Ezrah
GROW TODAY
LEAD TOMORROW



IMPACT REPORT:

CHILD DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

APRIL TO SEPTEMBER 2026

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

www.ezrah.co.za

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All photos of identifiable persons used with permission.

To see our vibrant training in action , click HERE.

INTRODUCTION

The period from April to September 2026 has been one of significant growth and achievement for Ezrah Community Training and Development NPC. We made great strides in implementing all six of our play-based training projects, reaching individuals, organisations and communities through both in-person and online training courses.

Our training focused on six key areas: a) **First 1000 Days** (promoting healthy early childhood development) b) **Child Protection** (equipping practitioners to create safer spaces for children) c) **BuildSmart Play Challenge and Parent Mentoring** (strengthening the role of play and positive parenting) d) **I Can Choose** (empowering children to make healthy choices to prevent substance abuse) e) **Empathy in Action: Humane Education** (nurturing empathy and compassion towards people and animals) and f) **LEAD Mentoring and Wellbeing** (equipping young people with the tools to mentor and support children, colleagues and parents in making positive life choices).

Each project represents another step in our calling of building resilient communities where children are seen, heard, supported and protected. Through practical tools, meaningful collaborations and collaborative learning, we continue to strengthen the capacity of those who work alongside children and families every day.

A heartfelt thank you to all our donors, collaborators and supporters who have been part of this journey. Your commitment, generosity and support for our work make it possible to turn shared vision into meaningful action.

Together, we are building stronger communities, creating opportunities for children to thrive and empowering the next generation as leaders of change!

Mariëtte Jacobs

October 2026

Managing Director



VISION

Promoting ethical service delivery and quality education where children and animals 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.



OVERVIEW OF PROGRESS:
APRIL 2026 TO SEPTEMBER 2026

Our programme in numbers:

01. First 1000 days training

- **Total**: 99 facilitators trained

99

02. Child protection training

- **Total**: 186 persons from 61 organisations and 134 ECD practitioners from 101 ECDs trained

320

03. BuildSmart Play Challenge

- **Total**: 82 facilitators trained

82

04. I can choose substance abuse prevention training

- **Total:** 129 facilitators trained

129

05. Humane education

- **Total:** 164 facilitators trained

164

06. LEAD mentoring and well-being

- **Total:** 47 facilitators trained

47



HIGHLIGHTS

CELEBRATING DUE DILIGENCE AND REACH

Community Chest due diligence certificate

The Community Chest of the Western Cape Due Diligence process is an assessment that checks non-profit organisations (NPOs) for legal and governance compliance. We are proud to confirm that we have completed this process and received our due diligence certificate for the 2026/2027 period.



CERTIFICATE
OF DUE DILIGENCE

Ezrah Community Training and Development NPC

Has completed the 2026/2027 Community Chest Due Diligence and is deemed

COMPLIANT

Valid for the period 01 April 2026 - 31 March 2027

This certificate is based on the Due Diligence assessment of this organisation's Legal and Governance Compliance.

Due Diligence Reference Number:
Ezrah Community Training and Development NPC - 6481/2026

THE COMMUNITY CHEST OF THE WESTERN CAPE
003-040 NPO

Growing our reach through our online courses

We have expanded our reach to all nine provinces in South Africa through our online courses and reached a new record: In this time period 339 persons have completed our online courses successfully.

FIRST 1000 DAYS TRAINING



99 facilitators trained

FEEDBACK FROM PARTICIPANTS

"The training enlightened me about early childhood development. Babies' lives are so important and they are such a blessing and miracle. I will apply this training in our communities and inform parents about the importance of the first 1000 days of children's lives." — ***Charldene Booysen (YearBeyond, 9 April 2026)***

"Excellent. The first 1000 days of a baby determines his future. Babies depend on emotional and mental support to shape who they'll become. We appreciate the insightful information learnt today." **— *Emihle Nkwezne (@HomeLearning, 9 April 2026)***

"Excellent. I learned the importance of the mother's health during pregnancy, the importance of family support and of having a bond with your baby. I will educate people on the importance of the first 1000 days. This program is educational and should be spread worldwide."
—Sesethu Xhego (YearBeyond, 9 April 2026)

