

NDLOVU

CHILD CARE & YOUTH DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

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IMPACT REPORT

MARCH 2024 TO FEBRUARY 2025

"Transforming lives and empowering Communities."

NDLOVU

CARE GROUP





CHILD CARE & YOUTH DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

INTRODUCTION

Our Child Care & Youth Development programmes persist in guiding vulnerable children and youth toward a promising future within the Moutse communities. These indispensable programmes encompass a diverse array of initiatives, each playing a vital role in our comprehensive approach to community development. Without this crucial support, sustaining the scope of our current operations in these pivotal programmes would be challenging. The impact of Tjommie's funding is profound, enabling us to advance our mission of holistic community development. Throughout the duration of this reporting period, we have made a significant impact on the lives of those we serve, demonstrating our unwavering commitment and effectiveness in fulfilling our programme's mission. Anchored in our organizational guiding principle of providing services "from Cradle to Career," our Child Care & Youth Development programmes offer a comprehensive continuum of care and assistance. By facilitating a seamless transition for children as they progress through different stages of development, tailored to their specific needs and age groups, we are laying the foundation for their journey towards self-actualization.

Programme Outcomes in Numbers

As we reflect on the impact of our Child Care & Youth Development Programmes in 2024, let's take a look at the summary in numbers.

22 202 Direct beneficiaries reached

- **18 000+** Food Garden programme
- **2 063** Sports, Arts and Culture
- **519** Social Work Services
- **211** After School Programme
- **260** Early Childhood Development
- **125** Ndlovu Nutritional Units
- **68** Community Disability and Rehabilitation
- **94** PowerGirls
- **23** Boys Programme
- **98** Vocational Training Centre
- **741** Audiology Services
- **77** established boreholes were maintained to the benefit of **80 000+** people in the community

In this report, we aim to provide insights into the remarkable impact of our programmes and share compelling stories of individuals whose lives have been transformed through Tjommie's contributions. Together, we are making significant strides in transforming the lives of vulnerable children and empowering disadvantaged communities to strive towards self-sufficiency. Through collaborative efforts and unwavering dedication, we are creating lasting change and building brighter futures for those we serve.

FOOD GARDENS PROGRAMME

The Ndlovu Food Garden Programme aim to stimulate food production and local agri-enterprise community development opportunities for women and youths in rural communities of Moutse Valley, Limpopo Province. The programme has played a pivotal role in our ongoing efforts to enhance food security in Moutse, resulting in the establishment of nearly numerous gardens by this reporting period. As we assess our progress, we recognize that sustainability is paramount. With our AFAS Farm operating as a knowledge-sharing hub to our community people, we continue to empower both women and youths with theory and practice on how to start and maintain backyard food gardens. We also continue to support the programme beneficiaries with vital inputs such as seedlings, fertilizers and basic farming implements. Our continuous monitoring exercises also help to ensure the food gardens are operational and provision of necessary support is extended where challenges are identified. We now have **3 004** gardens established as of February 2025 with the goal of not only improving food security but also sustainable livelihoods through agricultural enterprise development.

- **3 004** Total number of gardens established by February 2025
 - **15** Communal Gardens
 - **2 989** Households Food Gardens
- **18 000+** people reached through the Food Garden programme



Food Gardens Impact Story

Mrs Phokwane is a 79-year-old resident of Bloempoot village, located in the Moutse area. She was blessed with two children, both girls, and two grandchildren. For many years, Mrs. she relied on her old age grant to support her family. However, as time passed, tragedy struck when her two children passed away, leaving her to care for her two grandchildren. After their death, she found herself in a difficult position, struggling to make ends meet and unsure of how to provide for her family.

It was during a community assessment that Mrs. Phokwane crossed paths with the food garden champions a group dedicated to teaching people sustainable gardening practices. Encouraged by their support, Mrs. Phokwane decided to start her own food garden. She was taught the basics of gardening and provided with essential tools, including small garden tools, a water wheel tanker, and seedlings of spinach, onions, and tomatoes.

Today, Mrs. Phokwane is no longer struggling to provide for her family. Thanks to the food garden initiative, her costs have been significantly reduced as she now has her own garden to rely on. She is able to feed her grandchildren with fresh produce, and her life has been transformed, bringing newfound hope and independence.

