



# 2024 INTEGRATED REPORT

Save the Children South Africa



Save the Children

**Children Changing Communities**

YOUTH LEADING CHANGE

Meet Velegreat Mashele, a 17-year-old Child Human Rights Defender and climate change activist who's making a tangible difference in her community. With support from Save the Children South Africa, Velegreat has been championing positive change through awareness campaigns, community clean-ups and education initiatives.

Velegreat's journey began when representatives from Save the Children South Africa visited her school, introducing her to the children's network. She was drawn to the opportunity to make a difference and joined the network, attending workshops that empowered her to understand and exercise her rights including climate change activism.

Velegreat has led climate change awareness campaigns in her community. She and her peers educate children and community members about climate change, its impact and how to adapt. The campaign has sparked a wave of environmental awareness among her peers. Many now understand the concept of a carbon footprint and ways to reduce it and there's been a noticeable reduction in littering. She also participated in the Africa Children Summit in Kenya where she engaged with fellow young activists from across the continent, sharing experiences and learning from others.

Velegreat's efforts extend beyond her community. She has also been part of a school initiative that educated learners about their rights, empowering them to speak up on issues that matter to them. Through her activism, Velegreat has demonstrated the power of child campaigning in driving meaningful change.

As a child campaigner, Velegreat believes young people can drive positive change by leveraging social media and being active in their communities. "As a young person, I believe that our voices matter and that making a difference doesn't have to be huge; every small action we take can add up to drive meaningful change," asserts Velegreat.



Names marked with \* have been changed to protect identities.



WHO WE ARE

SCSA was established in 2013 as a locally registered and locally governed child rights organisation. We are a member of the global Save the Children Association which was established in 1919.

**Our Vision**  
is a world in which every child attains the right to survival, protection, development and participation.

**Our Mission**  
is to contribute positively to the way the world treats children and to achieve immediate and lasting change in their lives.

**Our Values**  
Creativity, Accountability, Integrity, Collaboration, Ambition, Learning, Passion and Ubuntu.



Save the Children

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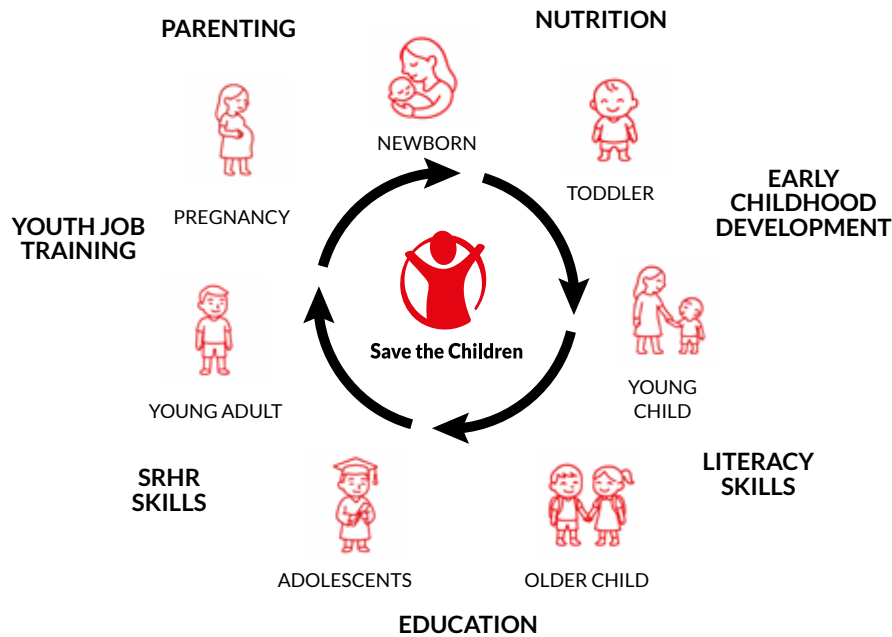
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# THE YEAR 2024 IN REVIEW

SUPPORTING CHILDREN, FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES IN SOUTH AFRICA



## CHILDREN AT THE CENTRE



**106,068**

of the most vulnerable children received psychosocial support and referrals to required health and social services, empowering them to overcome adversity and thrive, representing a

**42%** increase from 74,479 reached in 2023.



Empowered **1,393** children to drive change through campaign initiatives, amplifying their voices and creating positive change for children – up from just

**440** children in 2023, marking an incredible 217% increase.

Engaged **19** children's networks in targeted training, consulting and advocacy support, enhancing their capacity to champion children's rights, a 36% increase from 14 in 2023.

## IMMEDIATE RELATIONSHIPS

**49,843** parents and carers gained essential knowledge and skills to support children's learning and development, up from 35,824 in 2023, marking a **39%** increase.

**49,843**  
**PARENTS AND CARERS**  
GAINED KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS

## COMMUNITIES



**463**  
**ECD CENTRES**  
**499**  
**PRACTITIONERS**

Equipped **463 ECD** centres as was in 2023 and **499** practitioners with the training and support needed to create nurturing environments and deliver high-quality early childhood care and development (ECCD) services. Practitioner numbers decreased by 10% from 550 in 2023.

Built the capacity of **83** CBOs to champion child rights and drive meaningful change in their communities – a **26%** increase from 66 in 2023.



**23**  
**SCHOOLS**  
**118**  
**EDUCATORS**

Empowered **23 schools** and **118 educators** to leverage digital tools, influenced the curriculum framework and fostered a love of reading through community reading clubs. Compared to 2023, we maintained support for 23 schools and saw a 39% increase in educators supported, from 85.

Delivered essential humanitarian aid, including food, clothing, blankets and stationery and cash vouchers to meet critical needs to **1,365** people, including **756** children, affected by the KwaZulu-Natal floods – a 77% decrease from 5,977 in 2023.



**1,365**  
**PEOPLE**  
including 756 children  
**KWAZULU-NATAL FLOODS**

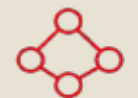
Supported communities in **4**  
metros and **15** municipalities  
across **8** districts to advance child  
rights and development of children.



**82,278** community  
members mobilised



**18** targeted campaigns  
launched

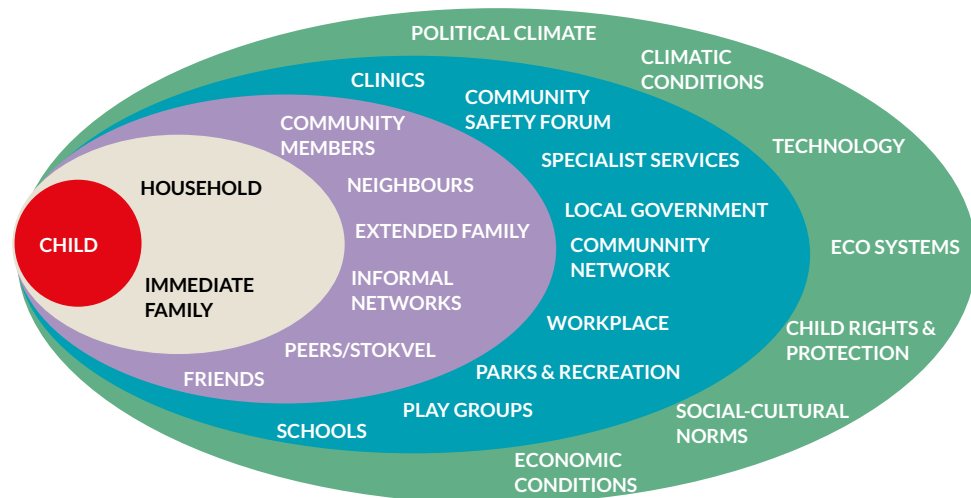


**20** key coalitions  
played a pivotal role  
to shape child rights  
policy and implementation

## SOCIETAL

- Mobilised **82,278** community members to adopt positive parenting practices through awareness campaigns, training for duty bearers and targeted digital messaging – **69%** more than 48,809 reached in 2023.
- Launched **18** targeted campaigns to raise awareness about critical child rights issues, maintaining the same impactful momentum as in 2023.
- Played a pivotal role in **20** key coalitions, driving efforts to shape child rights policy and implementation in South Africa, up from 18 coalitions in 2023.

## HOLISTIC RESPONSE TO MEET A CHILD'S NEEDS





## MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD CHAIR

As we conclude another year in our journey at SCSA, it is both an honour and a privilege to share reflections on our collective achievements, insights gained and the path forward. The board has diligently fulfilled its role in upholding accountability, oversight and governance, ensuring that our mission to serve children and communities remains at the forefront of every decision we make.

Throughout the past year, we have witnessed remarkable achievements that have significantly impacted the lives of many. From expanding our educational programmes to enhancing our community outreach initiatives, our commitment to empowering children and supporting their families has yielded profound results. It is inspiring to see the tangible difference our efforts have made and we recognise that this success could not have been possible without the dedication of our staff, the support of our partners and the trust of our donors.

In reflecting on our progress, we have also encountered challenges that have provided us with invaluable lessons. Each obstacle has been a catalyst for growth, deepening our understanding of the complexities in our work and reinforcing our resolve to adapt and innovate. We have strengthened our governance practices and improved our internal frameworks to ensure we remain agile and responsive to the evolving needs of the communities we serve.



Looking ahead, even though we face funding challenges, we are filled with optimism and ambition. The future holds immense potential as we continue to forge partnerships, explore new initiatives and expand our reach. Our strategic goals are clear: to enhance our impact, advocate for the rights of children and champion collaborative solutions that foster sustainable change. We are committed to ensuring that the voices of the children we serve are not only heard but also celebrated as integral to shaping our strategies and the country at large.

Finally, I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to all our stakeholders – children, staff, partners, donors and the wider community. Your unwavering support and commitment are the foundation of our success, and together, we can nurture a brighter future for every child. Thank you for your continued trust as we work hand in hand towards our shared vision.

Regards,

**Sathie Gounden**  
Chair, SCSA Board of Directors

## MESSAGE FROM THE CEO



2024 was a year of transformation and resilience for Save the Children South Africa (SCSA). We began the year preparing for a rigorous peer review, aiming for full membership in the Save the Children Association. With a complete leadership team in place, we were positioned to strengthen our operations and deliver on our mission with renewed focus.

Early in the year, global geopolitical shifts cut 40% of our unrestricted funding for 2025. This challenge demanded urgent innovation and bold thinking. We undertook deep financial scenario planning and re-evaluated every fundraising stream. This clarity led to a strategic reshaping of our fundraising model and reinforced the need for diversified income – including the decision to explore social enterprise as a long-term solution.

2024 also marked the final year of our current strategy and the launch of our new 2025–2027 “Fit-for-Future” strategy, aligned with our Vision 2030. This was developed through extensive engagement with children, communities, civil society and government partners – ensuring that our direction reflects the voices of those we serve.

We reviewed and improved our operating model to make it fit for purpose and refined our approach to resource mobilisation in the 2025–2027 strategy. At the same time we prepared for the conclusion of three long-running education projects which have delivered high impact for over six years.

Our commitment to a child rights-based community-led approach remains central. We believe in empowering communities to lead and sustain positive change for children with a focus on accountability, partnership and shared responsibility.

As we look to 2025, SCSA is ready equipped with hard-won lessons, strategic clarity and a renewed sense of purpose. Though the year brought tough decisions including restructuring and the loss of valued team members it also brought growth, alignment and progress.

We are poised to pivot wisely, grow boldly and serve with excellence. The future calls – and we are ready to respond to the needs of all vulnerable children.

**Gugu Xaba**  
CEO, Save the Children South Africa





## MESSAGE FROM CHILDREN'S ADVISORY BOARD

Save the Children South Africa emphasises the importance of collaboration to promote child rights and advocate against injustices faced by children for a better tomorrow. The organisation highlights the need for sustainable programmes that empower children to understand their rights and responsibilities, providing a platform for them to voice their concerns and participate in decision-making processes. As child-rights activists it is a space where we can be understood and capacitated to be leaders in a child-friendly space. They offer a space where you can feel safe, where child safety is not only about not being exposed to danger but also being comfortable and having the strength to stand and voice your opinion.

We have witnessed the profound impact of SCSA firsthand. The organisation promotes confidence in children, encouraging us to stand firm and advocate for our own rights. Through child-led campaigns and initiatives, SCSA gives us a seat at the table, enabling us to contribute to decision-making processes that affect our lives. This approach has led to tangible changes in children's lives, from improved access to education to increased platforms for children to participate in and from collaborative campaigns to child-led campaigns.

As children who have actively participated in SCSA's initiatives, we feel that our involvement has been significant. Our contribution has bridged the gap between the Board and children's networks, facilitating communication and ensuring that children's issues and campaigns reach the Board. We get to come together and unite our ideas and

solutions towards certain goals for children. We have been able to combat all the challenges presented to us as a team and have learnt to work in teams. Our creativity has been exposed in the innovative space that is offered to us during our workshops and even outside. Our voices, like those of many others, have brought attention to the unique challenges we face and offered solutions to tackle them effectively.

Looking ahead, we dream of a South Africa where children's rights are not just promises but lived realities. We hope for a future where every child knows their rights and feels confident enough to claim them, ensuring they never remain silent in the face of adversity. Together we can make children's rights the top priority.

Sincerely,

*Children's Advisory Board*





# OUR PURPOSE

## WHAT SETS US APART

SCSA adopts a **comprehensive approach to child rights**, addressing health, education, protection and participation. We advocate for integrating children's rights into all levels of policy-making, ensuring decisions prioritise their best interests. Collaborating with governments, Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) and activists, SCSA works to achieve sustainable child rights outcomes.

We promote **meaningful child participation**, empowering children to actively influence decisions affecting their lives. Our **community-led initiatives** foster inclusive partnerships, addressing inequalities and ensuring solutions are locally driven and sustainable.

SCSA strengthens **safeguarding across the child protection sector** by providing technical expertise, capacity building and specialised training. We enhance awareness and embed safeguarding in all child-focused interventions.

Through **research and evidence generation**, SCSA drives policy reforms and develops innovative community-tested models, ensuring best practices improve children's wellbeing at a systemic level.

## THE WORLD WE LIVE IN

In 2024 SCSA developed our new strategy for 2025–2027. As part of the process, we conducted a child rights situational analysis (CRSA) sourcing information from existing secondary data including selected child indicators as well as internal and partner consultations with children, CSOs and government. The Child Rights Situational Analysis (CRSA) provides an overview of the child rights situation in South Africa. This analysis highlighted the continued and persistent challenges impacting on the children of South Africa as

Unemployment Poverty Inequality

Increasingly, the effects of climate change add to that.

The effects of these root issues can be seen in:

- persistent high levels of violence against children and increased mental health and psychosocial defects;
- continued and consistent underperformance in global education benchmarks related to reading and numeracy outcomes;
- stunting due to chronic malnutrition;

- limited access to services as a result of non-documentation and inadequate child rights governance;
- the effects of teenage pregnancy and a rise in HIV prevalence;
- children not successfully transitioning into meaningful work or training.

