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### CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

As I write, we are experiencing an unprecedented nationwide lockdown while our country prepares itself for the inevitable onslaught of the global COVID-19 virus in the months to come. Looking back on the progress made in 2019, one cannot help wondering what the impact of this virus will be on the projects and the people we support in 2020 and beyond.

Each year I read through the Annual Report, it strikes me how we are becoming more strategic and organised in our approach to addressing the many challenges our country's children experience. No doubt it is the massive endeavour of the amazing projects whose people desire to impact children and their families that makes it easier for us to get better at our efforts.

And let us be honest, the challenge is big (particularly in the Eastern Cape):

**84% of children in Grade 4 cannot read for meaning**

**31% of children completed Grade 12**

**78% unemployment**

**R 1,216 is the average household monthly income**

*\*PIRLS (2016); Wazimap*

During the past year we have been intentional in expanding on our Theory of Change. We have been actively looking for partners who will help us ensure a continuum of care model from the First Thousand Days of a child's life, all the way up until the end of Grade 3. We believe that if the building blocks for literacy can be laid early on and children are able to read well, their choices in life will be greatly improved. Read more about this on our [website](#).

Another noteworthy mention is research that we undertook in the monitoring and evaluation processes within the non-profit environment. We discovered many areas that we could improve on and we are on a journey to do this.

Two trips were undertaken to the Eastern Cape. During the first visit, Lauren presented at the Wild Coast Forum, which comprises a group of NPOs who gather once a year to share ideas and resources. Discussions were held about the partnership relationship between funders and implementers and the importance of having this as a healthy space.

The second trip included the directors of our businesses, as well as board members.

Over the past five years we have seen a tenfold increase in the distribution to our projects. I am also encouraged that we are getting closer to our goal of keeping our expenses at 15% of our income. Currently we are tracking at 17%. We are grateful to our business partners and suppliers who support us by availing their staff to us to carry out various roles or work, which include our board of trustees within Kamvalethu, without charge or at cost.

Finally, the biggest thank you goes to our Project Director, Lauren McGill, and to the leaders of the various projects with whom we work, whose unbridled passion and tireless efforts make all the work we do so impactful. Let us pray for God's mercy on the people of the rural Eastern Cape that they will be spared the horrors of the COVID virus that we have seen throughout the world.

**Rowan Haarhoff** CHAIRMAN  
B.A. LLB (UCT), B.Th. (UP), Lic.Th.(CTBS)



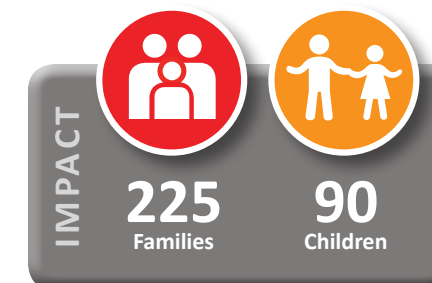
### FIRST THOUSAND DAYS



This is the newest area that we are exploring. We are excited because extensive research\* points to the importance of building strong foundations as early as possible.

Bulungula Incubator's (BI) mission is to be a catalyst in the creation of vibrant and sustainable rural communities. They work with community members from conception to career, with an integrated development strategy in education, health and nutrition, as well as sustainable livelihoods. All of the projects are designed, prioritised, implemented and managed in partnership with the community and through traditional and elected leadership structures.

The Bulungula Incubator provides Early Childhood Development services in the form of twice-weekly village-based playgroups and ECD in the home. The



growth, and checks for any signs of early disability or any other health issues. When the 4 to 6 year olds return home from preschool, they are also engaged in the travelling toy library and fun activities that the Home-based Care team is trained to offer.