Mrs Phokwane in her garden, 2024

Following the successful implementation of critical infrastructure such as a drip irrigation system, a farmhouse, storage facilities, and ablution facilities, the farm is now poised to expand its production operations. In 2024, the farm launched a mixed farming production project, which includes an onsite layers project for egg production. This aligns with our strategy to promote sustainable farming practices within the community through Ndlovu-AFAS Farm learners. The egg production project not only generates quicker income through egg sales but also provides a valuable source of non-chemical fertilizer for vegetable production. By using chicken manure, rich in nitrogen, we aim to enhance soil fertility, improve crop yields, and reduce reliance on synthetic fertilizers. This integration of livestock and crop farming is key to fostering sustainable agricultural practices.

In addition to promoting sustainable farming, we have also embraced social responsibility by integrating youth from the Disability Program into our farm operations. Eight youth participated in a four-month agricultural training course, equipping them with essential agricultural skills. Following completion, they were incorporated into the farm's operations as part of a transitional service, offering them valuable work experience in an inclusive and supportive environment. This initiative empowers young people with disabilities, helping them build confidence, develop work ethic, and improve employability while contributing to the farm's success and long-term agricultural development in the community.

Winter Crop

During the winter months of March and April 2024, the farm successfully produced cucumbers and spinach, demonstrating the versatility and resilience of our agricultural operations in colder conditions. This period marked a strategic extension of our growing season, ensuring a steady flow of fresh produce even during the typically slower months.

To ensure optimal crop performance, we conducted thorough soil testing to assess the pH levels and nutrient content of the soil. This analysis provided critical insights into the soil's health and helped us determine the appropriate application of manure and treatment chemicals. By tailoring our soil management practices to the specific needs of the crops, we were able to maximize yields and promote healthy growth for both the cucumbers and spinach.

Summer Crop

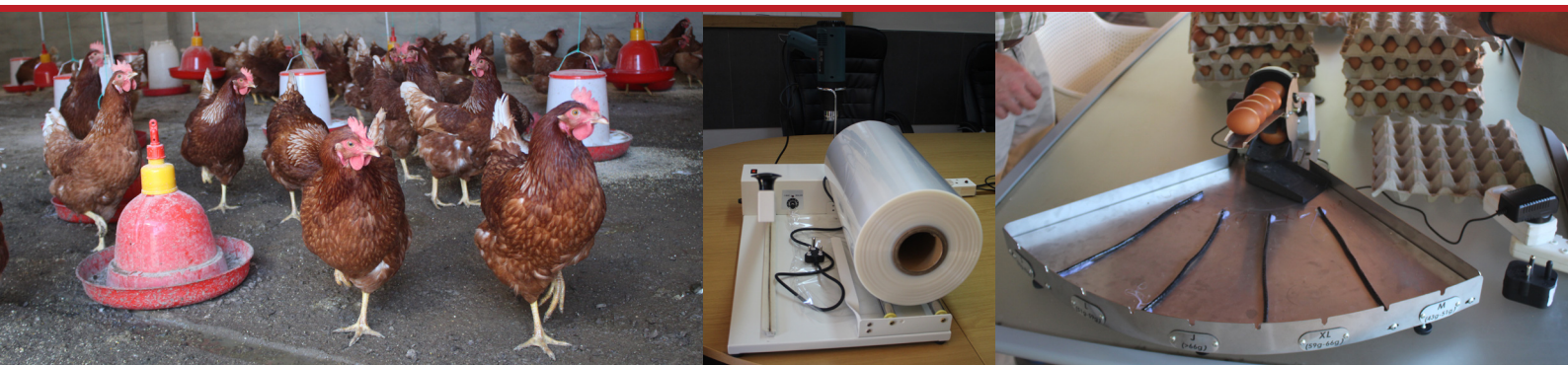
For the summer production, we decided to diversify the crop production at the farm as follows:

Crop	Number of Plants Planted
Tomatoes (tunnel 1)	540
Green Pepper (tunnel 2)	540
Cucumber (tunnel 3)	540
Spinach	1 000
Butternut	1 000
Watermelon	1 000
Total	4 620

Poultry Production

The poultry infrastructure was successfully installed at the farm to facilitate the egg production process. These infrastructure components are essential to the success of our poultry project, which aims to improve sustainable farming practices and foster economic empowerment within our community. The following infrastructure was installed:

Structure	Status	Capacity	Purpose
Chicken Coups x2	Structure complete	1500 (750 each)	To accommodate free range layers for egg production
Packhouse	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Structure complete • The cold room in progress awaiting power source 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1500 eggs • 5 tonnes of crop produce 	For sorting, packing and storage of all fresh farm produce including eggs, vegetables, tomatoes, etc.