Children are telling us that they want to see a world that steps up to these challenges and holds adults, government, business and institutions accountable. They want to be empowered to contribute to the change they want to see in their communities.

## SCSA IN THE FUTURE

With stakeholders' input, a vision for the future has been shaped to the realities children face in a changing world.

1. **Bringing together strategic partnerships** across government, CSOs and business to build capacity in child rights and support shared outcomes.
2. Co-creating evidence-based innovations with communities to advance child rights.
3. Advocating **with and for** children, amplifying their agency to shape resilient childhoods and sustainable futures.

SCSA's defining characteristics will include:

1. A locally registered, governed and recognised organisation with strong global affiliations,

**committed to equitable partnerships** and championing child rights across Southern Africa and beyond.

2. SCSA is a key role player in advancing children's rights on the African continent.
3. Children actively participate in our governance structures and decision-making processes, ensuring their voices are central to our work.

The resources that will sustain our vision are:

1. Unrestricted, diverse funding sources with a particular emphasis on support from individual and corporate donors aligned with local needs.
2. We will cultivate strong public support by clearly communicating the tangible impact our work has on the lives of children.

## Strategy 2025–2027

The strategic choices for SCSA for the three-year period 2025–2027 show the focus on efforts and capabilities to achieve results for children. The strategy guides work in all contexts including humanitarian and development contexts. It is supported by strategic plans and scorecards for programmes, advocacy and resource mobilisation.

Impact for and with children remains front and centre of the strategy. It embraces the definition of impact, being those changes that are achieved in partnership that realise children's rights at scale, improve equality and support children's power.

## Strategic Overview:



# OUR WORK IN ACTION



## EMPOWERING YOUNG MINDS, UNLOCKING POTENTIAL

The Education Programme at Save the Children South Africa aims to ensure that all children have access to quality education to unlock their potential for a brighter future. Our objective is to:

To increase access to quality education environments for all children to be prepared with relevant 21st century skills including digital skills through capacity building of educators and carers.

### EMPOWERING LEARNERS, SHAPING EDUCATION

Our Bridging the Gap project addresses the critical need for curriculum reform in South Africa. Historically, the Department of Basic Education (DBE) has struggled to incorporate learner voices into decision-making processes. Through extensive advocacy and lobbying, we ensured learner participation in the DBE's competency framework development. This milestone marked a significant shift towards recognising and valuing the insights of learners in shaping education policies and practices. Some of our key achievements include:

- Leading public consultations that prominently featured learners and influenced the DBE competency framework development.

- Presenting learner demands to policymakers at a national conference on curriculum strengthening.
- Developing a child-friendly version of the competency framework to empower learners to advocate for themselves.

### HEALTHY FOUNDATIONS FOR A BRIGHTER FUTURE

Many children in South Africa face significant challenges in their early years including limited access to quality early childhood education, inadequate nutrition, unsafe learning environments and gaps in foundational numeracy and literacy skills. In particular, many children struggle with literacy skills, often unable to read for meaning which hinders their overall academic progress. These challenges are often exacerbated by socio-economic inequalities and inadequate infrastructure. Through our Healthy Living and Learning (HLL) project, we have worked to address these challenges by improving early childhood care and development (ECCD) in South Africa. At the start of the year, we set out to reach 260 ECCD centres, 500 ECCD practitioners and 20,000 carers and parents. We are delighted to share some of our key achievements which include:

- Training and Capacity Building: 1,097 ECCD practitioners and supervisors received training in child safeguarding, classroom management, inclusive education, early literacy, mathematics and health & nutrition.
- Parenting Programmes: 4,254 carers and parents participated in positive parenting programmes such as Parenting Without Violence (PWV) which promotes non-violent discipline and stronger family relationships.
- Reading Camps: 16 primary schools established reading camps, benefiting over 1,300 children by fostering literacy and numeracy skills.
- Nutrition Support: 68,500 meals were provided to children in underfunded ECCD centres and 16 food gardens were established with access to water tanks and gardening tools.

### PLAY, LEARN, THRIVE: BUILDING STRONG FOUNDATIONS

In many South African communities, carers and parents often lack the knowledge and skills to support their children's early development, resulting in missed opportunities for critical stimulation and nurturing during these formative years. The Caregiver Learning Through Play (CLTP) project was designed to address this gap by providing free training to carers and parents, equipping them with the skills and confidence to practise responsive parenting, promoting a nurturing environment that supports healthy growth and learning in their children. Through the project, we engaged 46,787 carers and parents who completed all their training sessions across four provinces (Gauteng, Mpumalanga, Limpopo and KwaZulu-Natal). The carers and parents showed an increased understanding and confidence in their roles in implementing responsive parenting and learning through play. A key achievement was that carers and parents not only gained the skills and knowledge to support their children's development but have also reported stronger relationships with their children and a renewed commitment to creating a supportive home environment.





Zodwa, an 85-year-old grandmother, consumed with grief after losing her four-year-old grandson, struggled to connect with her granddaughter and felt overwhelmed by her community's social challenges. She often isolated herself from her family and community, falling deeper into depression until she signed up for the CLTP training.

*"My past was tough, filled with pain, loss and trauma, leaving me feeling broken and defeated. But everything changed when I attended the CLTP training – I learned that play is a powerful tool for children to learn and that I have the power to create a better future for my grandchildren. I started playing with them, telling stories and showing them love and affection. They began to smile and laugh again, running to me with open arms when I came home. The training also helped me reconnect with my adult children, teaching me how to communicate effectively and show love. I'm grateful for this training which has transformed my life and my relationships. As I say, "Love is what binds everything and everyone." I'm living proof that it's never too late to heal and create a better future for ourselves and our loved ones."*

– Sibongile

Through the training, Zodwa discovered the value of responsive care, communication and play in child development. She has started engaging in simple fun activities with her granddaughter like football, puzzles and storytelling which have strengthened their bond. Now, her granddaughter eagerly awaits her daily walks to and from school.

Zodwa's transformation has sparked a wave of love and connection in her family. She shares her newfound joy with her daughter, inspiring her to play and bond with her own child. The CLTP training's emphasis on child protection resonates deeply, awakening a fierce devotion to safeguard her loved ones.

With the support of the CLTP training, Zodwa has healed from her grief and built a stronger more loving relationship with her granddaughter. "I am grateful for this training and I hope more carers can benefit from it. It has changed my life and helped me connect with my granddaughter in ways I never thought possible," she says.



## BREAKING BARRIERS, BUILDING HEALTHIER COMMUNITIES



In South Africa, children and adolescents face significant challenges in accessing comprehensive and quality sexual and reproductive health services, particularly vulnerable populations such as young migrants and those living in rural areas. This can lead to increased vulnerability to HIV, unintended pregnancies and other health risks.

### SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND RIGHTS (SRHR) IN ACTION

In 2024 we made significant strides in promoting the health and wellbeing of children and adolescents. Our Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights – HIV Knows No Borders project expanded to a new site in Musina, Limpopo, providing comprehensive holistic interventions to young vulnerable people and migrants and increasing access to essential health services. Through our advocacy efforts including showcasing our SRHR initiatives at international conferences and commemorating key health calendar events

in partnership with government departments and civil society partners, we increased awareness and access to services for children, empowering them to know and claim their rights. These achievements align with our strategic objective of providing accessible and comprehensive high-quality SRHR services, ultimately promoting the rights, wellbeing and development of children, adolescents and young people.

#### Transforming Lives through Key Interventions

- Mental health and psychosocial support first aid training for Community Change Agents (CCAs).
- Door-to-door health talks and condom distribution.
- Commemoration of national health days (e.g. Children's Day, World AIDS Day, 16 Days of Activism).
- Hygiene packs distribution.
- Referrals to healthcare facilities.
- Health clinic SRHR stock monitoring visits.
- Positive parenting workshops.

### A YEAR OF BREAKTHROUGHS IN MUSINA

As a project officer for Save the Children's Knows No Borders (KNB) project, I have witnessed firsthand the transformative power of collaboration. In Musina our partnership with the Department of Basic Education (DBE) and other projects has enabled us to introduce Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE) in local schools, empowering students with knowledge and skills to make informed decisions about their health and wellbeing.

Building on the foundation established by our Children Involved in Unsafe Migration (CiUM) project, we leveraged existing relationships with schools to successfully introduce Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE). Ten KNB Community Change Agents from six communities were recruited and they trained 148 student leaders from three local

high schools as their peer support change agents, empowering them to support peers on sexuality education and connect them to SRH services through KNB CCAs.

Seeing these young people gain confidence and knowledge about their health and rights has been incredible. Our collaborative approach has broken down barriers and we're proud to be part of a movement that's shaping a healthier more informed generation.

By working together, we can empower young people to overcome barriers and bring about positive change. As we continue to support these young leaders, we're optimistic about a brighter healthier future for Musina's youth.

– Mashudu Mulaudzi



## STEPS TOWARDS SAFER COMMUNITIES

**V**iolence Against Children (VAC) is a persistent issue in South Africa, leaving deep physical, emotional and psychological scars that can last a lifetime. Children in the country face various forms of violence including physical and emotional abuse, neglect and exploitation which can have long-lasting impacts on their wellbeing and development.

### STEPS TOWARDS SAFER COMMUNITIES

Through our Child Protection Programme, we have implemented evidence-based interventions to prevent VAC and support survivors. **Our approaches include:**

- **Safer Families:** Building stronger more supportive family environments by empowering carers and parents with skills and knowledge to create a nurturing environment, strengthen parent/carer and child relationships, reduce the risk of violence and promote positive parenting practices.
- **Steps to Protect:** Using a child-centred approach to equip children with the skills and confidence to recognise, report and prevent violence, abuse and exploitation.

- **Safe Schools:** Creating safe non-violent and supportive learning environments that promote children's wellbeing and resilience and academic success.
- **My Sexual Health and Rights:** Empowering children and adolescents with accurate information and skills to make informed decisions about their sexual health, rights and relationships.

### EMPOWERING CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

**In 2024 alone our VAC prevention efforts have yielded significant results:**

- 612 carers and parents (461 females & 151 males) gained improved parenting skills: Through our training and support programmes, carers and parents have developed the skills and confidence to provide nurturing and protective environments for children.
- 86% of migrant and displaced girls and boys who were victims of violence, exploitation and abuse were identified and referred to relevant services: Our programmes have ensured that survivors of VAC receive timely appropriate and ongoing support, including Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS).

### PROTECTING CHILDREN AT SCALE

To further amplify our impact, we partnered with Stellenbosch University to host the International Conference on Child Protection. The conference provided a platform for knowledge sharing, reflection and action on child protection issues in the SADC region. We showcased best practices in child rights-based approaches, including our work on migrant children's access to services and child rights reporting.

By prioritising the prevention of VAC and supporting survivors, we are working towards a future where all children can grow and thrive in safety and dignity.

### PROMOTING DIGITAL SAFETY FOR CHILDREN

Our UNICEF-funded Child Online Safety Project successfully engaged 189 children from four schools in Umlazi, KwaZulu-Natal, equipping them with digital safety skills through interactive sessions. This included a child-led roundtable discussion themed Together for Safer Internet Use between children and key duty-bearers. We also trained ten CSOs in child rights and online safety advocacy, strengthening protection measures for children in digital spaces and building CSO capacity to protect children from harm.

At the tender age of eleven, Mandisa\* was subjected to relentless abuse and exploitation by her aunt. Forced to wake up before dawn to boil water, prepare meals and sell vegetables on the streets, Mandisa's\* childhood was reduced to a never-ending cycle of suffering.

She endured brutal physical abuse such as beatings, slaps and having scalding water poured on her little body. Beyond the physical scars, the emotional toll was just as devastating. Mandisa's aunt's\* cruelty made her feel unloved, unwanted and unworthy. Her father's disbelief when she confided in him added to her pain.

The trauma caused Mandisa\* to become withdrawn, fearful and she struggled to trust anyone. Her school performance suffered and the abuse robbed her of her childhood, forced to endure hardships no child should face.

But Mandisa's\* story took a hopeful turn when one of our Cultural Mediators intervened. The mediator's tireless efforts led to Mandisa's\* removal from the abusive home and relocation in a place of safety.

Today Mandisa\* is slowly rebuilding her life with a second chance at a happy healthy childhood. She's regaining trust, confidence and joy. In her new school she's making friends and rediscovering the simple pleasures of childhood – she dreams of being a medical doctor so she can help people!





## STRENGTHENING SUPPORT FOR MIGRANT CHILDREN

One of the significant challenges faced by Unaccompanied and Separated Migrant Children (USMCs) in South Africa is the lack of documentation which limits their access to essential services including education and healthcare, increases their vulnerability to exploitation and abuse, restricts access to protection services and creates barriers to family reunification.

We have also seen that being undocumented significantly constrains the life opportunities of migrant and displaced children. Without documents they struggle to further their education, face economic exclusion and are excluded from the labour market, entrepreneurship and full participation in the economy – thus perpetuating cycles of poverty and marginalisation.

Our Migration and Displacement Programme is dedicated to addressing the complex challenges faced by USMCs, particularly those relating to documentation, access to services and family

tracing and reunification. We seek to achieve this by strengthening interdepartmental coordination on the management, care and protection of USMCs across the country through capacity building of partner organisations and government in five provinces, namely Gauteng, Mpumalanga, Limpopo, KwaZulu-Natal and Free State. This includes providing access to basic services and livelihood support for migrant and displaced children to live with dignity and pursue better futures for themselves and their families.

### CHANGING LIVES, ONE ACHIEVEMENT AT A TIME

In 2024 we achieved several notable results:

- **Reunification:** At least 9% out of targeted 10% of USMCs were reunified with their families or carers. A further nine children were safely repatriated from South Africa to Lesotho through cross-border coordination mechanisms.
- **Emergency Response:** Critical support

was provided to children affected by the Stilfontein mining crisis, ensuring rescued children were placed in safe care and repatriated to their countries of origin. Specifically:

- 109 children were rescued from underground and placed in safe care.
- Interpretation services and technical support were provided to DSD Social Workers.

• **Documentation Support:** The programme supported efforts to obtain documentation for migrant children, recognising the critical role documentation plays in accessing essential services and protection.

- **Livelihood Support:** In Mpumalanga, Limpopo and Gauteng we have equipped 114 children and young people (41 males, 73 females) aged 15–24 with financial literacy, employability and entrepreneurship skills. Ninety-five successfully completed training, developed business plans and 23 received start-up capital to launch their ventures.
- **Advocacy and Policy Influence:** We actively contributed to the review and submission of written comments on the Immigration Amendment Bill, emphasising the need for safeguards for USMCs and other vulnerable children.

Marcia, a 12-year-old girl from Mozambique, had been denied her right to education for far too long. Despite her mother's efforts, Marcia was unable to enrol in school because she didn't have legal documentation to be in South Africa. Watching her younger brother attend school while she was left behind caused Marcia frustration and sadness.

