Ezrah
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QUARTERLY REPORT:
CHILD DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

JANUARY 2024 - MARCH 2024

133-155 NPO 2013/227807/08 NPC 930050983 PBO

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INTRODUCTION

Reflecting on this quarter, Ezrah Community Training and Development NPC celebrates productive initiatives that contributed significantly to our community upliftment projects' advancement.

In building best practice community upliftment models. we value the lived experiences of community members. Therefore, a huge focus at Ezrah is to create safe spaces where community leaders can engage with different child protection role-players to work collectively on child well-being solutions and community challenges.

One example of such a community-based approach is our pilot project in Kayamandi, Stellenbosch. From evaluation meetings and regular feedback from our BuildSmart facilitators we identify strengths, challenges and opportunities to enhance parent mentoring in this community. The feedback from BuildSmart facilitators is then used to either adapt existing tools and activities or to create new ones. This ensures that beneficiaries at community level can reap the maximum benefit.

We want to thank all our beneficiaries, contributors, donors and supporters for every contribution towards this quarter's successful outcomes. May you enjoy reading this report as a collective celebration of joint progress. Together we can empower the next generation as leaders of change.

Mariëtte Jacobs

Managing Director

22 March 2024

Date

VISION

Promoting ethical service delivery and quality education where children matter.

MISSION

We empower the next generation as leaders of change.

VALUES

- Integrity: Aiming for the highest ethical and professional standards.
- Competence: Creating a culture of growth and innovation.
- Stewardship: Caring for our resources and nurturing our relationships.
- Transparency: Providing accurate information promptly.
- Accountability: Inspiring trust with all our stakeholders.

FOCUS AREAS

Investment in people

We value and care for people with a strong focus on children's best interest.

Strategic clarity

We implement our redemptive purpose with clarity and endurance.

Ethical commitment

We promote value-based education and disciplined, ethical service delivery.

Collaborative solutions

We achieve social cohesion with a solution-focused attitude.

SOME QUARTERLY HIGHLIGHTS

- Ezrah received the award for the **Most Impactful Coaching NPO in South Africa** from Corporate Vision in January 2024.
- Ezrah facilitated a staff session on redemptive purpose with the staff team from Ma's vir Wellington in February 2024.
- Ezrah facilitated a strategic planning session with the board of Wamakersvallei Training Centre in February 2024.
- Ezrah's BuildSmart online course was launched in February 2024.
- Ezrah hosted three child protection workshops, facilitated many stake-holder meetings and implemented multiple collaborative projects with child-focused colla-borators to advance child protection and well-being.

"At Ezrah, everytime I attend I learn more than I expected, so I can say that I am eager to learn this year. Thank you very much."

(Siphokazi Silandela, Ikamva Foundation, 24 January 2024)

CHILD PROTECTION STAKEHOLDER MEETINGS

Steering Group Meetings

We started 2024 with a powerful steering group event in January 2024 where we could empower our community child protection ambassadors with the PERMA model. This model can be used to facilitate emotional well-being in staff teams and with beneficiary groups.

Working Group Meetings

At our working group meeting on the 24th of January 2024, Mrs. Annemie van Reenen (Chief Director: Service Delivery at the Western Cape Dept. of Social Development) and her colleagues shared the mandate and role of the Department of Social Development as it relates to the child protection. Fruitful connections for collaboration were made to enhance collaboration between child protection role-players.

Western Cape Counter Child Trafficking Forum

Ezrah collaborates with various government departments and counter trafficking organisations to build trauma-informed models. Part of our collaborative efforts include the development of a counter child trafficking manual, compilation of service directories and collation of awareness campaign data. We also collaborate with the Western Cape Provincial Task Team.

"Ezrah is great. To start your year like this is very good. Now, I can implement this at my school with my staff. "

(Beulah Minnaar, Little Rascals Day Care, 24 January 2024)

CHILD PROTECTION POLICY TRAINING

It is always such a great privilege to equip child-focused NPOs and ECDs with skills to develop and implement a child protection policy within their own context. Therefore, we want to thank our dedicated workshop participants for their enthusiastic participation in this workshop held on the 15th of February 2024. May you grow from strength to strength!