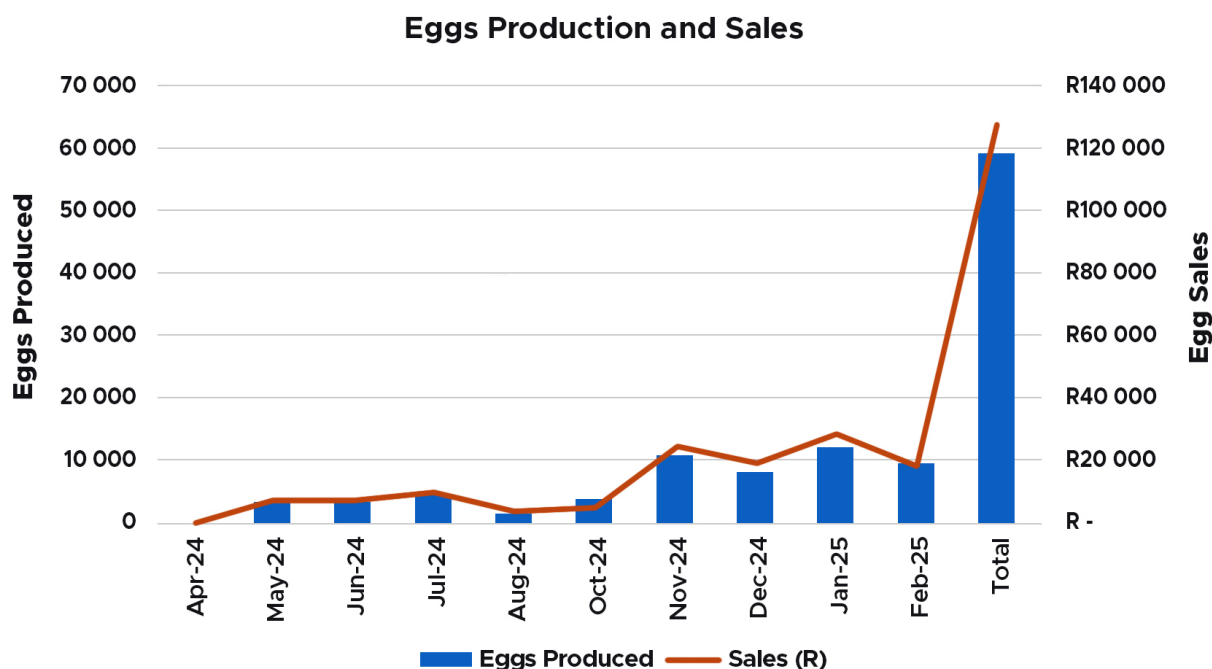


To accommodate the free-range chicken layers for production, we managed to procure the following critical equipment to ensure their well-being, optimize productivity, and enhance operational efficiency:

Item Description	Quantity
Chicken layers	1 500
Egg grader	1
Egg incubator	1
Tube feeders	24
Automatic broiler drinker	16
Double stack nest box	6
Solar lights and fittings	6

Egg Production and Sales

The poultry project initially began with 500 layers, with the goal of establishing a sustainable and profitable egg production operation. Over time, the project has seen significant growth, with the number of layers increasing to 1500 through the adoption of the free-range production method. This method not only aligns with our commitment to animal welfare but also enhances the quality of the eggs produced. From the project's inception to February 2025, a total of 59 429 eggs have been produced, generating R122 231 in revenue from egg sales, as illustrated in the graph below.



Our market for these eggs includes local small entrepreneurs in Bloempoot and Elandsdoorn, who purchase a significant portion of our production. Additionally, we have expanded our reach to include one of the top retailers in Groblersdal, as well as Vleismark, Boschkrans Farm and a local boarding school. These partnerships have helped solidify the farm’s presence in the regional market and have contributed to the growing success of the poultry project. By diversifying our customer base and ensuring high-quality, free-range eggs, we are not only supporting the local economy but also building a sustainable business model that benefits both the farm and the community.

