



Biannual Impact *REPORT*



2025 August

Hope-hear NPC

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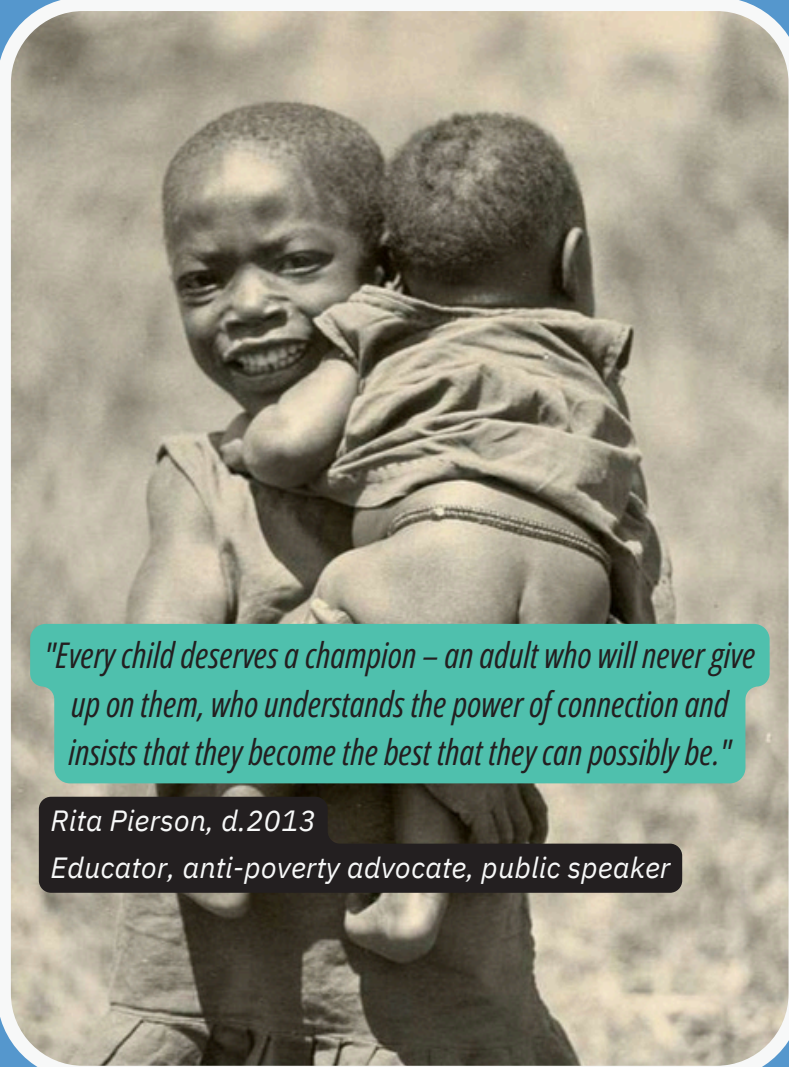


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Who we are



"Every child deserves a champion – an adult who will never give up on them, who understands the power of connection and insists that they become the best that they can possibly be."

Rita Pierson, d.2013

Educator, anti-poverty advocate, public speaker

Hope-hear was founded by an ear, nose and throat specialist (Dr Jessica McGuire), in collaboration with the well-respected and exceptional academic audiologist (Professor Lebogang Ramma).

They envision Hope-hear to be an agent for evidenced-based and positive change in South Africa. The organisation's objectives and goals are always rooted in data, and the monitoring thereof, to evaluate the impact of the interventions that we implement.

Although our primary focus is on improving learning potential and educational outcomes in all children, but particularly those from disadvantaged communities, as we have embarked on this journey we have come to realise that it has the opportunity to be so much more.

South Africa needs so much more! There are insitutionalised biases which disadvantage parents and their children and we aim to address these. Children in South Africa currently face huge discrepancies in their access to ear-and-hearing health, as well as, access to speech and language therapy services.

South Africa has no auditory verbal therapists for children who speak African languages. This is essential for children who receive a cochlear implant. These linguistic inequalities need to be systematically addressed.