\*Hernandez (2010); Nelson (2000); Spaull (2017); World Health Organization (2018)

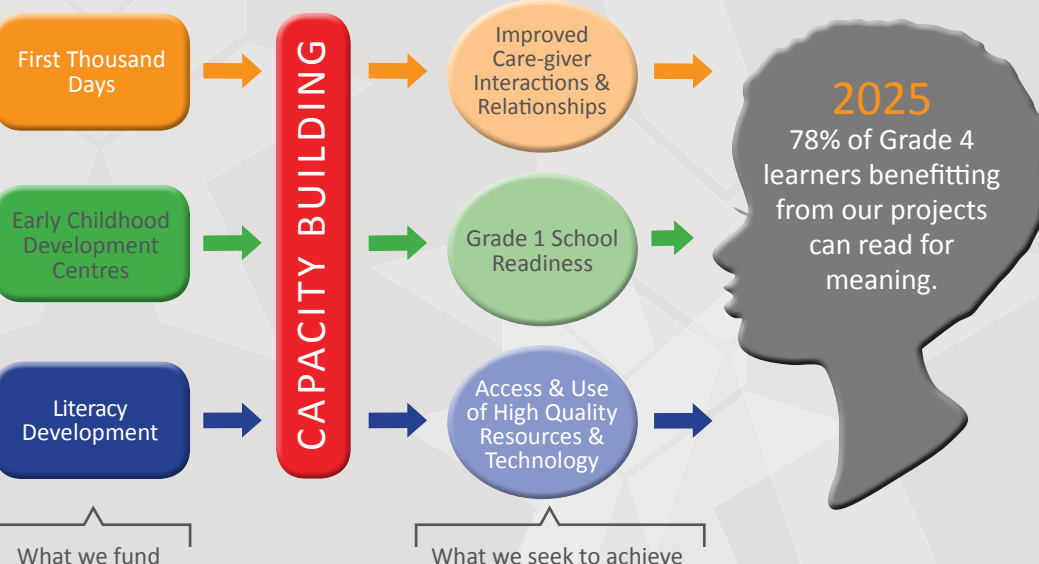
playgroups bring together children and their caregivers for a fun morning session, where cookies and juice are served and the children receive a bowl of nutritious, fortified porridge. A toy library is provided, with toys on hand to entertain and educate children from just a few months old to around 3 years old. Every session incorporates a dance and storytime. Caregivers are required to accompany the children, as the development of their knowledge in the principles and practice of ECD is also crucial.

The 0-3 year olds are also given the opportunity to receive ECD in their homes when the Home-based Care team visits to monitor their height and weight for healthy



### Kamvalethu Theory of Change

78% of Grade 4 learners in South Africa cannot read for meaning (in any language). Reading is the fundamental skill upon which all other skills depend and the foundations for this begin right from birth. Growth stunting, unemployment, and family stress impede this development. Rural areas are particularly vulnerable due to their lack of access to basic resources.





# THE MONTESSORI EASTERN CAPE HUB

The Hub is a joint venture between Kamvaletu and First Children. The initiative aims to bring together the grass roots Montessori preschools on the Wild Coast to learn and grow together. The Hub has been working with community leaders and teachers to ensure all the schools achieve a minimum standard in 2020.



The schools will also be exposed to teacher workshops, parent talks, assistance with administration and testing for the children to ensure the programmes are maintaining a consistently high standard of education.

## TEACHER TRAINING AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

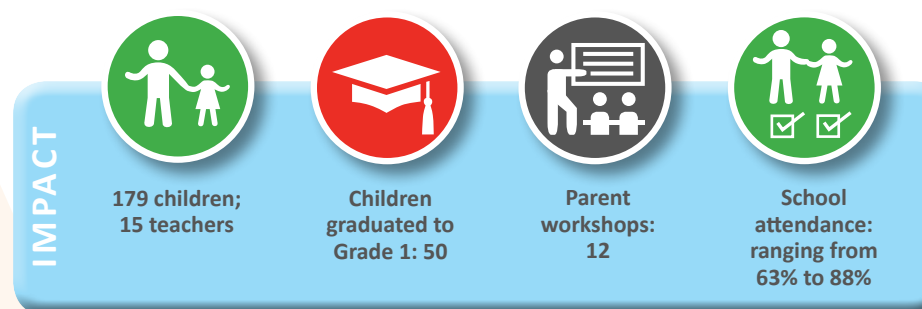
The five original ladies who underwent training with First Children in 2013-2015 continue to attend mentorship and supplementary training. They are all doing incredibly well and remain excellent role models in their communities.