The turning point came when a community champion shared Marcia's story with SCSA's Cultural Mediator during a community meeting. Moved by Marcia's situation, the Cultural Mediator met with Marcia and her mother to better understand their needs. She then connected them with the principal of a local school, advocating for Marcia's enrolment.

The Cultural Mediator's proactive approach made all the difference. She spoke directly with the principal, sensitising him to Marcia's case and facilitating a smooth enrolment process. With the principal's support, Marcia was welcomed into Grade 2 despite being overage for her grade level.

With the support of her teachers and the Cultural Mediator, Marcia began to catch up with her peers. She's now thriving in school, filled with dreams and aspirations for a brighter future. Her family has also been empowered with knowledge on how to get legal documentation in South Africa.

Our Cultural Mediator's dedication has given Marcia a second chance at a successful future.



Thandeka, a 23-year-old South African born to Mozambican parents, grew up in a poverty-stricken home where struggles were a daily reality. Despite these challenges, Thandeka excelled in high school but financial constraints prevented her from pursuing her education further.

For four years, Thandeka felt stuck, watching her peers progress while she remained unemployed – until she attended SCSA's economic empowerment training. The training equipped her with essential business skills such as financial literacy and drafting a business plan.

With SCSA's support, Thandeka received start-up capital to launch her catering company. Initially the business grew slowly but has since expanded, requiring her family's assistance to meet demand. Today Thandeka's business is thriving, enabling her to financially support herself and her family.

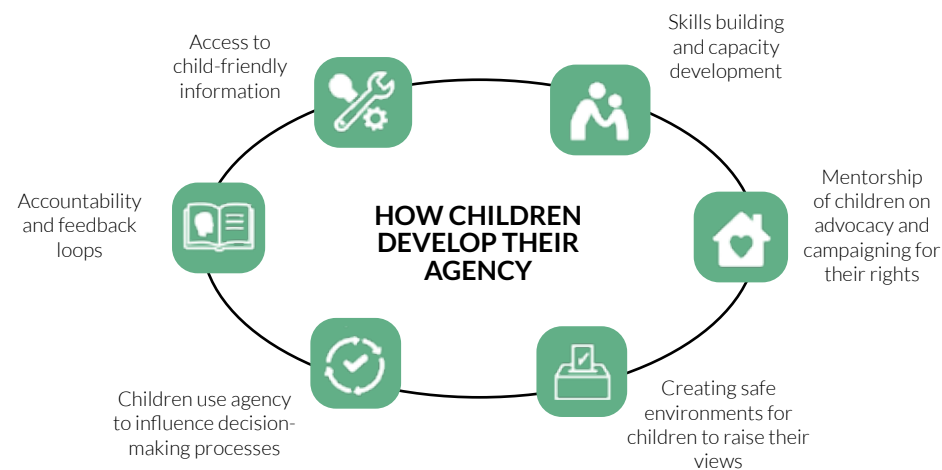
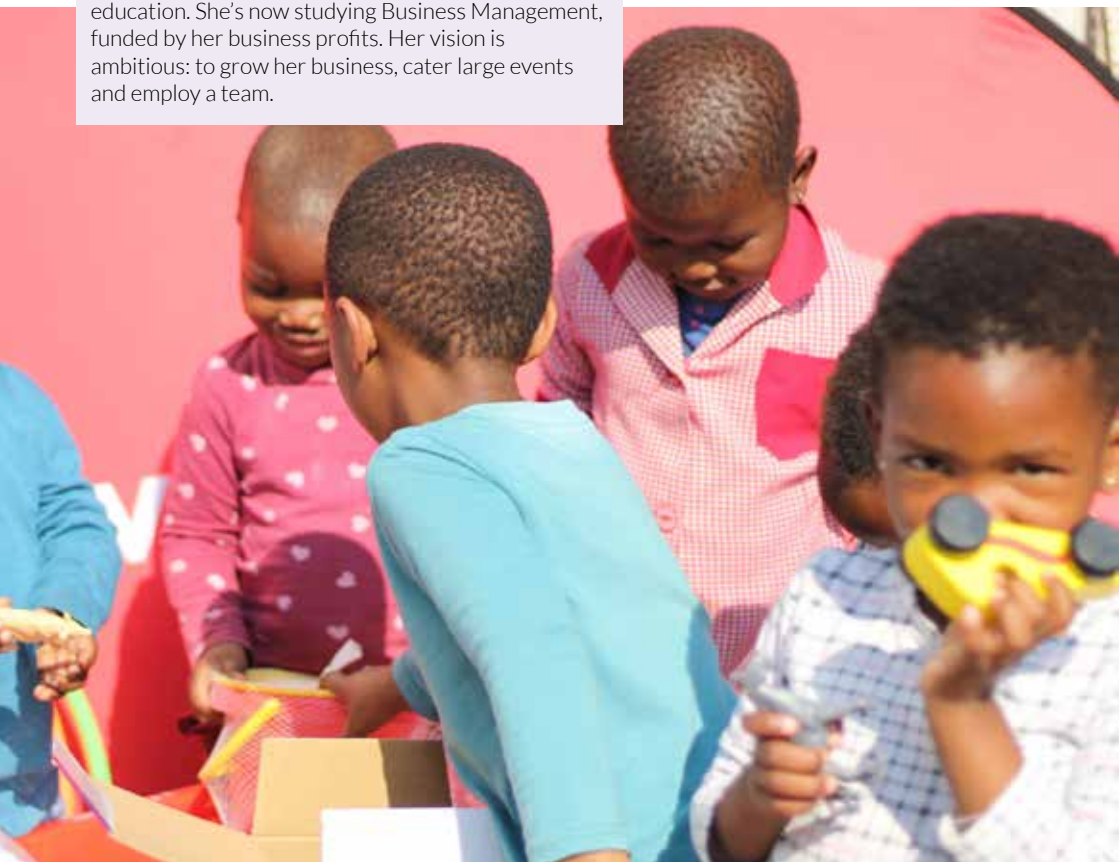
Thandeka's success has also sparked a new passion – education. She's now studying Business Management, funded by her business profits. Her vision is ambitious: to grow her business, cater large events and employ a team.



## CHILD RIGHTS AT THE FOREFRONT

As an organisation, we witness firsthand the devastating impact of child rights violations on young lives. Children continue to face numerous challenges including violence, abuse and exploitation and their voices are too often excluded from decisions that directly impact them. The climate crisis further exacerbates these challenges, threatening their futures by impacting access to education, healthcare and undermining household livelihoods. Through the

Child Rights Governance (CRG) programme, we create enabling environments where children's rights are realised and their voices meaningfully amplified. We remain committed to advocating for children's rights, championing policies and practices that put their needs first and empower children to engage in advocacy efforts to shape their own futures. This includes addressing the climate crisis as a child rights issue. Our work is grounded in global and regional child



rights frameworks such as the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC), Agenda 2040 and South Africa's Constitution, ensuring accountability to children and duty bearers alike.

## CHILDREN'S VOICES FOR SUSTAINABLE FUTURES

Through the consultation of 87 children from across three provinces, we supported the development and submission of South Africa's first-ever child-led Voluntary National Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Report. This report documented the views and experiences of children on six SDGs that directly impact the everyday lives of children – SDG 1 (No poverty), SDG 2 (Zero hunger), SDG 3 (Good health and wellbeing), SDG 4 (Quality Education), SDG 5 (Gender equality) and SDG 16 (Peace, justice and strong institutions). The report's presentation at the International Child Rights Conference ensured children's voices were included in national and global decision-making processes.

## CHILD-CENTRED CLIMATE SOLUTIONS

The climate crisis is one of the most pressing issues of our time, with far-reaching consequences for the planet and its most vulnerable populations – children. Climate change poses a significant threat to child rights, exacerbating existing inequalities and undermining progress made in improving the lives of children. SCSA believes children's voices are crucial in shaping a sustainable future. With no Plan B for the planet and children's futures at stake, we're committed to tackling climate change and empowering children to find solutions and amplify their voices as they demand action.

Through our climate change advocacy and campaigning efforts we have made a significant impact in empowering children and civil society organisations to drive climate action and promote child rights. Key highlights include:

**1. Generation Hope Campaign:** 47 children (26 females and 21 males) led a climate action march in Alexandra, Johannesburg which drew 469 fellow young activists (245 females and 224 males) and facilitated a crucial dialogue with key stakeholders, culminating in a call to action and pledge for climate accountability.

**2. Reaching Marginalised Children:**

- 366 children from Ugu, KwaZulu-Natal, including those with disabilities, from rural areas and LGBTQ+ children, were empowered to participate in climate change campaigning and advocacy activities.
- Scaled up climate change awareness drives to 141 children in Mpumalanga and Limpopo.

Building on our efforts to equip children with the knowledge and skills to address pressing issues, we hosted a COP29 Simulation – a child-led simulation between children and stakeholders.

Twenty-six children aged between 14–17 engaged on climate issues, negotiations and the COP process.

Children led discussions with representatives from the Department of Basic Education (DBE) and UNICEF South Africa, deepening dialogue between young people and decision-makers. Child-led development of an outcome statement for duty bearers to prioritise climate action.

Strengthened children's influencing skills for global engagement: we supported a child representative to contribute to a panel discussion hosted by WWF at COP29 in Baku, Azerbaijan, reinforcing children's agency in environmental advocacy.

By empowering children and CSOs, Save the Children South Africa is making a tangible impact in promoting climate action and child rights. We will continue to build on this momentum, ensuring that children's voices are heard and their concerns are addressed.

# COP29 SIMULATION CHILDREN'S OUTCOME STATEMENT

*We, the children who represent one third of the global population, demand urgent action to protect our future.*

*We urge the global community to:*

- **Accelerate Renewable Energy Transition:** Invest in solar, wind turbines and hydro-powered systems to reduce energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions.
- **Promote Sustainable Livelihoods:** Support businesses, industries and communities in shifting their approaches to energy use and sustainable development.
- **Strengthen Carbon Tax Payments:** Encourage companies to reduce emissions and support clean energy.
- **Introduce Green Transportation:** Create eco-friendly and sustainable transportation systems to minimise emissions

- **Protect Children's Rights:** Recognise and uphold children's rights to a safe and healthy environment.
- **Empower Youth-Led Climate Action:** Support and empower youth-led climate initiatives, ensuring their voices are amplified in climate decision-making processes.
- **Build Climate-Resilient Infrastructure:** Invest in climate-resilient infrastructure to lessen the impact of climate shocks on communities.

*We will hold you accountable.  
Our future depends on your actions.*

*Sincerely,*

*Child Climate Activists*





## HUMANITARIAN ACTION FOR CHILDREN



In an increasingly vulnerable and uncertain climate, children are disproportionately affected by rising temperatures, droughts and extreme weather events, perpetuating cycles of poverty and inequality. In times of crisis, children are often the most vulnerable. Our Humanitarian Response programme seeks to protect children and support their wellbeing during emergencies including natural disasters and other crises. We respond to the unique needs of children affected by these events, providing critical support to ensure their safety, wellbeing and resilience.

### BUILDING RESILIENCE IN CHILDREN AND COMMUNITIES

We enhanced disaster preparedness among children and communities through targeted

training sessions and awareness campaigns. This multifaceted approach strengthened the resilience of children in Mbombela, Sekhukhune and the Ugu District, empowering them with the knowledge and skills to better cope with disasters and crises.

### EMERGENCY RESPONSE IN ACTION

In June 2024 severe weather including heavy rains, strong winds and lightning hit the Ugu District affecting 140 households (760 individuals) with 47 homes destroyed and 94 partially damaged. Also in June 2024, a tornado tore through the community of Tongaat, KwaZulu-Natal. In both natural disasters, SCSA responded with humanitarian aid, providing emergency support to affected children and families including water, sanitation and hygiene

(WASH) and Early Childhood Development (ECD) centre rehabilitation.

### Our humanitarian response efforts have yielded significant results:

- Distributed vouchers to 43 vulnerable households, benefiting 261 individuals including 123 children.
- Participated in JOC Meetings with

provincial and district authorities, ensuring effective coordination and emergency response.

- Strengthened the resilience of children and communities, enabling them to better cope with disasters.

By prioritising humanitarian response, we are working towards a future where children are protected and supported during emergencies.

The storms that swept through the Ugu District of KwaZulu-Natal in June 2024 left a trail of destruction in their wake. Heavy rains, strong winds and lightning battered the region, affecting 140 households and 760 individuals. The devastation was widespread: 47 homes were destroyed and 94 were partially damaged. For Khethiwe Mbambo, the aftermath was nothing short of catastrophic. The roof of her home was ripped off, leaving her family of 15, comprising eight adult children and seven grandchildren, exposed to the elements. With no steady income and relying on meagre child support grants, Khethiwe's world seemed to crumble around her.

quite big for me because all along I did not have enough money to spare to buy roofing sheets," Khethiwe shares.

The impact of SCSA's intervention went beyond mere material assistance. It restored Khethiwe's dignity, allowing her family to regain stability and hope. As she looks around her newly secured home, Khethiwe feels a sense of gratitude and relief wash over her.

Khethiwe's home, once a sanctuary, was now a vulnerable shelter. That's when SCSA's Cash Voucher Assistance (CVA) programme proved to be lifeline. Implemented collaboration with the Ugu District Municipality and Disaster Management Advisory Forum, programme provided Khethiwe with a R2,500 voucher for Boxer Superstores.

With the voucher, Khethiwe prioritised purchasing roofing sheets to restore her home, securing a safe haven for her loved ones. The relief was profound. "One might see this as a minor thing but it was





## FUNDING & PARTNERSHIPS

Partnerships are the cornerstone of our work for children. Through collaborative efforts with our financial and donor partners, implementing partners and strategic partners, SCSA has been able to leverage resources, expertise and influence to drive meaningful impact in the lives of children. Together we can achieve far more than we could alone.

We strengthened our commitment to protecting and empowering children through key partnerships with leading organisations. The Department of Social Development, as custodians of children's welfare, played a crucial role in shaping child protection policy and practice, particularly in protecting Unaccompanied and Separated Migrant Children (USMC) and coordinating social services. We collaborated with the Department of Home Affairs on birth registration and documentation for all children, while the Department of Justice partnered with us on anti-child trafficking and child smuggling campaigns. The Department of Education supported our efforts to ensure access to education for all children including USMC.

Our partnership with UNICEF amplified our efforts to protect children, influence government decisions and develop effective governance systems for child rights delivery, including the development of the Interdepartmental Protocol

on USMC. The Centre for Child Law provided vital legal support, capacity-building initiatives for civil society organisations and legal expertise on child protection. We also worked with the International Organization for Migration (IOM) on protecting Children on the Move, building capacity among civil society organisations and advancing Sexual Reproductive Health Rights through the "SRHR Knows No Borders" project. The UNHCR partnership enhanced our repatriation and humanitarian response efforts.