Learn more about our First 1000 Days project HERE

CHILD PROTECTION TRAINING



320 practitioners trained

FEEDBACK FROM PARTICIPANTS

"Excellent. Very comprehensive explanation of different aspects of child protection and how to implement." ***—Anele Horn (Stellumthombo, 11 August 2026)***

"Workshop was excellent and reminded me of my love of being a social worker. My memory was refreshed about the different forms, the screening, consent and practical safeguarding as well as the child protection policy. I will do a refresher course with my staff at the school to teach them how to complete the forms and how they should conduct themselves." ***—Rochelle Lamoor (Jessie Keet Pre-primary School, 11 August 2026)***

"It is clear, well explained. The examples make it more understandable. Since I deal with vulnerable children and I work in a child protection organisation, I have learned a lot especially when it comes to criminal justice. Thank you for this training, this will assist me to produce quality work." - ***Akhona Dayi-Mseleni (CMR East London, 7 April 2026)***

Learn more about our Child Protection project HERE

BUILDSMART PLAY CHALLENGE

82 facilitators trained

FEEDBACK FROM PARTICIPANTS

"Fascinating. It really gave me more experience of understanding the needs of children and building parenting skills. I learned how to teach children manners, that a child's voice must be heard and the power of positive words. I will use the BuildSmart cards and manual we received today."

- Keishia Damonse (KPS@Homelearning, 22 September 2026)

"This was very useful as I am a developing mentor and facilitator. I learned that children's voices matter, the importance of securing a strong and positive relationship with children and that children pick up what they see. The BuildSmart programme helps facilitators build up children's brains and skills through play. It teaches positive discipline, while motivating children to become their best. I would recommend this programme to all mentors working with youth."

- Linie Jacobs (SCORE, 15 September 2026)



Learn more about our BuildSmart Play Challenge project HERE

I CAN CHOOSE

FEEDBACK FROM PARTICIPANTS

129 facilitators trained

"Very impressive, inspiring and informative. I learned the long-term effects that drugs and alcohol can have on the brain. Keep up the good work."
- Charmon Lee Herringer (YearBeyond, 17 July 2026)

"Excellent. A lot of fruitful information. I have learned facilitation skills through using material that is child-friendly, so that you can get the message across. It contributed very well to my professional development."
*- **Ashley Lungiswa Bafo (Hope and Light Community Welfare, 18 June 2026)***

"Excellent. Practical exercises informed by theory. Can be implemented with small children and adults. This workshop expanded my skillset to mentor young children on healthy choices. Thank you!"
*- **Hannelie Shone (Department of Social Development, 18 June 2026)***

"Well constructed and facilitated. I learned how play can be used effectively in substance abuse therapeutic sessions. This will make me a better social worker and counsellor." ***- Wade Alex Thomas (SAI-CAMH, 18 June 2026)***



Learn more about our I Can Choose project HERE

EMPATHY IN ACTION: HUMANE EDUCATION



164 facilitators trained

FEEDBACK FROM PARTICIPANTS

"Ezrah's training of our team was extremely well prepared, very informative and easy to understand and use. The staff loved the games and not only did we all learn whilst using them, it was a great staff team building experience and we had lots of fun. The material we have been given is going to help us launch our youth programme in the local community and give us very solid foundations on which to build upon. Thank you!" ***—Juliet Jarvis (The Gem Project Sanctuary, 23 May 2026)***

"The workshop was very informative and I enjoyed the games. I learned that empathy is a very important quality in life to help other people. This training broadened my perspective on what humane education is and I will apply it to better my craft in helping children."
—Keanan Janneman (Khula Development Group, 19 September 2026)

"So informative, interactive and fun! Inspiring. I learned it is never too late to teach empathy—brain development is affected, but can be changed. We've got some volunteers who will do your online training, and we are so so excited to do our first education campaign. Thank you, what you are doing and teaching is wonderful."
—Tarryn Roux (Furever Friends Foundation, 19 September 2026)

EMPATHY IN ACTION

STORIES OF IMPACT

Learn more about our Humane Education project HERE

“We have been doing education with Grade 3 and 4 students at 2 schools in our districts. the workshops include the 5 freedoms and humane education. To date we have reached 282 students. The students are more understanding of the fact that like people, animals have feelings and that we need to treat each other and animals kindly.”