The 14 new teacher trainees have completed 120 hours of formal contact time and are gaining momentum, becoming more self-assured, competent

and engaged in their work and the children. Rural training requires plenty of opportunities for discussions and exploration of new concepts.



Nomonde, a graduate of the First Children training programme, is taking part in an International AMI Montessori training course, which will qualify her to teach children aged 6 to 12 years old. She has completed 2 modules, with the remaining modules postponed to 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.



## IKHAYA LABANTWANA MONTESSORI

This past year has been a very challenging period for ILM and Sustainable Coffee Bay. There has been much change within their staff contingent, most notable of which was losing their dedicated principal, Marlene, to cancer.

Happily, at the beginning of 2020, Gill Holder, the new ILM principal, joined the team. Unfortunately, only three weeks into her tenure ILM experienced another loss, this time in the form of a child who contracted gastro in hospital, which ultimately resulted in him losing his life.



In spite of a year rife with heartache and loss, the school has continued to operate and the children have continued to receive a quality education. The four dedicated Montessori directresses nurture each child to his full potential on all planes of development.



## NCINCI ONE'S MONTESSORI

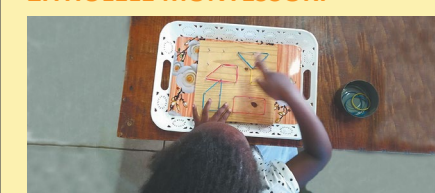
This has been a great year of growth for Ncinci One's. Thirteen new children were welcomed to the school; an afterschool programme for Grade 1 to Grade 3 learners in the community was launched; an administrative assistant and two afterschool facilitators were hired; Ncinci One's received Public Benefit Organisation (PBO) status from SARS and a new room was built to facilitate an eating area, which doubles up as an afterschool area. The teachers received training, attended conferences and visited other schools.



*"Thank you very much to Ncinci One's and Siyafunda, you are really helping our children with education and food - Siyabulela."*

Nobandla, Parent

## ZITHULELE MONTESSORI



Since joining the Hub, Zithulele Montessori has been able to make significant improvements to the prepared environment at school. After physical changes through some simple, yet effective rearranging of furniture and equipment, and through the purchasing of some beautiful materials, they have been able to focus on implementing the Montessori 3-hour work cycle properly and consistently. This was quite challenging for teachers and children alike, but 2020 heralded a new context where teachers and returning children eased into a now familiar environment. There is still room for improvement and the team is working steadily towards becoming a centre of excellence.

*"Things are looking good. There is a lot that has changed and the kids have improved with the work cycle. We have struggled a lot with it but it was our first goal; we wished to improve it and we did."*

Lindeka, Teacher

## NGOKO MONTESSORI

In 2015, two Belgian visitors to the Coffee Bay area funded the building of this school, however, once they had returned to Europe, some funds were misused and the school closed. Zukiswa (Nomapuzi) Mtyana, born and raised in the village, was working at another school at the time, but when she moved home at the end of 2018, she took it on and the school reopened its doors to children in January 2019. Since Kamvaletu has begun funding, the school has received improved materials and building work is planned to take place in June/July 2020.

