

MOLO SONGOLOLO



Annual Report 2021



Registration

Established: 1979 - 1980

Company's Act - Reg. No: 1995/007290/08

DSD: NPO Directorate - NPO No: 083 447

Designated Child Protection Organisation - C9329

South African Revenue Services - VAT No: 4950182404

Public Benefit Organisation – PBO No

Main office

Address: 46 Trill Road, Observatory 7925

P.O. Box 43326, Woodstock 7915

Tel: 021 448 5421 / Fax: 021 448 2024

Email: info@molo.org.za

Website: www.molosongololo.org



Satellite offices

Atlantis - Unit 1, Market Street, Atlantis – Tel: 071 819 3275

Beaufort West - Thusong Centre De Vries Street – Tel: 079 406 1760

Delft - Welwitschia Primary School, Welwitschia Road, 071 282 4694

Mission

Promote the
rights of
children

Vision

All children
enjoy their
rights

Values

Respect
children and
their rights

Programmes 2021

**Child Protection
and Victim
Empowerment**
prevent child
sexual abuse
and exploitation

**Child and Youth
Empowerment**
promote child
leadership and
participation in
decision making

**Awareness and
Advocacy**
promote the
rights and
protection of
children in need

Build Capacity
improve
childcare and
protection
services for
children in need

Chairpersons Report - Zeenith Ebrahim

I am inspired by Patric and the entire Molo teams' commitment to progressing Molo's mission and to provide safe programming and support through the pandemic. Over the last 18 months, at a time when the need for Molo's work is more urgent than ever, they balanced the safety of the children we serve and their own personal safety with the need to continue programming.

The pandemic has intensified the already very challenging environment that millions of children in South Africa find themselves in by forcing them to spend more time in homes where they may not feel safe and by increasing food insecurity as a result of school closures. This challenge is made significantly worse by school closures that impacted millions of students across the country, many of whom were faced with challenges of consistently attending school before that pandemic may have learning completely stopped for them. Even if recovery is possible, the impact on their confidence as learners in communities where few of the generations before them have had access to advanced education may exacerbate the challenges faced to complete school. We will continue to see the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on children's physical, emotional, cognitive and spiritual development in South Africa long after the illnesses have passed.



I recall a recent interview where Patric highlighted the impact of poverty and crime on children. And their resultant impact of all the negative societal externalities on children's wellbeing and their development. As I reflect on this, I am reminded that the power of Molo's work lies both in its programming as well as in the ability of the team to foster collaboration across different civil society organisations.

The well-being and protection of children lie not only in the things immediately surrounding their development but also in having a space to go to engage with the world around them. Molo has long been a safe place for children to engage with the world. I look forward to a time when Molo can gather children in abundance as we did in the past, including for events like the annual general meeting. The pandemic has intensified the need for access to the internet and highlighted why physical interactions are so critical for vulnerable children.

At the same time, the Molo team has borne unmentionable suffering and losses. We remember Milly for her contributions to our space and for the energy that she brought to her work. We remember her family and the continued loss that they feel.

Several Molo team members have suffered tragic losses from the pandemic and battled the disease themselves. The resilience of the team through this time is a testament to the strength that they bring to the work.

I also acknowledge that our board is changing. Last year we constituted a new board which has brought new energy and ideas that I hope we will continue to develop in the coming year. On behalf of the entire board, I want to thank Vernon Norton for the role that has played on our team. His energy and contributions cannot be overstated. I will miss his commitment, his follow-through, his leadership and his mentorship as a board member. Knowing his long-standing commitment to Molo I am sure that he will continue to be an active partner and supporter of our work. I am excited to engage with him in this capacity.

Molo's role in our communities to work for children to advance their development and support their basic human rights has never been more important. I have no doubt that the coming months and years will be challenging. I wish that I could end this note with some reassurance and belief in a positive outcome, but I think that would be inauthentic given where we are as a community. I can say with confidence that I sincerely believe that Patric and the Molo team will do everything in their power to advance the rights of children and to continue to provide services and safe spaces for them. This gives me hope that together we can make positive changes in the lives of the children and of the families that we serve to ensure that regardless of their status and their circumstances can benefit from a decent education and the life opportunities it can bring. All my very best wishes.