- Heidi May (TEARS Animal Rescue, 2026)

StellCare Stellenbosch hosted a humane education holiday project in Stellenbosch. They also invited the Animal Welfare Society Stellenbosch to teach practical animal care skills to about 31 children. This is their feedback:

“Ezrah, dit (‘humane education’) het gekom om te bly. Ons glo ook dat as daar liefde gegee kan word aan ‘n dier deur ’n kind, het ons een kind waarskynlik gered en ‘n gelukkige ’space’ gegee. Dankie vir julle en ons ongelooflike groep vrywilligers.”

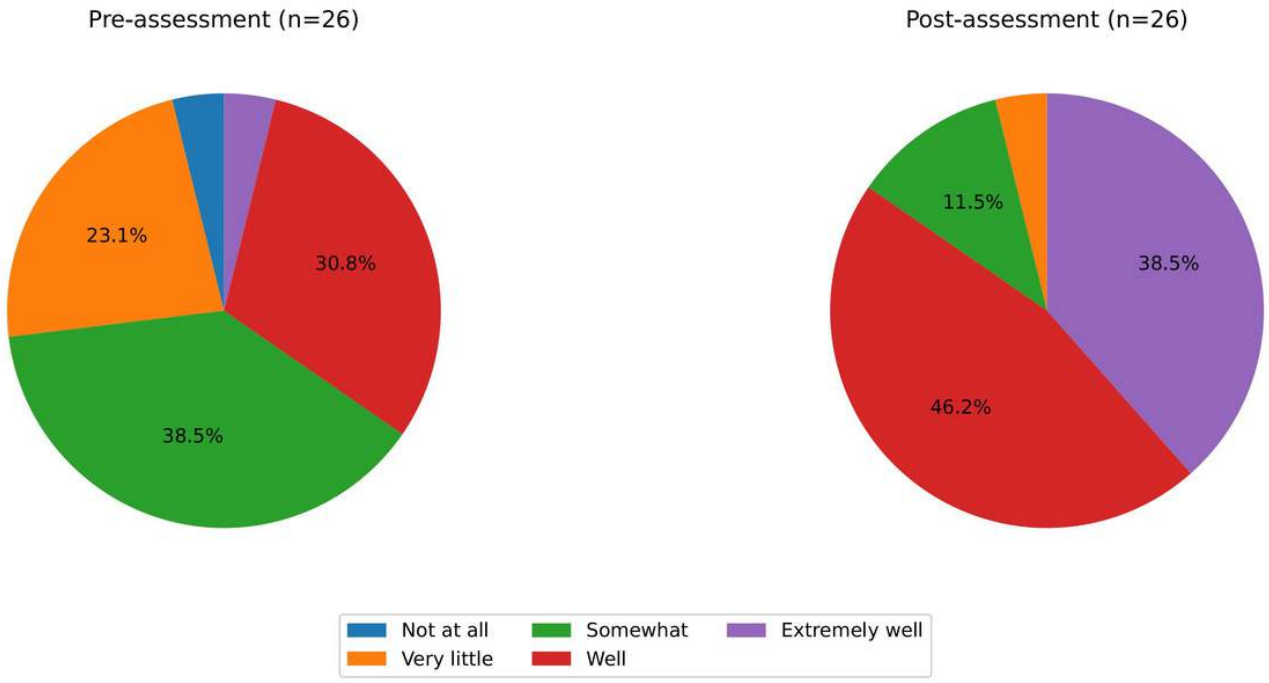
See our Empathy in Action video HERE



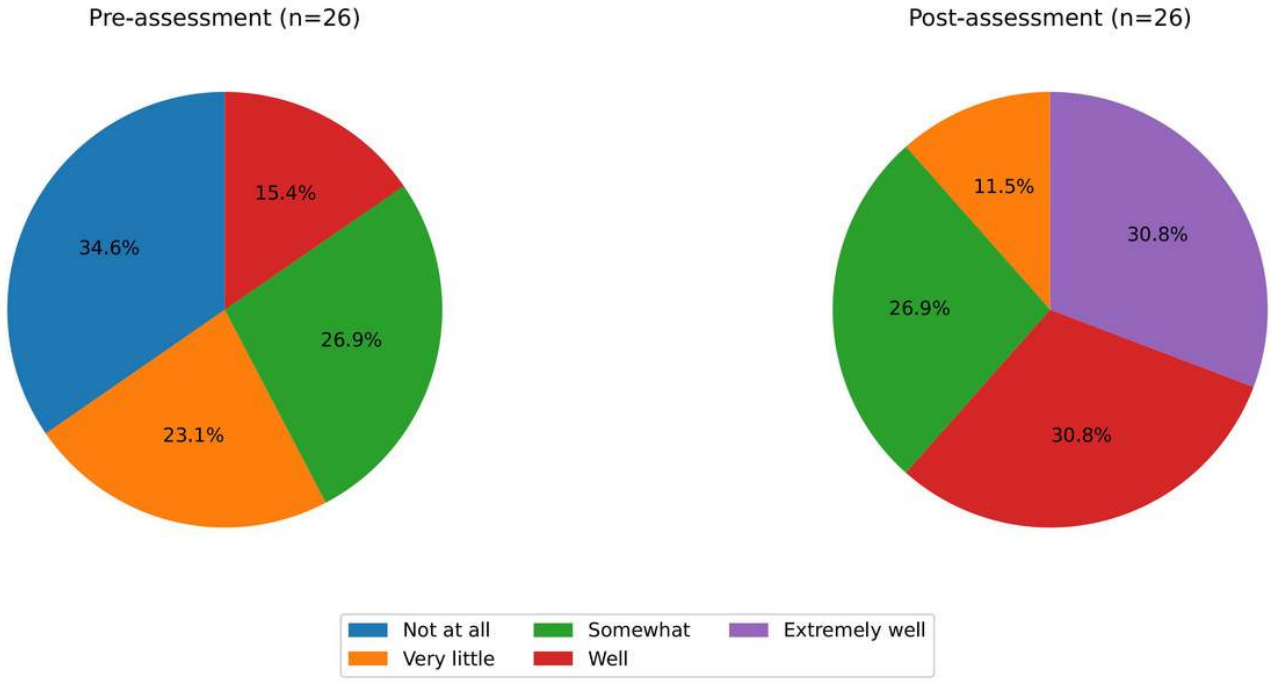
EMPATHY IN ACTION ASSESSMENT

We conducted pre- and post-assessments with the SCORE team to measure the impact of our online Empathy in Action/humane education training. The results below highlight how this training improved participants' confidence to a) coach children on empathy and b) implement humane education to reduce violence.

Statement 7: I know how to coach children on empathy.



Statement 8: I know how to implement humane education in my community to reduce violence.



LEAD MENTORING AND WELL-BEING



FEEDBACK FROM PARTICIPANTS

"Very interactive, fun. Insightful information. Can be used effectively in sessions and everyday life. Child participation is important as some children feel that they cannot make decisions and are not considered. I learned to be kind and loving, uplift children every day and model good behaviour since children look up to you." - ***Jaydene Marais (Khula Development Group, 24 July 2026)***

"This helps greatly in improving well-being personally and in the school environment. Thank you for a brilliant workshop."
- Johané de Beer (Akkerfikela, 11 June 2026)

"Just loved the time to recharge and reflect. To pour into another's cup is to create a village of positivity. Kindness and positivity help building a better child. It helped me look from another perspective on how my approach can change a situation."
- Shanaaz Cupido (Stellenbosch Kindergarden, 11 June 2026)

Learn more about our LEAD project HERE

47 facilitators trained

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

With gratitude, Ezrah CTD acknowledges the generous contributions of the following persons, organisations and donors in support of its vision to promote ethical service delivery and quality education where children and animals matter:

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/Programme Manager)
- Carien van Zyl (Senior Social Worker/Project Coordinator)
- Janique Amber de Bruyn (Digital Communication Support)

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

All Ezrah's collaborators, supporters, beneficiaries and friends.

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