**First 1000 Days Training**
From conception to 2 years is a vital time of development in a child’s life. We offered 5 courses for pregnant women, community health care workers, parents and créche workers caring for young children from birth to 2 years to ensure optimal nutrition, development and stimulation.

• 113 attendees

**BASIC EARLY CHILD DEVELOPMENT TRAINING**
Comprehensive, practical and relevant training in ECD for carers / practitioners within a crèche or with an employer. Attendees are equipped to better raise their own children and assist within their community. Focus on development, stimulation, nutrition, hygiene, safety and creating from waste.

• 12 x 5-day courses • 163 attendees • 66 unemployed • 97 practitioners • staff from 56 ECD centres trained

**ADVANCED EARLY CHILD DEVELOPMENT TRAINING**
Training aimed at enabling practitioners to apply a holistic early child development program within their pre-schools and allowing Masikhule staff to evaluate their performance and offer support. Training increased from 6 to 7 weeks with valuable input from Physifun, a gross motor development program, positive behaviour modification by our specialist psychologist, outings to the Cheetah Outreach and on-site visits.

• 54 practitioners • 36 ECD Starter Kits supplied

**TEACHER ENRICHMENT WORKSHOPS (TEW)**
A new series of regular, focussed and specialised 1-day workshops introduced in 2016 for teachers, prepared by an Occupational Therapist in response to specific developmental and learning needs identified through screening assessments of 85 pre-school children.

• 25 practitioners

**BUSINESS MANAGEMENT TRAINING**
Training principals to enable them to successfully manage their businesses through gaining skills in Business Management, Financial Management and Human Resources.

• 24 Principals • 22 Office Resource Kits provided

**Mentorship: To offer regular support, guidance and further on-site training to ECD centres**
We know from experience that training in isolation is rarely successful. Mentorship forms the vital link between skills training and successful implementation. Masikhule offered this service to a 30 centres situated from Sir Lowry’s Pass through to Macassar, with five in the adjacent Winelands. We encourage independence and sustainability and after the 3 to 5 year period, we envisage Early Learning Centres that are registered, well-managed and well equipped with qualified, dedicated staff with a varied and holistic ECD Programme in place. During this year 8 were successfully registered and 22 are currently under consideration.

• 30 ECD centres developed and mentored • Over 1800 children from birth to 6 years reached through Masikhule ECD program • 720 the number of mentorship visits

**Capacity building, Resource and Infrastructure Development**
This year saw Masikhule partner with donors to undertake big and small infrastructural and resource improvement projects at all 30 Early Learning Centres. These improvements included providing necessary items such as kitchen appliances, classroom and office furniture, computer and printing equipment, playground and educational play equipment. Our goal to ensure each of the centres we mentor had a Reading Corner installed with age- and language-appropriate books progressed well and by end February 2016 ten had been installed, thanks to our generous supporters.

• 10 reading corners • over 1 300 books distributed

We also saw the very successful launch of our Early Learning Resource Library (ELRL) which can service up to 20 centres. The teachers now have fortnightly access to:
• teacher and classroom resources which include theme packs, resource books, classroom visual aids and equipment ;
• theme-based lesson plans, activity ideas and material necessary to implement the learning programs
• age-appropriate educational toys, games and books for the children as well as inspirational books for the teacher.
Thank You!
We are grateful to our established and new partners, donors and supporters for entrusting us at Masikhule to provide a service to women and children from the disadvantaged communities of the Helderberg and surrounding areas, and trust that our partnerships will continue to broaden, grow and develop.
Thank you for each and every donation (whether monetary, time spent or in kind) however big or small.

Our donors and contributors in no particular order:

- Department of Social Development
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- Simonsig Wine Estate
- Joostenberg Wine Estate
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- Garth Japhet
- Rotary International
- Greet de Wulf
- Nadia Kamies
- Bernd Holtkamp
- Dalene de Beer
- C. Stevens
- Anthonissen Financial Services
Ten and a half years after making the decision to formalize and legitimize an Early Childhood Development program that had the potential to change lives, offer opportunities for personal, developmental and economic growth, to upskill and empower and to see young children learning in a stimulating environment, we at Masikhule still find ourselves on an upward trajectory path!

The more we do, the more needs become apparent and the more we are motivated to play a part in making a difference.

We have extended and developed our training courses, our mentorship has become more focussed in line with our ultimate aim to ensure that community ECD centres become sustainable and independent entities and our desire to see these centres better resourced has come to fruition through the launch of our Early Learning Resource Library.

This would not be possible without a dynamic, passionate and dedicated team. Thank you Masikhule team for changing lives and being the difference. Thank you Nadia Kamies, Greet de Wulf and Garth Japhet, our specialist Advisory Board Members, for your faith in Masikhule

We thank all our partners and supporters for entrusting us at Masikhule Childcare to provide a valuable service to women and children from the disadvantaged areas of the Helderberg and surrounding areas and trust that our partnerships will continue to grow and develop.

“"We make a living from what we get. We make a life from what we give”.

Léanne Keet - Founder