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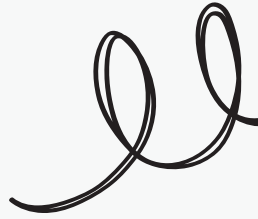


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Foreward



2025 has been a year of tremendous growth. It is thanks to the generous donations from our corporate partners, as well as, individuals that we have been able to focus our energy on growing, thriving, and collaborating, instead of merely surviving. In particular we would like to highlight the two fundraising events held at the beginning of the year: *The Lord of the Flies Weekend*, and *The Beauty for Brains Evening*. Those two events, in addition to the generous support of all those who attended them have made all the difference this year.

The successes and growth that we have enjoyed this year are truly the result of community collaboration. We feel fortunate to witness such generosity and kindness on a regular basis.

The extent of our growing community is exciting and consists of:

- locally: enjoying the support from the children, parents, and management teams froms both Herschel Preparatory School for Girls, and from Bishops Diocesan College Preparatory School.
- regionally: receiving generous donations from Claytile Cape Town, Tiber, and Moray Properties.
- and internationally, with some wonderful beneficiaries from Scotland.

With this in mind, we would like to dedicate our successes to our wonderful community. We hope that you enjoy reading about the change that you have enabled.

Sincerely,

Jessica McGuire
Director

Our Vision & mission

Language development is a common root of learning disorders. It is intricately linked to brain development and learning. Our vision is to provide more equal opportunities to education by optimising brain development in the first 4 years of life. Our mission is to facilitate language development, prevent acquired hearing loss, and identify hearing loss for early intervention.



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Our journey



Hope-hear was established in December 2023. The primary objective of the company is to improve educational outcomes by improving language development in the first 4 years of life by improving access to early diagnosis of hearing loss through hearing screening; prevention of hearing loss from infections by improving primary healthcare services; and by improving access to language stimulation resources. Much of this may be accomplished by task-shifting repetitive procedures to community health workers, as well as, by providing parents access to resources and empowering them by helping them navigate complex systems, like health and education systems.

Task-shifting, in our opinion, enables an opportunity for upliftment of disadvantaged women through training, employment, personal development, and the possibility for continued advancement in the organisation.

We want to provide these women with a rewarding and important job opportunity, but at the same time remain cognisant of the communities in which they live. This includes exposure to interpersonal and gender-based violence, poverty, food insecurity, and institutionalised disempowerment.



We want to challenge the status quo by providing a nurturing work environment that permits workers to attend to health and education responsibilities for both themselves and their families by providing flexibility in their working hours.



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Our year in numbers



EVERY BABY, EVERYWHERE

>5,000

Babies screened in the Western Cape

Specialised ENT equipment set to enhance treatment

The Ear Nose and Throat (ENT) department of Paarl Hospital looks forward to improving outreach and support to patients in the town after recently receiving a donation of specialised equipment.

The donation of a mobile microscope and surgical instrument, jointly valued at R400 000, was made possible by local business Klay and a private benefactor, the non-profit organisation HOPE-hear.

Dr Joshua West, an ENT specialist at the hospital, said it will also enable the clinic to perform more surgery at the site. The equipment, which will improve the care and create more efficient services as well as provide valuable services to patients.

"We can now find a more efficient way to provide services, especially for patients who are not hearing well in Paarl. This will take services closer to the patient."

Dr Jessica McGuire, founder of HOPE-

hear, said her organisation and the Paarl Hospital ENT Department are further collaborating on an education programme to improve primary health-care knowledge and expertise on ear and hearing health.

"This is in the form of training workshops for nurse practitioners from each clinic to establish an ear champion at each site and improve treatment for these conditions," she explained.

McGuire said the programme is aimed at improving the knowledge of small children about their hearing and to identify any hearing loss early, and support language development.

The programme is a collaboration between the Paarl Hospital ENT Department and the Paarl Hospital ENT Department. The programme is aimed at improving the knowledge of small children about their hearing and to identify any hearing loss early, and support language development.

R400,000

Equipment donated for ear surgery in the Drakenstein Health District



Dr Joshua West (left) of Paarl Hospital and Dr Jessica McGuire of HOPE-hear with the donated mobile microscope.