*"My experience with the digital library has been positive and has really helped me improve academically."*

— Grade 12 learner

*"I used to get level 4 but now I am consistently achieving level 6 marks."*

—Grade 12 learner

Additionally, Hand in Hand enabled livelihood support and economic empowerment capacity building for children, equipping them with essential skills for a brighter future. Furthermore, we collaborated with (link unavailable) on child protection, including sexual reproductive health rights for girls on the move, and Terre des Hommes on national and regional advocacy for child rights. Kids Haven provided institutional care and parenting resources, serving as a referral link for our programmes.

We also partnered with the Child Rights Network of Southern Africa (CRNSA) to advance regional advocacy for children's rights, and with Children's Networks and the Centre for Child Law to amplify children's voices in climate justice advocacy. Furthermore, we collaborated with the Humanitarian Leadership Academy (HLA) to enhance our staff's and CSOs' capacity to respond to humanitarian crises, ensuring a more effective and coordinated response.

Thanks to our partnership with ReMmoho Golf Club for our Annual Charity Golf Day, we successfully raised vital funds to support our work improving the lives of children across South Africa — a collaboration that attests to the impact of partnerships in driving positive change for children.

The Accenture-funded Skills2Succeed programme, delivered in partnership with nine

dedicated implementing partners, equipped in-school and out-of-school youth with essential employability, green and growth mindset skills, empowering them for future success. Additionally, Malusi Youth Development Organisation (MYDO) provided digital skills training to youth in Tshwane. Our partnership with Clarins enabled us to support Early Childhood Development (ECD) practitioners and centres through comprehensive Nutrition Guideline trainings, establishment of vegetable gardens, provision of seedlings and gardening tools, provision of groceries for nutritious meals and installation of Jojo water tanks to ensure sustainable water supply.

Through our partnership with Concentrix and Think Human Foundation, the Digital Transformation Project equipped secondary school learners with critical digital skills, bridging the technological divide and unlocking new opportunities for academic success and future growth.

The project empowered 318 secondary school learners from disadvantaged communities, equipping them with critical digital skills to bridge the technological divide and unlock new opportunities for academic success and future growth. By providing digital training, mentoring and access to digital tools like iPads, we have enabled learners to develop essential skills for



future career opportunities through various activities including afternoon tutorials, online subject-related tutoring and exam preparation on the #MyFuture platform. Notably, six teachers from a high school in KwaZulu-Natal were certified as Apple Teachers, allowing them to effectively integrate iPads into their teaching practices. The project has achieved impressive outcomes including improved digital literacy, increased confidence in using digital tools and notable improvements in academic performance, with students achieving higher marks and progressing to higher grades.

Save the Children South Africa is part of several key coalitions leveraging collective expertise, resources and influence to advance children's rights through collaborative efforts. Within these platforms, we work to drive meaningful change:

- Through the Southern African Parents and Parenting Support Information Network (SAPPIN), we focus on promoting positive parenting practices and creating safer family environments.
- Within the Violence Prevention Forum (VPF), we collaborate on preventing violence against children and promoting mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) for carers.
- As a member of the Regional Child Protection Network (RCPN), we engage in regional advocacy to strengthen child protection systems and policies.
- Through the National Inter-Agency Working Group (NIAWG), we advocate for the protection and wellbeing of unaccompanied and separated migrant children (USMC) in South Africa.
- In collaboration with the Consortium for Refugees & Migrants in South Africa (CoRMSA), we work on advocacy and capacity-building initiatives to support refugee and migrant children, ensuring their rights are protected and their needs are met.
- Through the Regional Interagency Task Team on Children and AIDS in Eastern and Southern Africa (RIATT-ESA), a network influencing policy formulation and implementation for

children and families affected by HIV and AIDS, we contributed to regional efforts and presented a paper on accessing SRHR-HIV services for vulnerable youth in migrant communities at the 2024 Regional Conference in Johannesburg.

- As a member of the South African National Child Rights Coalition (SANCRC), we contributed to notable achievements in 2024 including the submission to the UNCRC highlighting systemic barriers to justice for children and shaping the National Strategy to Accelerate Action for Children (NSAAC) to promote a rights-based approach to development.
- As part of the Real Reform for ECD coalition, SCSA contributed to key advocacy achievements, including the development of the ECD Manifesto, pushing for policy changes such as the tabling of the Children's Amendment Bill, increased funding for ECD nutrition and ECD subsidy reform to restore the subsidy from R17 to R23 per child per day and increase it to R46 by 2030.
- As an active member of the Teacher Internship Collaboration South Africa (TICZA) Steering Committee, which brings together government, academia and the private sector to enhance teacher quality through research, advocacy and innovation in teacher internship programmes, we contributed to key achievements including the development of a Cost-Effectiveness Analysis report, The Wraparound Support Research, and participation in strategic initiatives such as COP15 to advance teacher training and internship programmes.

We extend our deepest gratitude to all our partners, funders and supporters who have worked tirelessly alongside us to protect and empower children. Through collective action, we have made a meaningful difference in the lives of countless young people and we recognise that it is only through collaboration and shared commitment that we can truly drive lasting change for children.



# OUR FOUNDATION FOR SUCCESS

## THE BOARD



**Sathie Gounden,  
Chairperson of the Board**

Sathie Gounden is a seasoned professional with over 30 years of experience in auditing and accounting and over 15 years of experience as a non-executive director. A Chartered Accountant (SA) and Chartered Director (SA), he brings expertise in accounting, auditing, corporate governance, risk management and directorship, having served as CEO of Gobodo Incorporated and held leadership roles in various professional bodies, including being the past President of ABASA and Board member of SAICA. With extensive qualifications and credentials, Sathie provides strategic guidance and oversight, leveraging his expertise to drive governance and accountability to lead SCSA.



**Sharon Carson**

Sharon is a seasoned executive with over 40 years of experience in IT, internal audit and digital governance. A Certified Director (Cert.Dir) and Chartered Accountant (CA SA), she brings expertise in digital transformation, risk management and organisational culture, with a background in CFO and advisory roles across various industries. Her skills span multiple disciplines including Agile project management, COBIT and IT audit, supporting strategic execution and innovation.



**Berenice Lue Marais, Deputy Chairperson of  
the Board**

Berenice is a seasoned executive with extensive experience in governance, strategic business development and international resourcing across public, private and non-profit sectors. She holds an MBA in International Finance from American University's Kogod School of Business and a BA in Economics specialising in Sub-Saharan African Development. She has held various board leadership positions, including her current role as a member on the Regional Psychosocial Support Initiative (REPSSI) Country Advisory Board among others. Her global expertise spans Africa, China and the US, enabling her to drive informed governance and development initiatives.



**Dr. Tanya Abrahamse**

Dr. Abrahamse is a seasoned leader with over three decades of experience in natural resource management, biodiversity, climate change and sustainable development. She has held various international and national roles, including Chair of the Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF) and panel member of the UN Environment International Resources Panel (UN-IRP) and has served on boards such as SANParks, SA Tourism and Save the Children SA. Her expertise spans governance, policy and implementation, with a strong commitment to supporting institutions that advance sustainable development.



**Dr. Constance Kganakga**

Dr. Kganakga is a seasoned public health expert with over 30 years of experience in policy development, implementation and research. With a PhD from Medunsa and an MPH (Tulane University) USA and an MA in Psychology from the University of Pretoria, she has held various leadership roles, including Executive Director of the South African National Aids Council (SANAC) and Associate Professor at Medunsa. Her expertise spans HIV/AIDS, social development and capacity building, with a strong commitment to supporting NGOs and government initiatives. She previously served on the Human Resource Committee of Council of Unisa and currently serves on the Council of Vaal University of Technology, leveraging her expertise for institutional impact.



**Lebogang Phasha**

Lebogang Phasha is a seasoned executive with over 20 years of experience, including 17 years as an executive and non-executive director in private equity, development finance and transformation. He specialises in strategy development, enterprise development and supplier development, driving sustainable impact and shared value through partnerships and stakeholder engagement, with extensive networks across Africa, Europe, North America and Asia. Lebogang is also a passionate advocate for economic inclusion and social impact, regularly contributing to media platforms to promote small business growth and development.



**Dr. Virgile Madua Kikaya**

Dr. Kikaya is a seasoned public health leader with over 20 years of experience in global health security, maternal and child health, HIV/TB and malaria programmes across Sub-Saharan Africa. As Jhpiego Country Director in DRC and Global Technical Director for Global Health Security, he has demonstrated leadership and innovation in introducing new public health approaches, collaborating with major donors and UN agencies and advancing locally led initiatives. He also serves as a board member of the Global Health Security Network, convener of the Global Health Security Conference, furthering his impact on global health leadership.



**Dr. Vibeke Huge Rehfeld**

Dr. Vibeke Huge Rehfeld is a human rights lawyer specialising in international children's rights and humanitarian law, with a PhD from the University of Copenhagen. She currently serves as Senior Advisor with Danish Industry and holds non-executive director roles with Save the Children South Africa and the Southern Africa Trust, leveraging her expertise in human rights, law and advocacy to drive positive change. With extensive experience in international law, research and policy development, she brings valuable insights to her roles, shaping initiatives that protect and promote human rights.

## THE BOARD

## THE BOARD



**Mayuri Naidoo**

Mayuri Naidoo is a seasoned legal and compliance expert with over 10 years of experience, currently serving as Director, Global Anti-Bribery Anti-Corruption Counsel at Pfizer Inc. She is also a dedicated philanthropist, serving on the boards of Save the Children SA and the Boys and Girls Club of South Africa, leveraging her expertise to drive positive impact in her communities. Mayuri has received numerous awards and recognitions for her work, including nominations for African General Counsel of the Year and features as a speaker on governance, risk and compliance.



**Sazini Mojapelo**

Sazini is a seasoned trisector executive and development specialist with expertise in strategic planning, gender equality and social impact investments. A Harvard Business School graduate and holder of a Master's Degree in Development Studies from the University of Cape Town, she currently serves as Global Gender and GBV Lead at the International Finance Corporation. Sazini is a dedicated advocate for human rights and gender equality and sits on various boards, including the Southern Africa Trust, which she chairs. With a proven track record of driving social impact and developing strategies for positive change, she is a respected leader in her field.



**Ulf Rickardsson**

Ulf is a seasoned leader with extensive experience in non-profit organisations, focusing on complex societal change and strategic development. With a background spanning Sweden and international roles, including four years in Southern Africa, he currently serves as Strategy and Change Management Lead at the Swedish Childhood Cancer Fund, bringing expertise in driving impactful change and organisational growth. Previously, Ulf held various senior roles at Save the Children, including Head of Department for Impact and Advocacy and Chief Operating Officer, further solidifying his expertise in the sector.



**Sam Mkandhla**

Sam is a seasoned leader and advocate for social justice, currently serving as Head of Philanthropy and Partnerships at Médecins Sans Frontières / Doctors Without Borders (MSF). With a strong background in law and innovation, Sam is a recognised champion for women's empowerment and access to justice, having founded an award-winning social justice platform and received numerous accolades, including the L'Oréal Paris "Women of Worth" honour and Archbishop Desmond Tutu Fellowship.

## SUMMARY OF BOARD COMMITTEES

### AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE (ARC)

The Audit and Risk Committee met five times during the year, providing oversight on financial, risk and compliance matters. Notable achievements include:

- Reviewed and updated the Committee's Terms of Reference to ensure alignment with best practice.
- Reviewed and approved the 2024 External Audit Plan, monitored progress and recommended the final report for Board approval.
- Provided oversight on the internal audit approach, focusing on internal quality improvement controls.
- Oversaw the Strategic Risk Register, focusing on key risks such as reputation, cyber security, funding and operating model risks, and ensured implementation of internal control measures.
- Closely monitored financial sustainability and going concern risk, including:
  - Reviewing quarterly management accounts
  - Tightening control measures to improve sustainability goals
  - Implementing measures to address potential cash flow deficit
  - Developing a Resource Mobilisation Strategy
- Monitored the development of a fit-for-purpose operating model aligned with the revised strategy and financial sustainability efforts.
- Oversaw ICT governance, security, compliance and network security and reviewed ICT risks and mitigation strategies.
- Reviewed and recommended key policies, including the ICT Policy and Anti-Fraud Bribery Corruption Policy, and the 2025 Organisational Budget.
- Reviewed and ratified the financial section of the Integrated Annual Report.

Through careful oversight, the Committee fulfilled its critical mandate in ensuring the organisation's financial integrity and risk management.

### SOCIAL AND ETHICS COMMITTEE (SEC)

The Social and Ethics Committee, overseeing various aspects of the organisation's social and ethical responsibilities, met three times during the year. Notable achievements include:

- Reviewed and adopted a formal Social and Ethics Responsibilities Committee Terms of Reference as its Committee Charter, after approval by the Board, to ensure clarity on its roles and responsibilities.
- Established a reputation management process to enhance the organisation's public image.
- Supported the development of Environmental Sustainability and Climate Change guidelines.
- Ensured compliance with regulations to manage risks and implemented ongoing preventative measures.
- Reviewed and updated the Ethics Policy to align with best practice.
- Oversaw stakeholder management and media exposure to promote positive relationships.
- Monitored the whistleblowing process to ensure transparency and accountability.
- Reviewed the contents of the Integrated Annual Report to ensure accuracy and comprehensiveness.
- Oversaw ethical governance practices, including the application of good corporate citizenship principles.
- Ensured alignment with public policy to drive positive outcomes for children.

The Committee effectively discharged its responsibilities in accordance with its Terms of Reference and Work Plan, providing valuable oversight and guidance to the organisation.

# THE SENIOR MANAGEMENT TEAM



**Gugu Xaba,**  
CEO

The CEO's Office provided strategic leadership and oversight, advancing the organisation's vision, mission and values to promote children's rights and wellbeing. Key responsibilities included organisational management, resource mobilisation and fostering key relationships with donors, financial oversight, strategic planning, stakeholder engagement — including building and maintaining strategic partnerships with donors — risk management and ensuring compliance with policies and regulations. The CEO led the Senior Management Team, fostered collaboration and innovation and promoted responsible corporate citizenship, sustainability and impactful change, while amplifying children's voices in governance processes.

"As I reflect on the past year, I've learnt valuable lessons that have shaped my leadership approach. I've come to realise that humility and a willingness to learn from others are essential in building strong relationships and leading effective teams. Trust, respect and integrity are the foundation upon which our organisation thrives. I'm proud of the progress we've made, particularly in fostering peace and collaboration with our Board, establishing a provident fund for our staff and developing a community-facing strategy that will drive improved results for children. These achievements demonstrate our commitment to building a strong organisation that serves the best interests of children and our people."



**Lethu Kapueja,**  
*Director of New Business Development and Communications (NBDC)*

The Director of New Business Development and Communications passionately led the team in fundraising and philanthropy for children's rights, identifying sector trends and building authentic relationships with key supporters, funders and the media to advocate for the organisation's mission.

"One thing I wish more people knew about the importance of our work is that it directly improves children's lives, and although it's not direct programming, it specifically supports the sustainability of great programmes and their outcomes. By building the brand, driving revenue and achieving success through innovative partnerships and campaigns and effective fundraising, children's lives are continuously changed for the better. I tried to convey this in my communications with supporters and funders and internally by working towards an integrated fundraising and communications strategy and by ensuring that content development aligned with this approach."