Director's Report – Patric Solomons

The Covid-19 pandemic is having an overpowering impact on the staff and work of the organisation. The lockdown restrictions and prevention protocols have changed the way we work and limited our work with our clients, target groups and communities

The Covid-19 pandemic also had a devastating impact on our staff members. Several became infected with the Covid-19 virus and seriously ill. All experienced the loss of a family member, friend or acquaintances due to Covid-19. The most tragic for Molo Songololo were losing our colleague Millicent Seswana to the dreaded virus in December 2020.

Another tragedy was the death of long-servicing staff member, Ronnie Ngalo in June 2020. Ronnie battle HIV&AIDS related illness for many years. His is truly missed for his facilitation and organising skills and commitment to Molo Songololo.



Covid-19 robbed us of the opportunity to host our annual fundraising events; The Molo Comedy Show, The Molo Songololo Spring Bazaar, and the Molo Songololo Food Affair. Several funders suspended their application processes. Fortunately, we were able to secure funding from DSD – Western Cape, The National Lotteries Commission, and the National Development Agency.

As an essential services provider, Molo Songololo staff worked through-out the various Covid19 National Lockdown Levels, and had to adjust to the Covid19 regulations and restrictions: i.e.

- **Child Protection and Victim Empowerment Programme**
Most of the work during this reporting period focussed on working with individual clients. And when restrictions are relaxed, we then also work with small groups of no more than 5 persons at a time to avoid risks of Covid19 infections
- **Child & Youth Empowerment Programme**
This work was suspended for most of the year due to Covid19 regulation. When restrictions are relaxed work with groups of 10 and more persons were conducted – Covid19 protocols applied.
- **Awareness and Advocacy Programme -**
We were unable to conduct public activities and focus on social media campaigns and engage and participate in various international, national, and provincial webinars on child rights issues.
- **Capacity Building Programme**
This work was limited due to Covid19 restrictions and risks.

Over 3000 children and parents directly benefitted from Molo Songololo services during this reporting year. The way forward remains uncertain regarding Covid19 and its impact on the organisation. We are committed to sustain Molo Songololo and fight the pandemic.

A very big thank you to all those who provided financial and non-financial support. Special thank you to our patron Ms Vantura and Mr Rose, and board members who reached out and supported the staff and director during this difficult year.

Child Protection and Victim Empowerment Programme

During this reporting year, despite the threat of Covid19 pandemic, Molo Songololo, as an essential service provider for children who are victims of sexual abuse and exploitation, those at risk and their families, continued to roll-out its work in Atlantis, Beaufort West, and Delft.

During National Lockdown Levels 3 to 5 the work of Molo Songololo focussed on the following:

- Walk-ins – at the Atlantis, Beaufort West, and Delft offices
- Telephonic - follow-ups, interviews, counselling, monitoring and support work
- House visits – regular contact, follow-ups, monitoring, counselling, and support work
- Assessments – to develop intervention plans
- Counselling – individual counselling
- Therapeutic work – sessions with small groups
- Referrals – make and receive referrals
- Ongoing support – family integration, wellness, school support, court support, etc.

During National Lockdown Levels 1 and 2 Molo Songololo work included the following activities:

- Empowerment sessions and workshops with big groups of children, parents, and community members
- Public awareness and educational group activities for children and community members

Profile of child beneficiaries in the CP&VEP during this reporting period:

- Age group – 12 to 17 years of age (a few are younger and some older)
- Gender – most are girls – about 12 percent of our VEP clients are boys
- Child Rape – 41% of VEP clients are victims
- Child Sexual Exploitation – 15% of VEP clients are victims
- Children at risk – 44%

Staff safety is a priority. All staff was issued with masks and sanitisers, to ensure safety and prevent infections. Staff are constantly reminded adhere to the Covid19 prevention protocols:

- Wear mask properly
- Sanitise and wash hands regularly
- Keep distance of 1.5 metres

This programme focusses on the following target communities

- Atlantis and surrounding areas – Mamre, Pella and Witsand
- Beaufort West and surrounding areas - Prince Albert Road, Merweville, Leeu Gamka, Nelspoort
- Delft and surrounding areas – Blikkiesdorp, N2 Gateway, Mfuleni

An Annual 5-week Art for Healing sessions are conducted with a small group of children by Patric Solomons



Achievement of the CP&VEP

Molo Songololo provided essential social support and intervention services to children who are victims of sexual violence, those at risk, and their parents. Funding for this was received from:

- DSD – Western Cape
- National Lotteries Commission
- The National Development Agency – Cara Fund
- And various smaller donors and contributors

Although Covid-19 Lockdown restrictions presented various challenges for our staff, the team was able to continue to implement and provide services to children and their families. During this reporting year Molo Songololo achieved the following:

Objectives	1 st Quarter	2 nd Quarter	3 rd Quarter	4 th Quarter	Total
Child Protection & Victim Empowerment					
Children participate in public education sessions on Sexual Exploitation and Trafficking in Children	133	619	312	463	1527
Parents / adults participate in public education sessions on Sexual Exploitation and Trafficking in Children	88	83	342	156	669
Child victims and those at risk of sexual exploitation are provided with support - assessment, counselling, referrals services	104	87	80	72	343
Parents of child victims and those at risk of sexual abuse and exploitation provided with support services	80	72	75	63	290
Children receive therapeutic and developmental services	3	65	106	43	217
Parents receive therapeutic and developmental services		11	10	25	46

Covid19 Lockdown and regulations are having a devastating negative impact on children from poor families and communities. Many parents lost their jobs and income, and opportunities for piece-meal work. They are struggled to provide food for their children. We appealed for donations from our friends and supporters.

300 food parcels were made-up and distributed to children's families we work with, from donations received.



Dignity for Girls – fundraising and awareness drive

Most of the children Molo Songololo work with are from poor households and communities where unemployment and lack of income and access to resources negatively impact on children and their needs. Most of the girl children we work with are unable to:

- Regularly access sanitary pads and toiletries when they need it.
- Attend school when they menstruate because they don't have sanitary products
- Enjoy human dignity because of lack of access to sanitary products and toiletries

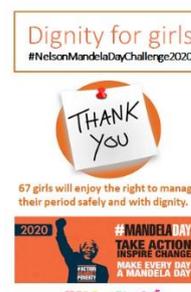
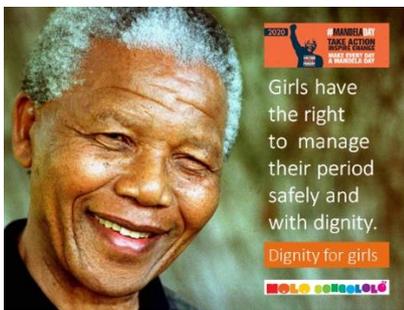
This bi-annual fundraising drive ensure that the children in our Victim Empowerment programme receive a Dignity Gift Bag which is filled with a 3-month supply of the following products:

- Sanitary pads
- Body-soap and facecloth, vaseline and body lotion, underarm and body spray
- Shampoo and conditioners, and some treats and nibbles

#Dignity4Girls – is also a social media awareness raising campaign to bring to the attention our followers, friends and public the following messages

- Menstruation is a normal and natural part of a girl and women's life
- Girls and women must be respected and not shamed because they menstruate
- Many girls denied dignity because they don't have sanitary pads and toiletries
- Advocate for free sanitary pads for girls and women.

67 Dignity Gift Bags was made up and distributed to 67 girls from the donations received for our annual NELSON MANDELA DAY CHALLENGE and #Dignity4Girls social media campaign



200 Dignity Gift Bags was made up and distributed to 150 girls and 50 boys from donations received from our annual CHRISTMAS GIVING fundraising drive and #Dignity4Girls social media campaign.



Child Youth Empowerment

Promoting and facilitating children's involvement in public decision-making processes is a key priority of Molo Songololo. Despite the many challenges the organisation faced during this period, because of Covid19, we still managed to conduct some group sessions with children.

Small groups of 10 participants took part in consultation sessions with members of the Molo Songololo Children's Forums in Atlantis, Beaufort West and Delft. The sessions were held to:

- Discuss the appointment process and the short-listed candidates
- Raise concerns about the lack of involvement of children
- Identify action points to address the concerns



Young Men's Forum

190 boys took part in these gender-specific life-skills workshops in Atlantis, Beaufort West and Delft during the annual 16 Days Against Women and Child Abuse campaign, focussing on the following:

- Violence in home, school, and community
- Sexual violence and how to prevent it
- Role and Function of the Western Cape Commissioner for Children



180 children took part in small group sessions with children in Atlantis, Beaufort West, and Delft.