150%

Improved follow-up rates

10%

First screen failure rates in-line with international best practice guidelines (babies screened within 24 hours of birth)

80%

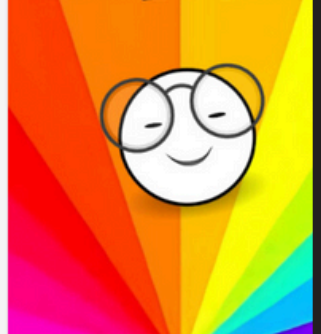
Coverage of in-hospital babies. We have implemented strategies to improve this to >95%.

and the Mysterious Stranger: Story about Devil's Peak



Man and the Mysterious Stranger - A Story about Devil's Peak

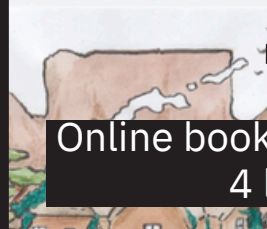
COLOURS



My Favourite Colours

MILLION WORD GAP PROJECT

Babalwa and the Three Baboons



21

FAST & SLOW
HIGH & LOW

Online books freely available in 4 languages

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Finances

CURRENT ASSETS

Cash	R119,740.00
Equipment	R88,200.00

LIABILITIES

Loan	R50,000.00
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INCOME

Donations – financial	R734,651.00
Donations – in kind	R73 008,00

EXPENSES & DEDUCTIONS

Repairs & maintenance	R3143.00
Administration	R893.00
Donations given	R399,600.00
Technical staff	R179,425.00
Event & fundraising expenses	R39,709.00
Total expenses	R622,770.00

Net operating profit	R157,900.00
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Funding summary

R734,651.00
Financial Donations

R73,008.00
In-kind Donations

R157,900.00
Net operating profit

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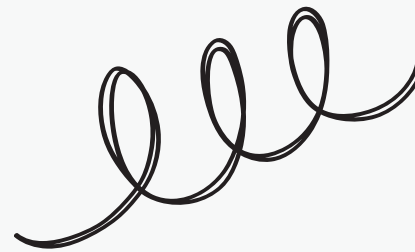


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The year *IN REVIEW*



Bridging the gap

Our aim is to develop a model for universal newborn hearing screening in South Africa, leveraging data and international best practices. A significant hurdle has been the high loss-to-follow-up rate, which was 80% in 2024. Through solutions like SMS notifications and an online booking system, we've reduced this rate to 50%. While this is progress, our target is to achieve a 90% follow-up rate within the next 18 months.

ACTION PLAN

- Continue exploring barriers to access.
- Empower parents with more resources and support.
- Enhance communication strategies.
- Collaborate with local and international partners to refine best practices.

New Partnerships



Training for Primary Healthcare Workers

In July, we launched our first workshop in Paarl to enhance the diagnosis, management, and referral of ear-and-hearing conditions.

Community Awareness & Professional Resources

Awareness posters and instructional materials for healthcare workers are in the process of approval and translation, ensuring effective communication and education in the community.



Hold My Hand Campaign

Joining this campaign demonstrates our commitment to advocating for early childhood development. We aim to improve access to health and education, enabling children to reach their full potential.



Partnership with Kukhanya Centre

By collaborating with Kukhanya Centre and the Western Cape Department of Health's Special Education Division, we aim to improve early identification and intervention strategies for children with sensory impairments. This partnership is pivotal in enhancing outcomes for visually and hearing-impaired children.