**Megan Briede,**  
*Director of Programmes*

The Director of Programmes played a pivotal role in driving our mission forward, ensuring programmes made a meaningful difference in children's lives. This involved shaping strategy, overseeing implementation, mentoring teams and fostering cross-sector partnerships with NGOs, CSOs, government and donors to drive impactful solutions for children's rights, requiring heart, precision and strategic foresight to lead positive change.

"This year, I have learnt that the most effective programmes are co-created with communities and young people, not just for them. Involving young people in identifying challenges, shaping content and leading initiatives ensures solutions are grounded in real experiences. This approach builds ownership, confidence and long-term engagement. Youth bring fresh, innovative ideas — like using WhatsApp for job leads or TikTok for job prep tips — making programmes more relevant and sustainable. The takeaway? Step out of the boardroom, listen actively and design with communities and young people at the centre — they are today's changemakers."



**Hlobisile Nsibandé,**  
*Director of Finance*

The Director of Finance plays a critical role in ensuring the financial health and sustainability of the organisation. Key responsibilities include overseeing financial planning, budgeting and reporting to ensure alignment with strategic objectives. The department ensures compliance with regulatory requirements and internal policies to maintain transparency and accountability. By providing strategic financial leadership, the Finance Department enables the organisation to maximise resources, stabilise its financial position and achieve its mission effectively. Financial sustainability is prioritised to ensure long-term viability and effectiveness of mission-driven activities.

"Financial sustainability is crucial for advancing our mission, as it enables us to maintain continuity of services, invest in high-impact programmes and build resilience against economic uncertainty. By prioritising sound financial management practices and transparency, we can attract and retain top talent, gain donor confidence and drive innovation and growth. Effective financial planning and strategic leadership are key to achieving our objectives and making a lasting impact for children."



**Suzanne Wessels,**  
*Director of Planning, Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning (PMEAL)*

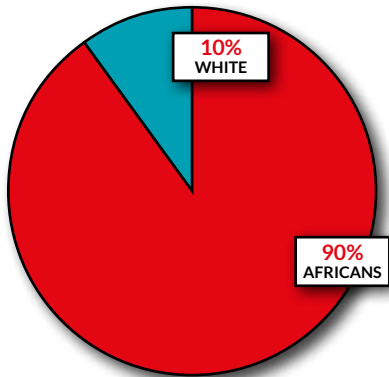
The Director of PMEAL ensured the availability and use of strategic data and information to support decision-making through implementation of Reporting and Planning, Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning within the organisation. In supporting a culture of organisational learning, the aim was to increase utilisation and analysis of information and evidence by all towards achieving our overall strategy.

"I wish we could measure hopes and dreams for the future — of children, communities and our own staff — and how we build and fulfil these through our work."

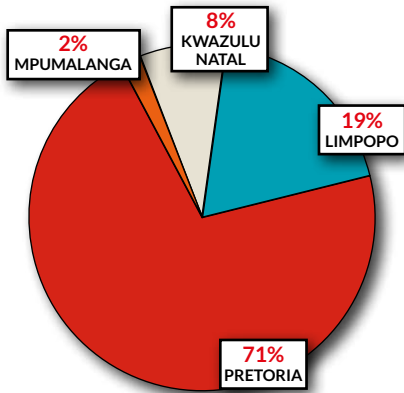
# OUR PEOPLE

As of 31 December 2024, SCSA had 47 active employees, 65% female, 35% male. 68 community-based implementers received stipends for agreed upon tasks in projects.

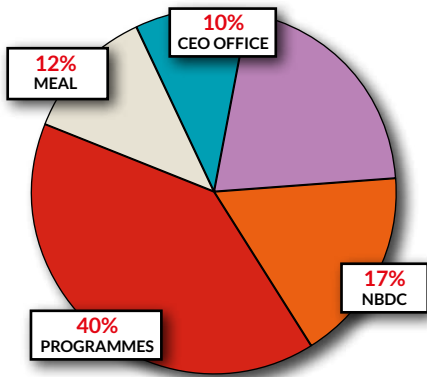
## DEMOGRAPHIC SPLIT



## STAFF BY LOCATION



## DEPARTMENTAL SPLIT



Staff capacity development: A competency framework was implemented across different departments in SCSA. Generic, Primary and Specialist competencies have been mapped to roles and included in job descriptions, recruitment processes, and performance management. The framework is used to support staff training and development. Staff have access to and are encouraged to use the learning management system that hosts online training courses aligned to competency areas. In addition, training is accessed from other global and local opportunities through the SC movement and membership to local bodies. In building capacity aligned with the competency framework across function, the following staff training was conducted: Humanitarian Action, Mastering Technical Leadership in Programme Design and Proposal Development, Eco leadership.

Staff wellbeing and engagement: The human resource plan focused on staff engagement in 2024 through regular and consistent communication with staff. Some success was achieved as seen in improvements recorded in these indicators measured over time. However, there was an increase of 5% in attrition rate from 2023.

## % positive responses on the question:

I would wholeheartedly recommend Save the Children as a good place to work

| 2022 | 2023 | 2024 |
|------|------|------|
| 79%  | 67%  | 76%  |

## % of positive responses on the question:

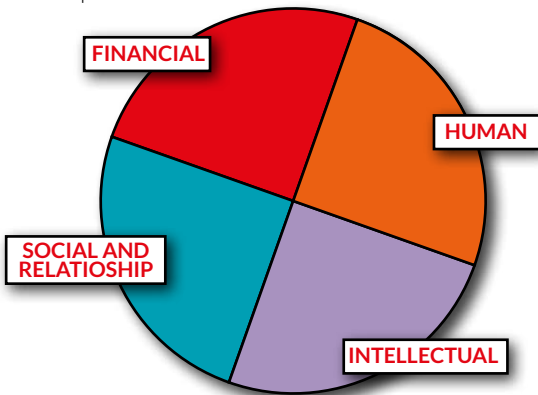
People here are treated equally irrespective of ethnicity, gender, disability, age, sexual orientation or religion

| 2022 | 2023 | 2024 |
|------|------|------|
| 75%  | 69%  | 74%  |

## HOW WE WORK

As an organisation, Save the Children South Africa must consider the six capitals in our business operations. Due to the nature of our business, however, some capitals will be considerably more relevant and pertinent to our model and therefore have received more attention through the years. As we move towards a more integrated model, we must continue to consider the six capitals at every step.

This report considers four capitals:



It covers the risks, opportunities and outcomes attributable to Save the Children South Africa and its stakeholders that have affected Save the Children South Africa's ability to perform its functions.

| Input                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Outputs                                                                                                                                            | Outcomes                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Financial:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Total income: R69,881,566 (R63,473,375 in 2023)</li><li>Unrestricted income: R27,385,717 (R31,560,723 in 2023)</li><li>Employee costs: R34,099,678 (R 32,610,652 in 2023)</li></ul>                                                                | Children & communities facing poverty and food insecurity due to natural emergencies and climate change access food and non-food vouchers.         | <b>Financial:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Surplus: R3,751,803 (R6,754,472 in 2023)</li><li>Sustained operations</li><li>Improved resilience</li></ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| <b>Human:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Total staff: 47 (61 in 2023)</li><li>Performance management system</li><li>Succession planning</li><li>Staff recruitment &amp; development aligned to competence framework</li><li>Staff wellness support</li></ul>                                    | Migrant children are supported to access education, safe care, protection & livelihoods                                                            | <b>Human:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Average length of service: 5,2 years (3,5 years in 2023)</li><li>Gender &amp; BBBEE distribution: 43 BAIC:5 White (55BAIC:5 White)</li><li>Diversity Equity and Inclusion Employee Engagement score : 74% (69% in 2023)<sup>1</sup></li><li>Employee engagement score : 76% (67% in 2023)<sup>2</sup></li><li>Voluntary turnover: 23% (18% in 2023)</li></ul> |
| <b>Intellectual:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Projects: 14 (18 in 2023)</li><li>Evidence-based Common approaches used: 7 (10 in 2023)</li><li>Coalitions participated in: 20 (18 in 2023)</li><li>Programmatic technical experts: 11</li><li>Programmatic strategies: 5 (5 in 2023)</li></ul> | Adolescents & young people access education and training in comprehensive sexuality, employability skills, a growth mindset, and green skills.     | <b>Intellectual:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>New strategy based on wide consultation and CRSA</li><li>Research and evidence produced (innovator): 11 manuscripts (18 in 2023)</li><li>Conference presentations: 10 (3 in 2023)</li><li>Representation on global groups</li><li>Leading in 13 coalitions (12 in 2023)</li><li>Innovation</li></ul>                                                   |
| <b>Social &amp; Relational:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Social media followers: 130,708</li><li>Funding partners: 21</li><li>Individual givers: 6215 (6523 in 2023)</li><li>CSO partners: 83 (66 in 2023)</li><li>Partnership framework &amp; strategy</li></ul>                             | Caregivers of children trained on positive parenting strategies, early childhood care                                                              | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Continue to contribute to children surviving, learning, being protected and participating</li><li>Children reached with project inputs, activities or services: 106,068 (74,479 in 2023)</li><li>Adults reached with project inputs, activities or services:55886 (51900 in 2023)</li><li>Improved child rights governance system in SA</li></ul>                           |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | ECD practitioners and teachers trained in providing early childhood education and care; digital skills.                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | Communities receive information and education on promoting child rights, nurturing care and survival for children, access to services for children |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | Civil society receive information, education & communication to promote respecting the rights of a child.                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | Government receive information, education & communication to demand responsive and accountable systems for children.                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |

1. Positive responses to the question: people here are treated equally irrespective of ethnicity, gender, disability, age, sexual orientation or religion

2. Positive response to the question: I would wholeheartedly recommend Save the Children as a good place to work

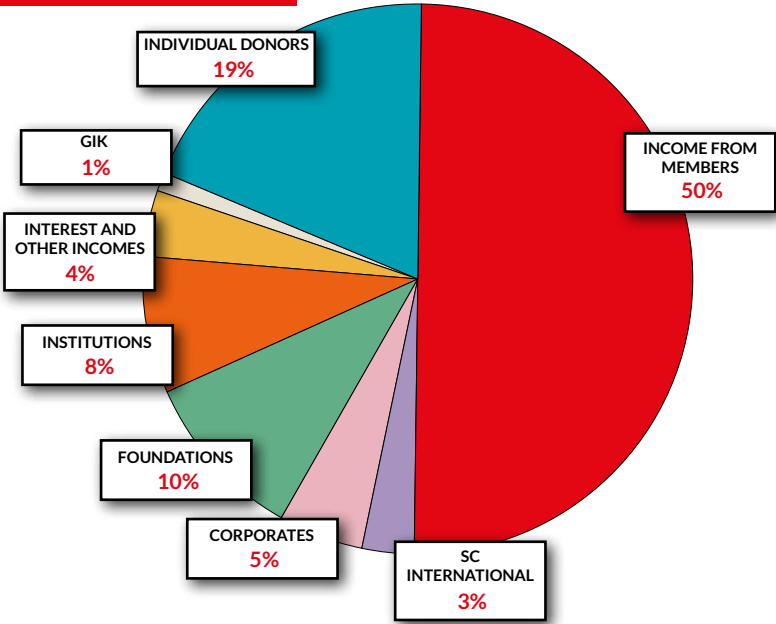
FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

At the core of our ability to uphold and advance child rights is the responsible stewardship of financial capital. Our organisation relies on a diversified mix of funding streams including institutional grants, foundations, individual donations, corporate grants and grants from other Save the Children members and Save the Children International.

We experienced revenue growth of 10%, primarily due to an increase in grants from other Save the Children members.

|                           |             |
|---------------------------|-------------|
| Income from other members | R32 Million |
| SC International          | R2 Million  |
| Corporates                | R3 Million  |
| Foundations               | R7 Million  |
| Institutions              | R6 Million  |
| Interest and other income | R3 Million  |
| GIK                       | R800 000    |
| Individual donors         | R13 Million |

TOTAL INCOME BY SOURCE



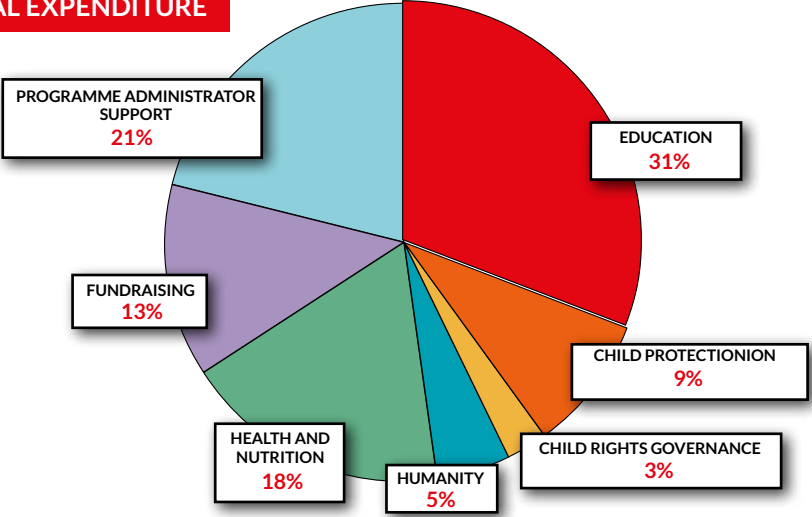
Each Rand received is a vote of confidence in our mission to safeguard and promote the rights of children across the education, health and protection sectors.

These investments per Thematic area below are not merely expenditures, they are catalyst inputs.

# TOTAL EXPENDITURE

|                                             | 2024<br>(R66,13M) |
|---------------------------------------------|-------------------|
| <b>Thematic activities</b>                  | <b>43,43</b>      |
| Direct Interventions                        | 32,73             |
| Management and administration support costs | 6,16              |
| Programmatic support                        | 4,54              |
| <b>Support costs not funded by programs</b> | <b>13,97</b>      |
| Other Management and admin support          | 7,56              |
| Programmatic support                        | 6,41              |
| <b>Fundraising activities</b>               | <b>8,73</b>       |
| Fundraising costs                           | 6,88              |
| Management and administration support       | 1,86              |

## TOTAL EXPENDITURE



Generating a surplus of R3.7m boosts sustainability by allowing reinvestment in program innovation and building reserves to manage financial risks.