Young Women's Forum

With the relaxation of these restrictions under Level 1, Molo Songololo started to facilitate the Young Women's Forum programme in Atlantis, Delft and Beaufort West. The aim was to empower teenage girls to improve their self-awareness, wellness and build their leadership skills through dialogue, learning and social action to advance their rights, needs and interests.

Molo Songololo contracted three young women (Molo Songololo child activists) to facilitate the Young Women's form programme and organise the following:

- Weekly educational session with small groups of 10 participants
- Monthly educational workshops with 30 participants



The facilitated have been active and involved in Molo Songololo Child Advocacy Forum activities for many years and now have opportunity to implement their organising and facilitation skills. They were Chloe Johnson – Atlantis, Yibanathi Rhalarhala – Delft and Candice Hoffman - Beaufort West.

530 girls took part in the weekly and monthly Young Women's Forum sessions in the respective areas. Participants gained the following:

- Improved self-awareness, mindfulness, personal well-being, and self-image
- Awareness of and skills to prevention gender base violence and sexual exploitation
- Leadership to self-organise and engage in social actions to promote the needs, rights and promote safety of teenage girls at home, school and in community.



Awareness and Advocacy Programme

Most of the planned awareness and advocacy activities could not take place due to Covid19. However, during this reporting year Molo Songololo mainly used the media and social media to create awareness and advocacy on various child rights issues, i.e.

- 5 TV interview - Police brutality, Child killing and violence against children
- 17 Radio Interviews – Child rights and protection issues and sentencing of offenders
- 11 Newspaper Interviews – Various child rights and protection issues.

Molo Songololo also engaged in various webinars and was invited as a speaker on the following

- South African Human Rights Commission – Children Rights Think Tank
- The Film and Publications Board – Combating Online Child Sexual Exploitation
- Lilita Labantu – Sexual Violence and Children
- The Catholic Parliamentary Monitoring Group – Impact of Covid19 on Children



Silently increasing Gender Based Violence
Negative impact of Covid19

Molo Songololo staff report GBV silently increase due to Isolation and Frustration Increase Economic Stress causing Arguments and Fighting Assault and Abuse in homes and that Children and women are silent about the violence

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Crime Stats 2019-2020

21 325
Murder Cases
1.4 % increase

53 293
Sexual Offence Cases
1.7% increase

42 289
Rape Cases
1.7% increase

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Partnerships and collaborations with other stakeholders provide opportunity for Molo Songololo to use these platforms to create awareness of and advocate for the rights of the child, and the prevention of child sexual abuse, sexual exploitation, and trafficking in children.



Molo Songololo integrated strategies to prevent and combat the Covid19 pandemic through various awareness and advocacy activities with staff, our clients, participants, stakeholders and public.

Why use a Cloth Facemask?

- Use of cloth mask recommended to help slow the spread of COVID-19
- I protect you and you protect me
- Many people with coronavirus have no symptoms and may transmit the virus to others before showing symptoms
- Prevents transmission through sprays and splashes when an infected person coughs or sneezes



Covid19 & Children Rights

- Children who contract COVID-19 have less severe symptoms and lower mortality rates than other age groups.
- Covid19 Lockdown and response measures have significant negative impact on children's rights to
 - Health, Food and Social Security
 - Education, Recreation and Sport
 - Safety and Protection from Neglect, Abuse, Violence and Exploitation
 - Family and Alternative Care
 - Special protection and special care when orphaned, abandoned, abused, exploited, disabled, refugee, migrant, child labour, used for crime, etc.

A Child Rights Approach to STOP Covid19 is lacking in South Africa!

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Covid19 Prevention & Lockdown Impact on Child Protection

- Has short-term and long term implication for children and families
 - Interrupt and prevent access to child care and protection services
 - Negatively impact on the well-being, safety and protection of children
 - Increases the burden of child care and protection for girls and women
 - Increase lack of food security, hunger and malnutrition
 - Increase child vulnerability and risks to domestic violence, sexual abuse and sexual exploitation
- MOLO SONGOLOLO**



Capacity Building

Due to Covid19, Molo Songololo have not been able to activate this programme as planned. We explored new way to educate and train people to improve child rights and protection. We took part in 3 training webinars where we educated participants on;

- The Film & Publications Amendment Regulations
- National Social Cohesion Advocates – Strategic Plan – Child Rights & Positive Parenting
- Department Social Development - Victim Support Services Bill

Molo Songololo conducted educational talks at the Witsand Clinic for mothers to capacitate them with information to improve child care and protection. Covid19 prevented further rollout.