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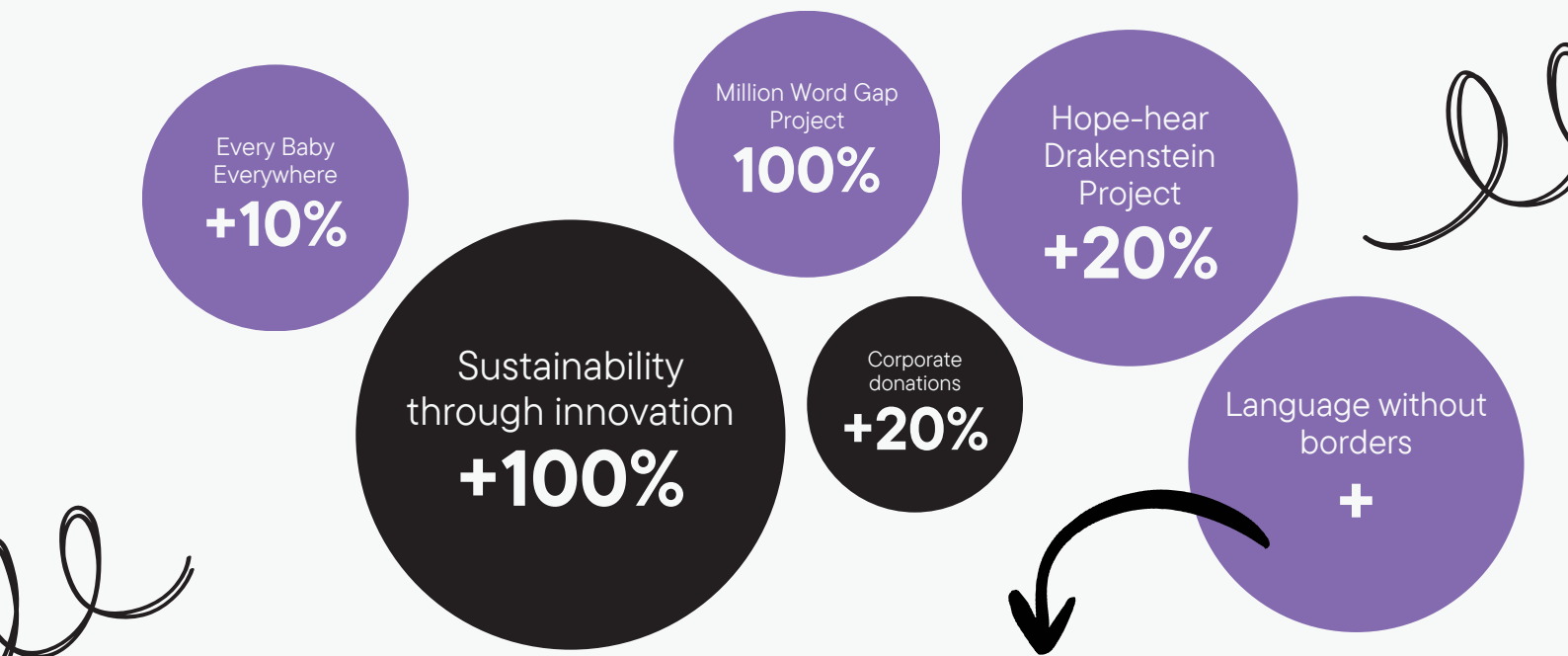


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6 Month Short-term Goals



We are actively seeking funding. We have identified an excellent candidate who we would like to train to be the first African language-speaking auditory verbal therapist in South Africa.

We have a corporate sponsor who is willing to fund her bursary through Auditory Verbal UK. We need to secure an additional **R420,000.00** per year for 3 years to provide her with the correct work-related opportunities and employment to enable her to pursue this goal.

Every day, children with undetected hearing loss and language delay fall behind, not because they lack potential, but because they lack access to diagnostic, therapeutic, and rehabilitative support.

It is inconceivable that 31 years after South Africa's first democratic elections, that children who speak an African language are unable to receive the same level of auditory verbal therapy. Although this only affects children who receive cochlear implants, it speaks to the linguistic inequalities in the speech and language pathology field.

If we want children to thrive at school, we need to empower them with the tools to learn. This includes access to hearing screening, diagnostic audiology services, hearing amplification, sound amplification, and speech and language therapy that is culturally and linguistically appropriate for African children.

Organisations that support Hope-hear invest in a future where every child is heard, understood, and empowered, in their own language.

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Sustainability Plan

Although Hope-hear will always depend on corporate social responsibility and private donations to fund some of our initiatives, we view our hearing technician team as a valuable asset, whose service is comparable to international best practice.

The programmatic challenges that we face stem from system challenges. Implementing a new service within a complex adaptive system is recognised to be a challenging endeavour. With the help of Provincial Health and Education teams, we will be able to resolve these issues in time. We are excited to be embarking on this phase of the journey!



However, we believe that public-private partnerships are essential to the success of any sustainable solutions. We plan on transitioning to the private healthcare system to provide a steady and reliable income source for our public service.

This is a new and innovative approach to tackling a healthcare challenge, and we are excited to implement it within the next few months.

We have achieved a remarkable amount in the past 20 months. We continue to be enthusiastically motivated by our passion, and we hope that our community continues to grow.





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Rita Pierson, d.2013
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Thank you to all our donors for their
generous support

Meaningful change requires many hands and many hearts.

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