# SAVE THE CHILDREN SOUTH AFRICA NPC

(REGISTRATION NUMBER 2012/019616/08)

## FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

## GENERAL INFORMATION

|                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                |
|---------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Country of incorporation and domicile       | South Africa                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Nature of business and principal activities | Non-profit charity organisation                                                                                                                                                                |
| Directors                                   | Mr. S Gounden<br>Ms. B Lue Marais<br>Mr. LD Storom<br>Mr. MP Nkutha<br>Mr. V Kikaya<br>Ms. C Kganakga<br>Ms. S Carson<br>Ms. SN Mkandhla<br>Ms. T Abrahamse<br>Ms. U Sibiya<br>Ms. V H Rehfeld |
| Business address                            | 3rd Floor Festival Office Park<br>353 Festival Street<br>Hatfield<br>Pretoria<br>0028                                                                                                          |
| Bankers                                     | ABSA Bank                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Auditor                                     | PKF(VGA) Chartered Accountants                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Company registration number                 | 2012/019616/08                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Level of assurance                          | These financial statements have been audited in compliance with the applicable requirements of the Companies Act 71 of 2008.                                                                   |
| Preparer                                    | The financial statements were independently compiled by: P Heslinga CA (SA)                                                                                                                    |

## INDEX

|                                                                                                          |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| The reports and statements set out below comprise the financial statements presented to the members:     |
| Directors' Responsibilities and Approval                                                                 |
| Directors' Report                                                                                        |
| Independent Auditor's Report                                                                             |
| Statement of Financial Position                                                                          |
| Statement of Comprehensive Income                                                                        |
| Statement of Changes in Equity                                                                           |
| Statement of Cash Flows                                                                                  |
| Accounting Policies                                                                                      |
| Notes to the Financial Statements                                                                        |
| The following supplementary information does not form part of the financial statements and is unaudited: |
| Detailed Income Statement                                                                                |

# DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITIES AND APPROVAL

The directors are required by the Companies Act 71 of 2008, to maintain adequate accounting records and are responsible for the content and integrity of the financial statements and related financial information included in this report. It is their responsibility to ensure that the financial statements fairly present the state of affairs of the company as at the end of the financial year and the results of its operations and cash flows for the period then ended, in conformity with the International Financial Reporting Standard for Small and Medium-sized Entities. The external auditor is engaged to express an independent opinion on the financial statements.

The financial statements are prepared in accordance with the International Financial Reporting Standard for Small and Medium-sized Entities and are based upon appropriate accounting policies consistently applied and supported by reasonable and prudent judgements and estimates.

The directors acknowledge that they are ultimately responsible for the system of internal financial control established by the company and place considerable importance on maintaining a strong control environment. To enable the directors to meet these responsibilities, the directors set standards for internal control aimed at reducing the risk of error or loss in a cost effective manner. The standards include the proper delegation of responsibilities within a clearly defined framework, effective accounting procedures and adequate segregation of duties to ensure an acceptable level of risk. These controls are monitored throughout the company and all employees are required to maintain the highest ethical standards in ensuring the company's business is conducted in a manner that in all reasonable circumstances is above reproach.

The focus of risk management in the company is on identifying, assessing, managing and monitoring all known forms of material risk or

risk having a material impact on the the company. While operating risk cannot be fully eliminated, the company endeavours to minimise it by ensuring that appropriate infrastructure, controls, systems and ethical behaviour are applied and managed within predetermined procedures and constraints.

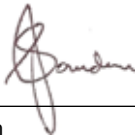
The directors are of the opinion, based on the information and explanations given by management, that the system of internal control provides reasonable assurance that the financial records may be relied on for the preparation of the financial statements. However, any system of internal financial control can provide only reasonable, and not absolute, assurance against material misstatement or loss.

The directors have reviewed the company's cash flow forecast for the year to 31 December 2025 and, in the light of this review and the current financial position, they are satisfied that the company has or has access to adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future.

The external auditor is responsible for independently auditing and reporting on the company's financial statements. The financial statements have been examined by the company's external auditor and their report is presented on page 6 - 8.

The external auditors were given unrestricted access to all financial records and related data, including minutes of all meetings of members, the board of directors and committees of the board. The directors believe that all representations made to the independent auditors during their audit are valid and appropriate.

The financial statements set out on pages 9 to 24, which have been prepared on the going concern basis, were approved and authorised for issue by the directors on 30 May 2025 and were signed on its behalf by:

  
Chairperson

  
Chief Executive Officer

# DIRECTORS' REPORT

The directors have pleasure in submitting their report on the financial statements of Save The Children South Africa NPC for the year ended 31 December 2024.

## 1. Review of financial results and activities

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standard for Small and Medium-sized Entities and the requirements of the Companies Act 71 of 2008 The accounting policies have been applied consistently compared to the prior year.

Full details of the financial position, results of operations and cash flows of the company are set out in these financial statements.

## 2. Share capital

There have been no changes to the authorised or issued share capital during the year under review.

## 3. Directors

The directors in office at the date of this report are as follows:

| Directors         | Office             | Nationality   | Changes                            |
|-------------------|--------------------|---------------|------------------------------------|
| Mr. S Gouden      | Chairperson        | South African |                                    |
| Ms. B Lue Marais  | Deputy Chairperson | South African |                                    |
| Mr. L Phasha      |                    | South African | Resigned Friday, 16 August 2024    |
| Mr. LD Storom     |                    | South African | Appointed Friday, 16 May 2025      |
| Mr. MP Nkutha     |                    | South African | Appointed Monday, 05 May 2025      |
| Mr. U Rickardsson |                    | Swedish       | Resigned 01 August 2023            |
| Mr. V Kikaya      |                    | Congolese     | Appointed Saturday, 15 June 2024   |
| Ms. C Kganakga    |                    | South African |                                    |
| Ms. S Carson      |                    | South African |                                    |
| Ms. SN Mkandhla   |                    | Zimbabwean    | Appointed Thursday, 09 May 2024    |
| Ms. S Mojapelo    |                    | Zimbabwean    | Resigned Monday, 16 September 2024 |
| Ms. T Abrahamse   |                    | South African | Appointed Saturday, 11 May 2024    |
| Ms. U Sibiya      |                    | South African | Appointed Monday, 31 March 2025    |
| Ms. V H Rehfeld   |                    | Danish        |                                    |

## 4. Auditors

PKF(VGA) Chartered Accountants continued in office as auditors for the company for 2024.

## 5. Secretary

The company had no secretary during the year.

## 6. Going concern

The directors have assessed the organisation's ability to continue as a going concern and believe that it has adequate financial resources to continue operating in the foreseeable future and to meet its obligations as they fall due. Accordingly, the financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis.

The organisation is dependent on continued funding to sustain its operations and fulfil its mission. The current funding environment is characterised by increased competition and evolving donor priorities, which introduce uncertainty regarding the timing and level of future funding.

To address these uncertainties, the organisation has implemented cost management initiatives, taken steps to diversify its funding sources, and actively strengthened engagement with key stakeholders.

## 7. Subsequent events

Subsequent to the reporting date, the organisation initiated a retrenchment process as part of a broader restructuring initiative aimed at enhancing long-term financial sustainability. This decision was made in response to changing financial circumstances and the need to align operations with available funding and strategic priorities.

The total cost of the retrenchment process, including severance pay and related employee benefits, amounts to R814,913.85 and were fully settled to affected employees in cash by the time of authorising these financial statements for issue.

In accordance with IAS 10 – Events after the Reporting Period, this event is classified as a non-adjusting event, as it arose from conditions that did not exist at the reporting date. As such, no provision for these costs has been recognised in the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2024.

Management continues to monitor the evolving funding environment and will assess further organisational changes, if necessary, to ensure continued alignment with strategic priorities and operational efficiency.

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

### To the Shareholders of Save the Children South Africa NPC

#### Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Save the Children South Africa NPC (the company) set out on pages 8 to 22, which comprise the statement of financial position as at 31 December 2024, statement of comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and the notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. In our opinion, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Save the Children South Africa NPC as at 31 December 2024, and its financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with the International Financial Reporting Standard for Small and Medium-Sized Entities and the requirements of the Companies Act of South Africa.

#### Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are independent of the company in accordance with the Independent Regulatory Board for Auditors' Code of Professional Conduct for Registered Auditors (IRBA Code) and other independence requirements applicable to performing audits of financial statements in

South Africa. We have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the IRBA Code and in accordance with other ethical requirements applicable to performing audits in South Africa. The IRBA Code is consistent with the corresponding sections of the International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants' International Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including International Independence Standards). We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

#### Other Information

The Directors is responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the Directors' Report as required by the Companies Act of South Africa. Other information does not include the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not express an audit opinion or any form of assurance conclusion thereon. In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other

information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

#### Responsibilities of the Directors for the Financial Statements

The directors are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with the International Financial Reporting Standard for Small and Medium-sized Entities, and the requirements of the Companies Act of South Africa, and for such internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the directors are responsible for assessing the company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the directors either intend to liquidate the company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

#### Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with International Standards on Auditing will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements,

whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.

- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the company's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the directors.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting and based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the company's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the company to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with the directors regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

PKF (VGA) Chartered Accountants  
Chartered Accountant (S.A)  
Partner: Herman Nieuwoudt  
Registered Auditor  
Johannesburg  
30 May 2025

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2024

|                                       | Note(s) | 2024<br>R         | 2023<br>R         |
|---------------------------------------|---------|-------------------|-------------------|
| <b>Assets</b>                         |         |                   |                   |
| <b>Non-Current Assets</b>             |         |                   |                   |
| Property, plant and equipment         | 2       | 1,813,781         | 2,076,877         |
| <b>Current Assets</b>                 |         |                   |                   |
| Trade and other receivables           | 3       | 2,868,909         | 1,906,184         |
| Cash and cash equivalents             | 4       | 28,518,838        | 34,347,022        |
|                                       |         | <b>31,387,747</b> | <b>36,253,206</b> |
| <b>Total Assets</b>                   |         | <b>33,201,528</b> | <b>38,330,083</b> |
| <b>Reserves and Liabilities</b>       |         |                   |                   |
| <b>Reserves</b>                       |         |                   |                   |
| Accumulated Reserves                  |         | 14,037,211        | 10,285,408        |
| <b>Liabilities</b>                    |         |                   |                   |
| <b>Current Liabilities</b>            |         |                   |                   |
| Trade and other payables              | 5       | 3,552,487         | 3,191,037         |
| Deferred income                       | 6       | 15,611,830        | 24,853,638        |
|                                       |         | <b>19,164,317</b> | <b>28,044,675</b> |
| <b>Total Reserves and Liabilities</b> |         | <b>33,201,528</b> | <b>38,330,083</b> |

## STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

|                                   | Note(s) | 2024<br>R        | 2023<br>R        |
|-----------------------------------|---------|------------------|------------------|
| Revenue                           | 7       | 52,986,274       | 45,153,687       |
| Other income                      | 8       | 14,594,268       | 16,430,112       |
| Operating expenses                | 9       | (66,129,763)     | (57,256,280)     |
| <b>Operating surplus</b>          |         | <b>1,450,779</b> | <b>4,327,519</b> |
| Investment revenue                | 10      | 2,301,024        | 1,889,576        |
| <b>Total surplus for the year</b> |         | <b>3,751,803</b> | <b>6,217,095</b> |

## STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY

|                             | Accumulated<br>Reserves<br>R | Total<br>Reserves<br>R |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------|
| Balance at 01 January 2023  | 4,068,313                    | 4,068,313              |
| Total surplus for the year  | 6,217,095                    | 6,217,095              |
| Balance at 01 January 2024  | 10,285,408                   | 10,285,408             |
| Total surplus for the year  | 3,751,803                    | 3,751,803              |
| Balance at 31 December 2024 | 14,037,211                   | 14,037,211             |

## STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

|                                                     | Notes | 2024<br>R          | 2023<br>R          |
|-----------------------------------------------------|-------|--------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>         |       |                    |                    |
| Cash (used in) generated from operations            | 11    | (8,110,914)        | 5,123,093          |
| Interest received                                   |       | 2,301,024          | 1,889,576          |
| <b>Net cash from operating activities</b>           |       | <b>(5,809,890)</b> | <b>7,012,669</b>   |
| <b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>         |       |                    |                    |
| Purchase of property, plant and equipment           | 2     | (18,293)           | (749,468)          |
| Proceeds from sale of property, plant and equipment | 2     | -                  | 584,598            |
| <b>Net cash from investing activities</b>           |       | <b>(18,293)</b>    | <b>(164,870)</b>   |
| <b>Cash flows from financing activities</b>         |       |                    |                    |
| Movement in other financial liabilities             |       | -                  | (2,616,060)        |
| <b>Net cash from financing activities</b>           |       | <b>-</b>           | <b>(2,616,060)</b> |
| <b>Total cash movement for the year</b>             |       | <b>(5,828,183)</b> | <b>4,231,739</b>   |
| Cash at the beginning of the year                   |       | 34,347,022         | 30,115,283         |
| <b>Total cash at end of the year</b>                | 4     | <b>28,518,839</b>  | <b>34,347,022</b>  |

# ACCOUNTING POLICIES

## 1. Basis of preparation and summary of significant accounting policies

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis in accordance with the International Financial Reporting Standard for Small and Medium-sized Entities, and the Companies Act 71 of 2008. The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis, and incorporate the principal accounting policies set out below. They are presented in South African Rands.

These accounting policies are consistent with the previous period.

### 1.1 Significant judgements and sources of estimation uncertainty

Critical judgements in applying accounting policies. Management did not make critical judgements in the application of accounting policies, apart from those involving estimations, which would significantly affect the financial statements.

#### Key sources of estimation uncertainty

The financial statements do not include assets or liabilities whose carrying amounts were determined based on estimations for which there is a significant risk of material adjustments in the following financial year as a result of the key estimation assumptions.

### 1.2 Property, plant and equipment

Property, plant and equipment are tangible assets which the company holds for its own use or for rental to others and which are expected to be used for more than one period.

An item of property, plant and equipment is recognised as an asset when it is probable that future economic benefits associated with the item will flow to the company, and the cost of the item can be measured reliably.

Property, plant and equipment is initially measured at cost. Cost includes costs incurred initially to acquire or construct an item of property, plant and equipment and costs incurred subsequently to add to, replace part of, or service it. If a replacement cost is recognised in the carrying amount of an item of property, plant and equipment, the carrying amount of the replaced part is derecognised.

Expenditure incurred subsequently for major services, additions to or replacements of parts of property, plant and equipment are capitalised if it is probable that future economic benefits associated with the expenditure

will flow to the company and the cost can be measured reliably. Day to day servicing costs are included in surplus or deficit in the period in which they are incurred.

Property, plant and equipment is subsequently stated at cost less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses.

Depreciation of an asset commences when the asset is available for use as intended by management. Depreciation is charged to write off the asset's carrying amount over its estimated useful life to its estimated residual value, using a method that best reflects the pattern in which the asset's economic benefits are consumed by the company.

The useful lives of items of property, plant and equipment have been assessed as follows:

| Item               | Depreciation method | Average useful life |
|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Motor vehicles     | Straight line       | 5 years             |
| Office equipment   | Straight line       | 5 years             |
| Computer equipment | Straight line       | 3 years             |
| Project equipment  | Straight line       | 10 years            |

The depreciation charge for each period is recognised in surplus or deficit unless it is included in the carrying amount of another asset.

Impairment tests are performed on property, plant and equipment when there is an indicator that they may be impaired. When the carrying amount of an item of property, plant and equipment is assessed to be higher than the estimated recoverable amount, an impairment loss is recognised immediately in surplus or deficit to bring the carrying amount in line with the recoverable amount.