FEEDBACK FROM OUR WORKSHOP PARTICIPANTS

- I have enjoyed this session very much and learned alot about policies. **(Marlene Lamour, Little Angels)**
- Thanks for practical and updated information around child protection. **(Samantha-May Jacobs, Pebbles Project)**
- The workshop was very interesting and I thoroughly enjoyed It. I became aware of how the legislation changes and how we need to keep up to date with this. **(Ashleigh Seals, Pebbles Project)**
- Thank you for a very insightful session. All information was useful and appropriate to the topic. Notes were clear. **(Jouwenen le Cordeur, Little Stars Pre-School)**

Brilliant! Honestly the best workshop I have attended in this space. It was very informative, relevant, thought-provoking. I feel equipped and empowered. Thank you so much for the incredible resources! (**Chené Fourie, A21, 15 February 2024)**

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Persons trained

BUILDSMART PARENT MENTORING PROJECTS

Our BuildSmart projects made great strides in momentum this quarter:

1. Firstly, we were super excited to launch our online BuildSmart course. Facilitators across the country now have access to a quality 8 session parent mentoring programme with downloadable tools. In addition, social workers and social auxiliary workers can earn CPD points from the SACSSP on completion of this course.
2. Secondly, we launched the BuildSmart Play Challenge in Kayamandi, Stellenbosch with great feedback. Read more about this exciting pilot project on our blog at https://www.ezrah.co.za/buildsmart-play-challenge/.

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Parents equipped

"This is a great initiative and it will make a difference in communities at large as it already does in the ones the program is running in."

(Zolisile Dodi, Legacy Community Development, 23 February 2024)

56 ECD practioners trained

COLLABORATIVE CHILD PROTECTION TRAINING WITH INCEBA TRUST

Ezrah in collaborative with Inceba Trust has embarked on a collaborative project to train ECD practitioners on child protection through a series of four workshops. The groups were split into two with the training conducted on 6 March (Mbekweni group) and 7 March (Pniel group) respectively. The first theme was identifying and reporting child abuse.

FEEDBACK FROM OUR WORKSHOP PARTICIPANTS:

- Today's session was excellent. I have learnt that it is important to take care of the young ones, making sure that they are always safe and protected. We as their teachers are their voice. **(Pumeza Xala, Kuyasa Playgroup).**
- Very informative, well-planned and prepared. Grateful to have been here and to get info on how to handle things as a community worker. **(Hellene Fischer, Little Rainbow Daycare)**
- A good presentation. I learnt how to see the signs of abuse and how to report it. **(Nozuko Mpemnyama, Luthando Educare)**
- The workshop was excellent. I would like to learn more about child protection. **(Bongiwe Dumo, Siyanqoba Creche)**
- This was a very insightful workshop that cleared up so much confusion. It made us aware of how to handle such situations **(Leandra Whitlo, Lekkerbly Speelskool)**
- Very informative with an excellent facilitator. **(Elize Minnaar, Little Tigers)**
- I loved this workshop. The facilitator was very calm and presented the message very clearly. I will recommend to others to attend also. **(Shainnun Francis, Hop Skop Spring)**

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

With gratitude, Ezrah acknowledges the generous contributions of the following persons and organisations in support of its mission to empower the next generation as leaders of change during this quarter:

Ezrah Directors

- Lesley Anne Huysamen (Chairperson)
- Maarten Pelser Meyer (Treasurer, Risk and Ethics Officer)
- Mariëtte Jacobs (Secretary, Information Officer)

Ezrah Team Members and Consultants

- Mariëtte Jacobs (Managing Director)
- Carien van Zyl (Senior Social Worker Consultant)
- Sophie Olivier (Fundraising Consultant)
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Businesses

- *Website and IT support*: Shine the Way 366cc
- *Legal advice*: Maarten Meyer Attorneys and Mediators

Donors

- Community Chest
- Anonymous Donors

All Ezrah's collaborators, supporters beneficiaries and friends.

"This was such an inspirational way to start the year. Thank you! "

(Lee-Anne Jones, Kin Culture NPC, 24 January 2024)

CONTACT US

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