect with us on this collective journey of creating safe spaces where children matter. Child-focused organisations are welcome to join any of our in-person activities or to visit our resource pages on our website to download child protection resources. As we value transparent communication with our stakeholders, interested persons are welcome to visit our website for more information or to follow us on social media to get updates on all developments and activities.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Thank you **Valcare, the Ackerman Family Foundation Trust, the Rolf-Stephan Nussbaum Foundation, Community Chest and individual donors** for your kind financial support towards our Child Protection Empowerment Programme during 2023. 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.



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