An item of property, plant and equipment is derecognised upon disposal or when no future economic benefits are expected from its continued use or disposal. Any gain or loss arising from the derecognition of an item of property, plant and equipment, determined as the difference between the net disposal proceeds, if any, and the carrying amount of the item, is included in surplus or deficit when the item is derecognised.

### 1.3 Financial instruments

#### Initial measurement

Financial instruments are initially measured at the transaction price (including transaction costs except in the initial measurement of financial assets and liabilities

that are measured at fair value through surplus or deficit) unless the arrangement constitutes, in effect, a financing transaction in which case it is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

#### Financial instruments at amortised cost

These include loans, trade receivables and trade payables. Those debt instruments which meet the criteria in section 11.8(b) of the standard, are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method. Debt instruments which are classified as current assets or current liabilities are measured at the undiscounted amount of the cash expected to be received or paid, unless the arrangement effectively constitutes a financing transaction.

At each reporting date, the carrying amounts of assets held in this category are reviewed to determine whether there is any objective evidence of impairment. If there is objective evidence, the recoverable amount is estimated and compared with the carrying amount. If the estimated recoverable amount is lower, the carrying amount is reduced to its estimated recoverable amount, and an impairment loss is recognised immediately in surplus or deficit.

#### Financial instruments at cost

Equity instruments that are not publicly traded and whose fair value cannot otherwise be measured reliably without undue cost or effort are measured at cost less impairment.

#### Trade receivables

Trade receivables are recognised initially at the transaction price. They are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less provision for impairment. A provision for impairment of trade receivables is established when there is evidence that the company will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of the receivables.

#### Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand, demand deposits and other short-term highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less. Bank overdrafts are shown as a current liability on the statement of financial position.

Cash and cash equivalents are initially and subsequently measured at amortised cost.

#### Trade payables

Trade payables are recognised initially at the transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Trade payables are obligations on the basis of normal credit terms and do not bear interest.

## Derecognition

### Financial assets

The company derecognises a financial asset only when the contractual rights to the cash flows from the asset expire, or when it transfers the financial asset and substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership of the asset to another party. If the company neither transfers nor retains substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership and continues to control the transferred asset, the company recognises its retained interest in the asset and an associated liability for amounts it may have to pay. If the company retains substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership of a transferred financial asset, the company continues to recognise the financial asset and also recognises a collateralised borrowing for the proceeds received.

### Financial liabilities

The company derecognises financial liabilities when, and only when, the company obligations are discharged, cancelled or they expire. The difference between the carrying amount of the financial liability derecognised and the consideration paid and payable, including any non-cash assets transferred or liabilities assumed, is recognised in profit or loss.

### 1.4 Leases

A lease is classified as a finance lease if it transfers substantially all the risks and rewards incidental to ownership to the lessee. All other leases are operating leases.

#### Operating leases – lessee

Operating lease payments are recognised as an expense on a straight-line basis over the lease term unless:

- another systematic basis is representative of the time pattern of the benefit from the leased asset, even if the payments are not on that basis, or
- the payments are structured to increase in line with expected general inflation (based on published indexes or statistics) to compensate for the lessor's expected inflationary cost increases.

Any contingent rents are expensed in the period they are incurred

### 1.5 Employee benefits

#### Short-term employee benefits

The cost of short-term employee benefits, (those payable within 12 months after the service is rendered, such as leave pay and sick leave, bonuses, and non-monetary benefits such as medical care),

are recognised in the period in which the service is rendered and are not discounted.

The expected cost of compensated absences is recognised as an expense as the employees render services that increase their entitlement or, in the case of non-accumulating absences, when the absence occurs.

#### Defined contribution plans

Payments to defined contribution retirement benefit plans are charged as an expense as they fall due.

#### Termination benefits

Termination benefits are recognised as an expense with its resulting liability when the entity is demonstrably committed either:

- to terminate the employment of an employee or group of employees before the normal retirement date; or
- to provide termination benefits as a result of an offer made in order to encourage voluntary redundancy.

The termination benefits are measured at the best estimate of the expenditure that would be required to settle the obligation at the reporting date.

#### 1.6 Income recognition

Income is recognized when Save The Children South Africa is entitled to the income, when receipt is probable, and income can be measured with sufficient reliability

#### 1. Donations

Income is recognized when received.

#### 2. Grant income

Grant income is recognised at fair value when there is reasonable assurance that:

- the company will comply with the conditions attaching to them; and
- the grants will be received.

Grants are recognised as income over the periods necessary to match them with the related costs that they are intended to compensate.

A grant that becomes receivable as compensation for expenses or deficits already incurred or for the purpose of giving immediate financial support to the entity with no future related costs is recognised as income of the period in which it becomes receivable.

Grants received where the company has not entered the related costs are recognised as a liability and included in deferred revenue within current liabilities.

Grants received and utilised for the purchase of assets are initially recognised as a liability and included in deferred revenue. These grants are transferred to revenue over the estimated useful lives of the assets.

#### 1.7 Interest

Interest is recognised, in surplus or deficit, using the effective interest rate method.

#### 1.8 Foreign exchange

##### Foreign currency transactions

A foreign currency transaction is recorded, on initial recognition in Rands, by applying to the foreign currency amount the spot exchange rate between the functional currency and the foreign currency at the date of the transaction.

##### At the end of the reporting period:

- foreign currency monetary items are translated using the closing rate;
- non-monetary items that are measured in terms of historical cost in a foreign currency are translated using the exchange rate at the date of the transaction; and
- non-monetary items that are measured at fair value in a foreign currency are translated using the exchange rates at the date when the fair value was determined.

Exchange differences arising on the settlement of monetary items or on translating monetary items at rates different from those at which they were translated on initial recognition during the period or in previous financial statements are recognised in profit or loss in the period in which they arise.

Cash flows arising from transactions in a foreign currency are recorded in Rands by applying to the foreign currency amount the exchange rate between the Rand and the foreign currency at the date of the cash flow.

#### 1.9 Tax

The company is exempt from Income Tax because it is registered as a Public Benefit Organisation(PBO) in terms of section 30(3) of the Income Tax Act.

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

|                                  | 2024<br>R |                     |                   | 2023<br>R |                             |                   |
|----------------------------------|-----------|---------------------|-------------------|-----------|-----------------------------|-------------------|
| 2. Property, plant and equipment |           |                     |                   |           |                             |                   |
|                                  | 2024      |                     |                   | 2023      |                             |                   |
|                                  | Cost      | Accumulated<br>Cost | Carrying<br>value | Cost      | Accumulated<br>depreciation | Carrying<br>value |
| Motor vehicles                   | 3,746,501 | (1,978,400)         | 1,768,101         | 3,746,501 | (1,738,564)                 | 2,007,937         |
| Office equipment                 | 43,290    | (43,289)            | 1                 | 43,290    | (43,289)                    | 1                 |
| Computer equipment               | 248,318   | (202,639)           | 45,679            | 230,024   | (161,085)                   | 68,939            |
| Total                            | 4,038,109 | (2,224,328)         | 1,813,781         | 4,019,815 | (1,942,938)                 | 2,076,877         |

#### Reconciliation of property, plant and equipment - 2024

|                    | Opening balance  | Additions     | Depreciation     | Closing balance    |
|--------------------|------------------|---------------|------------------|--------------------|
| Motor vehicles     | 2,007,937        | -             | (239,836)        | 1,768,101          |
| Office equipment   | 1                | -             | -                | 1                  |
| Computer equipment | 68,939           | 18,294        | (41,554)         | 45,679             |
|                    | <b>2,076,877</b> | <b>18,294</b> | <b>(281,390)</b> | <b>(1,813,781)</b> |

#### Reconciliation of property, plant and equipment - 2023

|                    | Opening balance  | Additions      | Disposals        | Depreciation     | Closing balance  |
|--------------------|------------------|----------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Motor vehicles     | 1,779,291        | 708,084        | (415,747)        | (63,691)         | 2,007,937        |
| Office equipment   | 1                | -              | -                | -                | 1                |
| Computer equipment | 66,409           | 41,384         | -                | (38,854)         | 68,939           |
|                    | <b>1,845,701</b> | <b>749,468</b> | <b>(415,747)</b> | <b>(102,545)</b> | <b>2,076,877</b> |

#### 3. Trade and other receivables

##### Financial instruments:

|                                            |                  |                  |
|--------------------------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Grant receivables                          | 2,772,676        | 2                |
| Other receivables                          | 804,872          | 1,891,223        |
| Impairment                                 | (1,003,351)      | (306,351)        |
| <b>Trade receivables at amortised cost</b> | <b>2,574,197</b> | <b>1,584,874</b> |

##### Non-financial instruments:

|                                          |                  |                  |
|------------------------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| VAT                                      | 132,944          | 160,609          |
| Prepayments                              | 161,768          | 160,701          |
| <b>Total trade and other receivables</b> | <b>2,868,909</b> | <b>1,906,184</b> |

#### Financial instrument and non-financial instrument components of trade and other receivables

|                           |                  |                  |
|---------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| At amortised cost         | 2,574,197        | 1,584,873        |
| Non-financial instruments | 287,970          | 321,310          |
|                           | <b>2,862,167</b> | <b>1,906,183</b> |

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 2024<br>R         | 2023<br>R         |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| <b>4. Cash and cash equivalents</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                   |                   |
| Cash and cash equivalents consist of:                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                   |                   |
| Cash on hand                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | 117,342           | 119,075           |
| Bank balances                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | 28,401,496        | 34,347,022        |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | <b>28,518,838</b> | <b>1,584,874</b>  |
| <b>5. Trade and other payables</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                   |                   |
| Trade payables                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | 362,668           | 83,356            |
| Accrued leave pay                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | 1,536,246         | 1,582,290         |
| Accrued expenses                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 1,248,147         | 865,752           |
| Other payables                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | 405,426           | 659,639           |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | <b>3,552,487</b>  | <b>3,191,037</b>  |
| <b>6. Deferred income</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                   |                   |
| Deferred revenue-utilised for asset purchases                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | 1,195,343         | 1,363,541         |
| Deferred revenue-external projects grants received                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 14,416,487        | 23,490,097        |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | <b>15,611,830</b> | <b>24,853,638</b> |
| These liabilities arise from donations received from donors that are earmarked for designated projects. When the actual expenditure is incurred for the designated project, an amount equal to the related expense is reversed from deferred income to the statement of comprehensive income. The remainder of the unutilised funds are shown as a deferred income on the statement of financial position. |                   |                   |
| <b>7. Revenue</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                   |                   |
| <b>Grant income</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                   |                   |
| Restricted project grant                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 42,495,849        | 31,912,652        |
| Unrestricted project grant 10,490,425 13,241,035                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 10,490,425        | 13,241,035        |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | <b>52,986,274</b> | <b>45,153,687</b> |
| <b>Grants from related parties</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                   |                   |
| Save the Children Sweden                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 10,490,424        | 11,061,835        |
| Save the Children UK                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 6,797,988         | 4,607,348         |
| Save the Children Italy                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 10,390,898        | 9,718,238         |
| Save the Children International                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 2,112,480         | 2,596,246         |
| Save the Children Hong Kong                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | -                 | 138,047           |
| Save the Children USA                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 7,513,567         | 1,201,169         |
| Save the Children Norway                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | -                 | 872,020           |
| <b>Total grants from Related Parties</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | <b>37,305,357</b> | <b>30,194,903</b> |

|                                               | 2024<br>R         | 2023<br>R         |
|-----------------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| <b>Other grants</b>                           |                   |                   |
| Dutch Embassy                                 | 4,185,781         | 2,239,664         |
| Standard Bank Limited                         | 1,075,077         | 830,115           |
| UNICEF                                        | 376,738           | 402,690           |
| Glaxo Smith Kline South Africa (Pty) Ltd      | 744,909           | 820,812           |
| Clarins SA                                    | 337,201           | 315,906           |
| State of Monaco                               | 1,186,204         | 1,844,161         |
| Human Foundation and Webhelp                  | 611,061           | 651,967           |
| Sundry                                        | 895,885           | 344,706           |
| Opella Health Care South Africa (Pty) Ltd     | -                 | 1,358,767         |
| Ruth & Anita                                  | 669,208           | 403,710           |
| Lego Foundation                               | 5,598,853         | 5,746,286         |
| <b>Total Other grants</b>                     | <b>15,680,917</b> | <b>14,958,784</b> |
| Grants from related parties                   | 37,305,357        | 30,194,903        |
| Other grants                                  | 15,680,917        | 14,958,784        |
|                                               | <b>52,986,274</b> | <b>45,153,687</b> |
| <b>8. Other income</b>                        |                   |                   |
| Donations                                     | 17,650            | 51,830            |
| Fundraising income                            | 13,580,644        | 15,093,418        |
| Gifts in Kind                                 | 740,797           | 168,851           |
| Sundry income                                 | 255,177           | 928,562           |
| Gain on sale of property, plant and equipment | -                 | 187,451           |
|                                               | <b>14,594,268</b> | <b>16,430,112</b> |

#### 9. Operating surplus

Operating surplus for the year is stated after charging (debiting) the following, amongst others:

#### Expenses by nature

The total cost of programming activities, fundraising & marketing expenses, general and administrative expenses, research and development expenses, maintenance expenses and other operating expenses are analysed by nature as follows:

|                                                |            |            |
|------------------------------------------------|------------|------------|
| Accounting fees                                | 27,402     | 26,150     |
| Annual audit                                   | 240,334    | 252,202    |
| Bad debts                                      | 697,000    | -          |
| Consulting and professional fees               | 172,259    | 178,669    |
| Depreciation                                   | 281,389    | 102,545    |
| Employee costs - Admin, Support and Technical  | 12,010,119 | 12,023,567 |
| Employee costs - Fundraising                   | 4,678,819  | 4,348,031  |
| Employee costs - Restricted for project grants | 17,410,737 | 16,239,054 |
| Foreign Exchange loss                          | 69,203     | 2,281      |

|                                                                                                                        | 2024<br>R         | 2023<br>R         |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Internal audit fees                                                                                                    | -                 | 272,556           |
| IT licensing and subscriptions                                                                                         | 1,004,707         | 983,584           |
| Lease rentals on operating lease                                                                                       | 680,113           | 729,221           |
| Other administrative expenses                                                                                          | 2,511,649         | 2,699,340         |
| Other fundraising expenses                                                                                             | 4,052,452         | 3,510,326         |
| Programmatic expenses                                                                                                  | 18,916,467        | 13,038,727        |
| Repairs and maintenance                                                                                                | 98,807            | 77,199            |
| Travel and accommodation                                                                                               | 3,278,306         | 2,772,828         |
| <b>Total cost of programming activities, fundraising &amp; marketing expenses, general and administrative expenses</b> | <b>66,129,763</b> | <b>57,256,280</b> |

### 10. Investment revenue

|                       |           |           |
|-----------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Interest revenue Bank | 2,301,024 | 1,889,576 |
|-----------------------|-----------|-----------|

### 11. Cash (used in) generated from operations

|                             |           |           |
|-----------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Net surplus before taxation | 3,751,803 | 6,217,095 |
|-----------------------------|-----------|-----------|

#### Adjustments for:

|                                                   |             |             |
|---------------------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| Depreciation"                                     | 281,389     | 102,545     |
| Gain on sale of property, plant and equipment     | -           | (187,451)   |
| Non-cash movements in other financial liabilities | -           | (2,616,061) |
| Interest received                                 | (2,301,024) | (1,889,576) |

#### Changes in working capital:

|                              |                    |                  |
|------------------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| Trade and other receivables" | (962,725)          | 91,917           |
| Trade and other payables     | 361,451            | (352,126)        |
| Deferred income              | (9,241,808)        | 3,756,750        |
|                              | <b>(8,110,914)</b> | <b>5,123,093</b> |

### 12. Commitments

|                                        |                |                  |
|----------------------------------------|----------------|------------------|
| Operating leases – as lessee (expense) |                |                  |
| Minimum lease payments due             |                |                  |
| - within one year"                     | 654,691        | 727,252          |
| - in second to fifth year inclusive    | -              | 654,674          |
|                                        | <b>654,691</b> | <b>1,381,926</b> |

Operating lease payments represent rentals payable by the company for certain of its office properties. Leases are negotiated for an average term of three years and rentals are fixed for an average of three years after which inflation linked rental escalations are applied. The company has the option to renew the leases upon expiry on June 2025 but it will not be renewed. No contingent rent is payable. No purchase options, subleases or lease restrictions are applicable.