*"There has been a big change since the new material, the attendance is good now. The children are very proud of their school, they are learning with understanding by feeling and touching and can explore with new knowledge."*

Nomapuzi, Principal



## EJOJWENI MONTESSORI

Cynthia Mlomo (one of the original trained teachers) motivated for the use of the land for a preschool in 2013. With the help of some donations, she was able to build and equip a simple Montessori school. Cynthia receives a grant from the Department of Social Development and the parents pay a minimal school fee. With the grant from Kamvaletu, considerable improvements to the classroom building were carried out in December 2019 and a comprehensive set of materials was purchased and installed in the classroom in January 2020. Cynthia was also able to employ an assistant for the first time – with a classroom of 50 children, this has been a great help!



*"What a wonderful job, the school is now a bigger space and is well ventilated. Everything is clean and attractive for the children and they are learning new things every day. We feel very grateful."*

Cynthia, Principal



# LITERACY DEVELOPMENT

The other activities that Kamvalethu is involved in fall broadly under the category of ‘Literacy Development’. We are trying to do our part in addressing the literacy challenge in South Africa (78% of Grade 4 children cannot read for meaning\*). Every area in which we operate has a slightly nuanced way of how they are addressing this challenge and we are supporting those projects which we believe are the most promising. \*Ref: PIRLS, 2016



## AXIUM EDUCATION

Axiom Education catalyses positive change in South Africa’s worst-performing rural schools in order to unlock further economic and social potential in the country as a whole. They believe that there are vast amounts of untapped potential in every rural student, teacher, community and school. Axiom Education aims to raise student achievement and to facilitate effective pathways for rural students to become successful lifelong learners.



Kamvalethu and Axiom Education joined forces in the Nobalisa programme in 2019. This programme sends “Nobalisas”, or community readers, into schools and communities to assist with helping children to read.

*“Teachers tell us that they can see a BIG difference.”*

Phumza, CWP Nobalisa Co-ordinator



IMPACT



## SIYAFUNDA AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAMME

Siyafunda afterschool club was launched because many families in the village approached Ncinci One’s during 2018, requesting help with their childrens’ education. The children attending Ncinci One’s could read better than children attending primary school.



The Siyafunda Afterschool and Holiday Programme began in February 2019 and supports 50 children in Grade 1 to 3. Children are only allowed to attend the programme

if they have attended school that day. The average attendance for Siyafunda in 2019 was 92%!

Siyafunda utilises the Thanda Creative Curriculum. This curriculum disrupts traditional education models by moving away from rote memorisation and encouraging curiosity. The children develop their isiXhosa by means of stories, discussions and doing activities connected to the story. They improve their Maths and English by using the IXL online programme and tablets are utilised for this activity. The project employs 3 female facilitators and a cook. The children enjoy a cooked meal, fruit and a vitadrink on a daily basis.

IMPACT



## JABULANI

The Jabulani Rural Health Foundation aims to bring hope and positive change to the area around Zithulele Hospital by supporting the hospital and partnering with the community in its development and growth. To achieve this vision, they carry out a range of programmes that focus on healthcare, education, poverty relief, environmental issues and community development.

As well as supporting the Zithulele Montessori Preschool, which is run by Jabulani, Kamvalethu is also partnering with the afterschool literacy club, which is run from the community library in Zithulele. In 2020, we will be significantly upgrading the library to allow for more children to experience the joy of reading for fun!