With SAPS-Delft and other stakeholders we conducted an education workshop for community members to improve capacity and quality of services for victims when reporting of cases to SAPS. Inviets to radio talkshows allow us to educate and capcitate community radio listeners to prevent and combat child sexual abuse and exploitation in our target areas.



Networking with the Film and Publications Board and other stakeholders increase our impact to improve child protection and prevent child sexual exploitation; and get donations from public.



Resource mobilisation

Covid19 pandemic negatively impacted on the organisation's ability to raise funds. Several funders and businesses suspended or delayed their application processes. Covid19 Lockdown regulations also prevented Molo Songololo from organising the following annual fundraising events;

- The Molo Songololo Comedy Show
- The Molo Songololo Spring Bazaar
- The Molo Songololo Food Affair

During this reporting period the following funders, groups and individuals provided financial support that help to sustain the programmes and activities of Molo Songololo:

- Department Social Development – Western Cape
- National Lotteries Commission
- National Development Agency
- LAZAR Foundation
- Old Mutual
- Community Chest
- Individual supporters and friends of Molo Songololo

The annual Molo Songololo Open Day went ahead. The event provided opportunity for Molo Songololo to:

- Promote DIGNITY FOR GIRLS campaign during the Obs Streetopia community street festival
- Conduct a street tin-collection for sanitary pads and toiletries
- Host various stalls and sell second-hand clothes, books, music and eatables
- Host a pop-up Art exhibition in collaboration with Cathal McKee of Fierce-Pop
- Provide opportunity for people to drop off their donations of sanitary pads and toiletries.



The Molo Songololo Open Day rely on volunteers and our supporters to donate second-hand goods, plants, bakes, and cakes; and help with the street tin collection. Friends of Molo Songololo usually pop-in, bring donations and chill and reconnect with staff and each other. About 100 people attend and pop in.



Human Resources

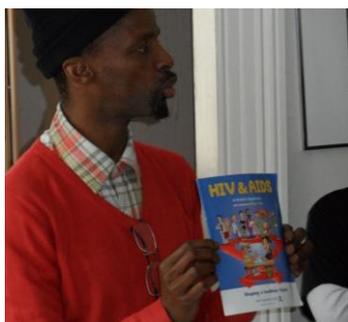
We lost two staff members. Ronnie Ngalo died in June 2020 due to HIV&AIDS complications, and Millicent Seswana died of Covid19 related illness in December 2020. A big loss for Molo Songololo. Our staff managed to adjust to this loss and stabilise the organisation's activities despite the disruption and negative impact of the Ccovid19 pandemic lockdowns and regulations. The staff are:

1	Patric Solomons	Director	Full-time
2	Melda Davids	Office Manager	Full-time
3	Charlotte Pankhurst	VEP Manager Social Worker	Full-time
4	Portia Fuku	VEP SAW - Delft	Full-time
5	Moira Patrick	VEP SAW - Atlantis	Full-time
6	Salome Mc Leod	VEP SAW – Beaufort West	Full-time
7	Ronnie Ngalo	Child & Youth Empowerment	<i>Deceased June 2020</i>
8	Nadeema Taliep	Finance Manager	Part-time
9	Nikelo Makae	Communications & IT	Part-time
10	Millicent Sawana	Office Maintenance	<i>Deceased December 2020</i>
11	Chloe Johnson	Atlantis - YWF / C&YEP	Part-time Facilitator
12	Yibanathis Ralarala	Delft – YWF / C&YEP	Part-time Facilitator
13	Candice Hoffman	Beaufort West – YWF / C&YEP	Part-time Facilitator
14	Andile Appollis	YMF / C&YEP	Part-time Facilitator
15	Lindiwe Lengs	VEP Atlantis	Part-time Volunteers
16	Bronwyn Davids	VEP Delft	Part-time Volunteers
17	Monique Dassie	Volunteer – VEP Beaufort W	Part-time Volunteers

Staff safety - All staff, volunteers, clients, their families, and participants at Molo Songololo activities are supplied with facemasks and hand sanitisers and must adhere to social distancing measures.