### 13. Related parties

- Save the Children Sweden (Save the Children International member organisation)
- Save the Children UK (Save the Children International member organisation)
- Save the Children Norway (Save the Children International member organisation)
- Save the Children Italy (Save the Children International member organisation)
- Save the Children International South Africa Regional Office (Save the Children International member organisation)
- Save the Children International Member Growth (Save the Children International member organisation)
- U Rickardsson - Save the Children Sweden Employee

|                            |            |                                                                  |
|----------------------------|------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Key management personnel - | G Xaba     | - Chief Executive Officer                                        |
|                            | S Wessels  | - Director of Planning, Monitoring, Accountability and Learning  |
|                            | H Nsibande | - Director of Finance                                            |
|                            | P Kapueja  | - Director of New Business Development (Resigned 31 August 2024) |
|                            | M Briede   | - Director of programmes                                         |

Key management personnel comprises of the senior management team.

|                                                                      | 2024<br>R          | 2023<br>R         |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| <b>Related party balances</b>                                        |                    |                   |
| <b>Amounts included in Deferred income regarding related parties</b> |                    |                   |
| Save the Children Italy                                              | 6,928,676          | 8,702,312         |
| Save the Children US                                                 | -                  | 1,810,893         |
| Save the Children UK                                                 | -                  | 2,242,684         |
| Save the Children International                                      | 493,465            | 778,106           |
|                                                                      | <b>7,422,141</b>   | <b>13,533,995</b> |
| <b>Grants (receivable) from related parties</b>                      |                    |                   |
| Save the Children US                                                 | (1,321,342)        | -                 |
| Save the Children UK                                                 | (740,234)          | -                 |
|                                                                      | <b>(2,172,911)</b> | <b>-</b>          |

#### Related party transactions

|                                      |                   |                   |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Grants received from related parties |                   |                   |
| Save the Children Sweden             | 10,490,424        | 11,055,010        |
| Save the Children UK                 | 6,797,988         | 4,607,348         |
| Save the Children Italy              | 10,390,898        | 9,736,657         |
| Save the Children International      | 2,717,280         | 3,252,945         |
| Save the Children USA                | 7,513,567         | 1,205,174         |
|                                      | <b>37,910,157</b> | <b>29,857,134</b> |

#### 14. Directors' and prescribed officer's remuneration

##### Executive

##### 2024

| Directors' emoluments                                                                               | Emoluments       | Other benefits* | Total            |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| <b>Services as director or prescribed officer</b>                                                   |                  |                 |                  |
| Gugu Xaba – Chief Executive Office                                                                  | 2,045,272        | 84,535          | 2,129,807        |
| Suzanne Wessels – Director of Planning, Monitoring, Accountability and Learning                     | 1,213,897        | 69,462          | 1,283,359        |
| Hlobisile Nsibande – Director of Finance                                                            | 1,373,512        | 47,466          | 1,420,978        |
| Pejehafo Kapueja - Director of New Business Development and Communication (Resigned 31 August 2024) | 677,416          | 71,119          | 748,535          |
| M Briede – Director of programmes (Appointed 10 January 2024)                                       | 1,506,476        | 62,540          | 1,569,016        |
|                                                                                                     | <b>6,816,573</b> | <b>335,122</b>  | <b>7,151,695</b> |

##### 2023

| Directors' emoluments                                                                                    | Emoluments       | Other benefits* | Total            |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| <b>Services as director or prescribed officer</b>                                                        |                  |                 |                  |
| Stephen Miller - Chief Executive Officer (Resigned 17 February 2023)                                     | 359,093          | 8,386           | 367,479          |
| Gugu Xaba – Director of Programmes                                                                       | 1,594,348        | 47,410          | 1,641,758        |
| Suzanne Wessels – Director of Planning, Monitoring, Accountability and Learning                          | 1,063,501        | 129,652         | 1,193,153        |
| Hlobisile Nsibande – Director of Finance                                                                 | 1,294,008        | 26,065          | 1,320,073        |
| Ntombiyani Horn – Director of Partnerships, Advocacy and Communication (Resigned 7 July 2023)            | 742,251          | 131,361         | 873,612          |
| Pejehafo Kapueja – Director of New Business Development and Communication<br>(Appointed 6 November 2023) | 146,438          | 3,929           | 150,367          |
|                                                                                                          | <b>5,199,639</b> | <b>346,803</b>  | <b>5,546,442</b> |

All the other directors did not earn any remuneration for the reporting period.

\*Other benefits comprise provident fund contributions, cell phone allowances and group risk benefit contributions.

#### 15. Categories of financial instruments

##### Debt instruments at amortised cost

|                             |                   |                   |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Cash and cash equivalents   | 28,518,838        | 34,347,022        |
| Trade and other receivables | 2,574,197         | 1,584,874         |
|                             | <b>31,093,035</b> | <b>35,931,896</b> |

##### Financial liabilities at amortised cost

|                          |           |           |
|--------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Trade and other payables | 3,552,487 | 3,191,036 |
|--------------------------|-----------|-----------|

## DETAILED INCOME STATEMENT

|                                               | Note(s) | 2024<br>R         | 2023<br>R         |
|-----------------------------------------------|---------|-------------------|-------------------|
| <b>Grant income</b>                           |         |                   |                   |
| Restricted project grant                      |         | 42,495,849        | 31,912,652        |
| Unrestricted project grant                    |         | 10,490,425        | 13,241,035        |
|                                               | 7       | <b>52,986,274</b> | <b>45,153,687</b> |
| <b>Other income</b>                           |         |                   |                   |
| Donations                                     |         | 17,650            | 51,830            |
| Fundraising income                            |         | 13,580,644        | 15,093,418        |
| Gift in kind income                           |         | 740,797           | 168,851           |
| Sundry income                                 |         | 255,177           | 928,562           |
| Gain on sale of property, plant and equipment |         | -                 | 187,451           |
|                                               |         | <b>14,594,268</b> | <b>16,430,112</b> |
| <b>Operating expenses</b>                     |         |                   |                   |
| Accounting fees                               |         | 27,402            | 26,150            |
| Auditors remuneration                         |         | 240,334           | 252,202           |
| Bad debts                                     |         | 697,000           | -                 |
| Bank charges                                  |         | 220,748           | 377,100           |
| Cleaning materials                            |         | 2,468             | 7,468             |
| Computer expenses                             |         | 371,048           | 408,831           |
| Consulting and professional fees              |         | 172,259           | 178,669           |
| Depreciation                                  |         | 281,389           | 102,545           |
| Employee costs                                | 9       | 34,099,678        | 32,610,652        |
| Foreign Exchange loss                         |         | 69,203            | 2,281             |
| Fundraising expenses                          |         | 3,458,493         | 2,687,977         |
| Gift in kind expense                          |         | 740,797           | 168,651           |
| IT licensing and subscriptions                |         | 1,004,707         | 983,584           |
| Insurance                                     |         | 519,480           | 441,870           |
| Internal audit fees                           |         | -                 | 272,556           |
| Lease rentals on operating lease              |         | 680,113           | 729,221           |
| Levies                                        |         | 4,200             | 2,500             |
| Municipal expenses                            |         | 194,993           | 140,907           |
| Other office expenses                         |         | 242,907           | 338,710           |
| Postage                                       |         | 10,110            | 9,947             |
| Printing and stationery                       |         | 186,336           | 320,457           |
| Programmatic costs                            |         | 18,916,467        | 13,038,727        |
| Recruitment and advertising                   |         | 40,335            | 364,037           |

|                            |              |            |
|----------------------------|--------------|------------|
| Repairs and maintenance    | 98,807       | 77,199     |
| Security                   | 22,891       | 35,492     |
| Staff welfare              | 22,181       | 24,229     |
| Subscriptions              | 166,573      | 70,478     |
| Telephone and fax          | 360,538      | 273,635    |
| Travel - local             | 3,278,306    | 2,772,828  |
|                            | 66,129,763   | 56,718,903 |
| Operating surplus          | 1,450,779    | 4,864,896  |
| Investment income          | 10 2,301,024 | 1,889,576  |
| Total surplus for the year | 3,751,803    | 6,754,472  |

# ABOUT THIS REPORT

## ABOUT THIS REPORT

### SCOPE AND BOUNDARY

The scope of this report covers the operations and impact of Save the Children South Africa NPO (Registration number 2012/019616/08) for the year ended 31 December 2024. Save the Children South Africa is registered as a non-profit organisation with the South African Department of Social Development.

### MATERIALITY

We apply materiality in assessing what information should be included in our integrated report. As a result, in this report we have focused on the matters that impacted our ability to perform during the period under review, programme outcomes and improvements to compliance.

### BOARD RESPONSIBILITY STATEMENT

The Save the Children South Africa Board acknowledges responsibility for ensuring the integrity of the integrated report and has contributed to the preparation and presentation of this report. We have endeavoured to present this report in accordance with the International <IR> Framework.

# ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

| Abbreviation/ Acronym | Full title/Extension                                                                                                      |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| AIDS                  | Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome                                                                                        |
| BAIC                  | Black, Asian, Indian, Coloured                                                                                            |
| BBBEE                 | Broad Based Black Economic Empowerment                                                                                    |
| CBO                   | Community based organisation                                                                                              |
| CCA                   | Community change agent                                                                                                    |
| CEO                   | Chief Executive Officer                                                                                                   |
| CFO                   | Chief Financial Officer                                                                                                   |
| CiiUM                 | Children Involved in Unsafe Migration                                                                                     |
| CLTP                  | Caregiver Learning Through Play                                                                                           |
| COP29                 | 29th session of the Conference of the Parties (COP) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) |
| CoRMSA                | Consortium for Refugees & Migrants in South Africa                                                                        |
| CRG                   | Child Rights Governance                                                                                                   |
| CRNSA                 | Child Rights Network of Southern Africa                                                                                   |
| CRSA                  | Child Rights Situational Analysis                                                                                         |
| CSE                   | Comprehensive sexuality education                                                                                         |
| CSO                   | Civil Society Organisation                                                                                                |
| CVA                   | Cash voucher assistance                                                                                                   |
| DBE                   | Department of Basic Education                                                                                             |
| DSD                   | Department of Social Development                                                                                          |
| ECCD                  | Early Childhood Care and Development                                                                                      |
| ECD                   | Early Childhood Development                                                                                               |
| GIK                   | Gifts in kind                                                                                                             |
| HIV                   | Human Immunodeficiency Virus                                                                                              |
| HLA                   | Humanitarian Leadership Academy                                                                                           |
| HLL                   | Happy Living and Learning                                                                                                 |
| IOM                   | International organisation for migration                                                                                  |
| IT                    | Information technology                                                                                                    |
| JOC                   | Joint operations centre                                                                                                   |
| KNB                   | Knows no Borders                                                                                                          |
| KZN                   | KwaZulu-Natal                                                                                                             |

| Abbreviation/<br>Acronym | Full title/Extension                                                                                                   |
|--------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| LGBTQ+                   | Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Pansexual, Transgender, Genderqueer, Queer, Intersexed, Agender, Asexual, and Ally (community) |
| MEAL                     | Monitoring Evaluation and Learning                                                                                     |
| MHPSS                    | Mental health and Psychosocial support                                                                                 |
| MYDO                     | Malusi Youth Development Organisation                                                                                  |
| NSAAC                    | National Strategy to Accelerate Action for Children                                                                    |
| NBDC                     | New Business Development and Communication                                                                             |
| NGO                      | Non Governmental Organisation                                                                                          |
| NIAWG                    | National Inter-Agency Working Group                                                                                    |
| NPO                      | Non-Profit Organisation                                                                                                |
| PMEAL                    | Planning, Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning                                                          |
| PWV                      | Parenting without Violence                                                                                             |
| RCPN                     | Regional Child Protection Network                                                                                      |
| REPSSI                   | Regional Psychosocial Support Initiative                                                                               |
| RIATT-ESA                | Regional Interagency Task Team on Children and AIDS in Eastern and Southern Africa                                     |
| SADC                     | Southern African Development Community                                                                                 |
| SANCRS                   | South African National Child Rights Coalition                                                                          |
| SAPPIN                   | Southern African Parents and Parenting Support Information Network                                                     |
| SC                       | Save the Children                                                                                                      |
| SCSA                     | Save the Children South Africa                                                                                         |
| SDG                      | Sustainable development goals                                                                                          |
| SRH                      | Sexual and reproductive health                                                                                         |
| SRHR                     | Sexual and reproductive health rights                                                                                  |
| TICZA                    | Teacher Internship Collaboration South Africa                                                                          |
| UN                       | United Nations                                                                                                         |
| UNCRC                    | United Nations Committee on the Right of the Child                                                                     |
| UNHCR                    | United Nations High Commission for Refugees                                                                            |
| UNICEF                   | United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund                                                                 |
| US                       | United States                                                                                                          |
| USMC                     | Unaccompanied and separated migrant children                                                                           |
| VAC                      | violence against children                                                                                              |
| VPF                      | Violence Prevention Forum                                                                                              |
| WASH                     | Water, sanitation and hygiene                                                                                          |
| WWF                      | World Wildlife Fund                                                                                                    |



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**"AS CHILDREN, WE ARE NOT TOO SMALL  
TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE... IMAGINE  
WHAT WE COULD ACHIEVE WITH YOUR  
FULL SUPPORT."**

**- ELIZABETH, 16, GAUTENG**



**Save the Children**