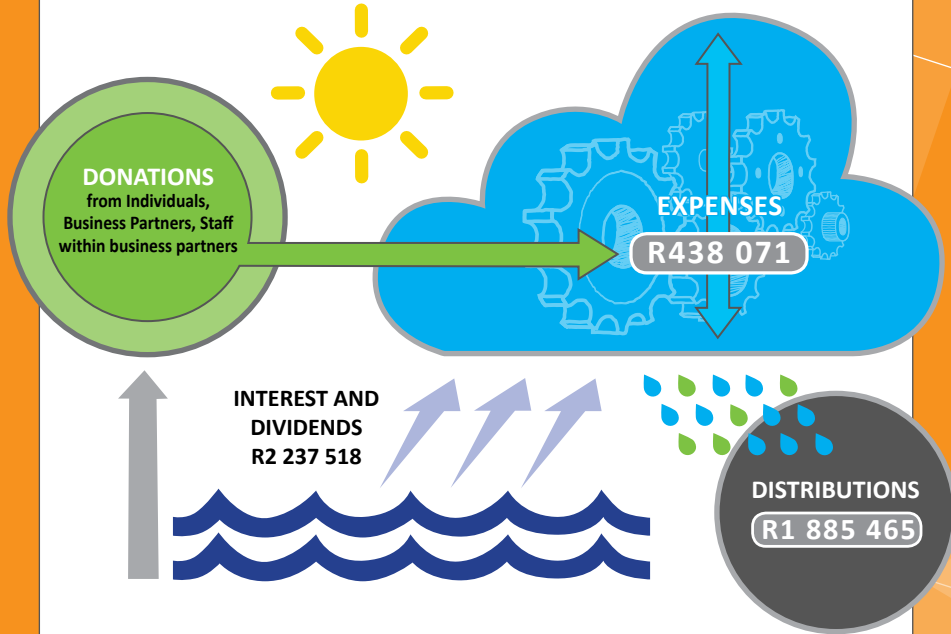
## THE OTTO FOUNDATION

Before the Liyabona Library at Holy Cross Primary School was launched on 25 January 2020, the staff, management and learners of the school had endured numerous obstacles and disasters. However, the school community has been so focused on their goal of establishing a library that neither fire nor flood could deter them. That is how we know that the Liyabona Library will be much more than just a beautiful space. It will make a difference to the quality of learning at Holy Cross.

We are looking forward to our next library project together - The Protea Library at Walmer Estate Primary. Unfortunately, due to COVID-19 and the country’s lockdown, the opening which was scheduled for May 2020 has had to be delayed. The design, recruitment and organisation behind the scenes still continue.



		FY 2020	FY 2019	NOTE
IN	Donations received	R 339 837	R 81 723	Corp. donations up
	Dividends and interest earned	R 2 237 518	R 1 652 368	
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>R 2 577 355</b>	<b>R 1 734 091</b>	<b>+48%</b>
OUT	Expenses paid	R 438 071	R 386 607	+13.3%
	Distributions made	R 1 885 465	R 1 379 345	+36.7%



## FINANCIALS

The Kamvalethu Foundation Trust (Registration Number IT1928/2013)  
For the 12 months ended 29 February 2020

### INCOME

Donations Received: Individuals	R 51 850
Donations Received: Business	R 286 500
Donations Received: MySchool	R 1 487
Dividends Received: Business	R 2 134 000
Interest Received	R 103 518

**Total Income** **R 2 577 355**

### OPERATING EXPENSES

Accounting, Bank, Legal and Management Fees	R 62 381
Employee Costs (incl. payroll, salaries, training)	R 308 110
Office Expenses	R 4 675
Marketing and Events	R 27 773
Resources	R 4 504
Entertainment	R 4 160

**Travel** **R 26 468**

**TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES** **R 438 071**

**OPERATING PROFIT** **R 2 139 284**

**NON-OPERATING EXPENSES**  
Distributions to Beneficiaries **R 1 885 465**

**Net Profit:** **R 253 819**



## THANK YOU TO OUR PARTNERS

It is our privilege to partner with amazing businesses and the individuals who work for them. We consider you to be an integral part of The Kamvalethu Foundation. We appreciate not only your financial contribution, but your generosity of spirit and support over the past year. Thank you to Lynne Snell for assisting us with the proofreading and to the Kamvalethu Board for always having the beneficiaries' best interests at heart. Finally, a big thank you to our awesome Project Partners, without whom none of this would be possible! Your passion, dedication and determination inspire us!



Suite 102, One Lagoon Beach, Lagoon Gate Drive, Milnerton, 7441  
Office: 021 551 4609 | Email: [partner@kamvalethu.org](mailto:partner@kamvalethu.org) | [kamvalethu.org](http://kamvalethu.org)