Molo Songololo staff and volunteers are annually vetted against the National Child Protection Register as well as the SAPS Clearance.



Board of Directors

Molo Songololo's Constitution makes provision for the organisation to be governed by a Board of Directors; that will:

- Consists of no less than 3 and no more than 7 Board of Directors
- Be elected annually at the annual general meeting of the organisation
- Be the office bearers of the organisation (chairperson, deputy chairperson, treasurer, secretary, etc.)
- Commit to serve for one term (three years); can serve for more than one term
- Volunteer their services, expertise, and time to sustain and develop the organisation

The Constitution sets out the following duties of the Board of Directors and office bearers that get elected annually at the Annual General Meeting:

- Ensure sound organisational policies, financial management, compliance, and operating procedures for the organisation
- Ensure that Annual Financial Audits, Annual Narrative Reports and Business Plans are produced, presented and approved at the Annual General Meeting.
- Convene the Annual General Meeting with the all the members of the organisation
- Meet once a quarter (every three months) – at least 4 members must be present to constitute a quorum - or when deemed necessary call special meetings.
- Ensure that casual vacancies occurring are filled as soon as possible – a member who does not attend 3 Board meetings in a row – without reasonable explanation – may be removed from the Board.

The following members of the Board of Director and office bearers was elected at the last Annual General Meeting held on 10 October 2020:

- Zeenith Ebrahim – chairperson
- Noluthando Xolilizwe – Deputy chairperson
- Kurt Johnson - Treasurer
- Dale van der Berg – Secretary
- Ncebakazi Mnukwana
- Vernon Norton
- Patric Solomons – Executive Director

Patrons – Matlda Vantura and Vernon Rose who have been long-standing members of the Board of Directors stepped down and was elected as patrons of the organisation. Both continue to support the organisation, its staff and director.



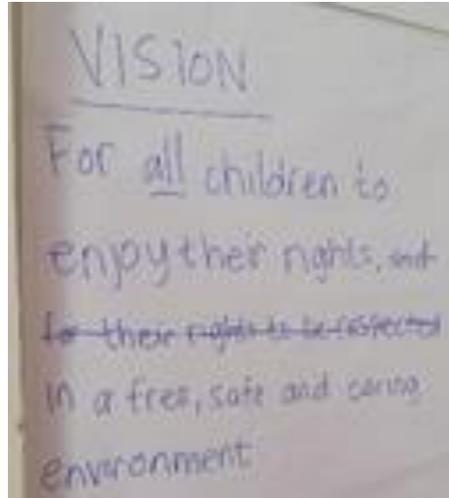
Partnerships and Collaborations

Molo Songololo is grateful for the trust and respect afforded to the organisation by funders and the various NGO partners and collaborators to advance the rights and protection of children. Those we regularly inter-act with include:

- The South African Human Rights Commission
- Department Social Development National
- Department Social Development – Western Cape
- SAPS – FCS Provincial and district offices
- Department of Health – Clinics
- Department of Education and all the schools
- The City of Cape Town – Social Development Unit.
- The Film and Publications Board –
- Department of Justice
- National child Protection Forum
- Provincial Child Protection Forum
- National and Provincial Trafficking Task Teams
- Western Cape Street Children’s Forum (WCSCF)
- Western Cape Forum for Intellectual Disability
- Community Chest
- Child Welfare Society
- Safeline
- childLine
- World Vision South Africa
- Deaf-SA Western Cape
- Children Resource Centre
- ACVV
- Disabled Children’s Action Group - DICAG
- Trauma Centre
- The Justice Desk
- Western Cape Child Protection Collaborative
- Justice Desk Africa Unite
- Ilitha La Bantu
- Embrace Dignity
- Homestead
- Early Learning Resource Unit
- The Bayakhanya Foundation NPC
- Etafeni Day Care Centre
- Beautiful Gate South Africa
- Cape Town Peace Centre
- Inclusive Education South Africa
- Child Welfare – Stellenbosch
- Yizani Sakhe Organisation
- Leliebloem Children’s Home
- Grassroots
- Jelly Beanz
- Down Syndrome South Africa
- The Parents Centre
- Hermanus Rainbow Trust - Parenting Worx
- And many more

Big thank you too all
funders, supporters, and networking partners
for the ongoing support.





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