NDLOVU NUTRITIONAL UNITS

The Ndlovu Nutritional Units (NNU) programme continues to be one of our core Child Care programmes aimed at improving the nutritional wellbeing of vulnerable children in the Moutse community. The year 2024 saw the programme operating digitally through the ServiceNow App that has allowed us to improve efficiencies and track progress in real time. The following milestones were reached during the reporting period March 2024 – February 2025:

- **195** Children screened for malnutrition
- **125** Malnourished children into the program in 2024.
- **174** caregivers were capacitated through our training workshop on nutrition and hygiene.
- **65** beneficiaries who recovered were discharged from the program.
- **20 258** Nutritious meals provided to malnourished children



NNU Impact Story

Donald is a six-year-old boy who lives in Marapong village with his grandmother and two siblings. They were surviving with his elderly great-grandmother, as his mother was absent from their lives. His mother had taken all of the children’s important documents, including their birth certificates and SASSA cards. During a door-to-door awareness campaign on January 11, 2024, we met Donald and his grandmother. At that time, Donald weighed only 10 kg, and his mid-upper arm circumference (MUAC) was 11.9 cm, indicating that he was underweight. The grandmother was informed about the program and how it could support them, and she agreed to participate.

Donald was referred to the Neonatal and Nutritional Unit (NNU) and was also sent for a medical screening. Following this, he was admitted to the NNU under the care of a doctor. After further examination, the doctor recommended that Donald be transferred to the hospital for more in-depth medical assessments. Donald stayed at the hospital for three weeks, where he received specialized care. After his time in the hospital, Donald’s health showed significant improvement. His weight began to rise steadily, and by the time he reached a weight of 14.9 kg and a MUAC of 13 cm, it was decided that he could be discharged from the program. A follow-up was conducted after his discharge, and his weight had increased to 15 kg. Today, Donald is thriving and is now attending school.

COMMUNITY DISABILITY AND REHABILITATION PROGRAMME

Moutse Valley, a rural area in Limpopo Province, South Africa, faces significant challenges, including poverty, unemployment, and the marginalization of people living with disabilities (PLwD), particularly children and youth. In response, the Ndlovu Care Group launched the Community Disability and Rehabilitation Program in 2016 to promote the social and economic inclusion of PLwD by improving their quality of life, educating families, and supporting income-generating projects. The program focuses on reducing stigmatization and fostering community acceptance of children and youth with disabilities. It serves two main beneficiary groups: children with cerebral palsy (ages 0-18) and youth with intellectual impairments (ages 14-21). The program provides therapeutic sessions and portable skills training in areas such as gardening, sewing, beading, and brick making to empower PLwD and enhance their functional skills. In 2024, the program supported 68 beneficiaries as follows.

Gender	Cerebral Palsy (CP)	Intellectual Impairment (II)	Grand Total	Proportion (%)
Female	5	17	22	33%
Male	7	37	44	67%
Grand Total	12	54	68	100%

The **68** CYLwD enrolled in the program were provided with individual and group therapy sessions, broken down as follows:

- **12** beneficiaries in the Cerebral Palsy (CP) group
- **52** beneficiaries in the Intellectual Impairments (II) group
- **3** outpatients in the CP group
- **1** amputee outpatient

Community Disability and Rehabilitation Impact Story

Kabelo Madou, who will turn 18 this year, exemplifies resilience, growth, and the power of inclusion. Since joining the Joris Disability Centre in 2017, Kabelo has made remarkable progress through therapy and vocational activities such as sewing, car washing, and gardening, excelling in car washing and sewing. Under his father’s guidance, he has learned to fix cars, gaining valuable skills and contributing to his family’s daily life. Kabelo’s involvement in the community has helped him gain work experience and financial independence. His journey highlights the importance of social and economic inclusion, showing that individuals with intellectual disabilities can thrive when given the right opportunities, support, and resources. Kabelo’s success continues to inspire, proving that with dedication and family support, individuals with disabilities can lead fulfilling lives and make a meaningful impact.

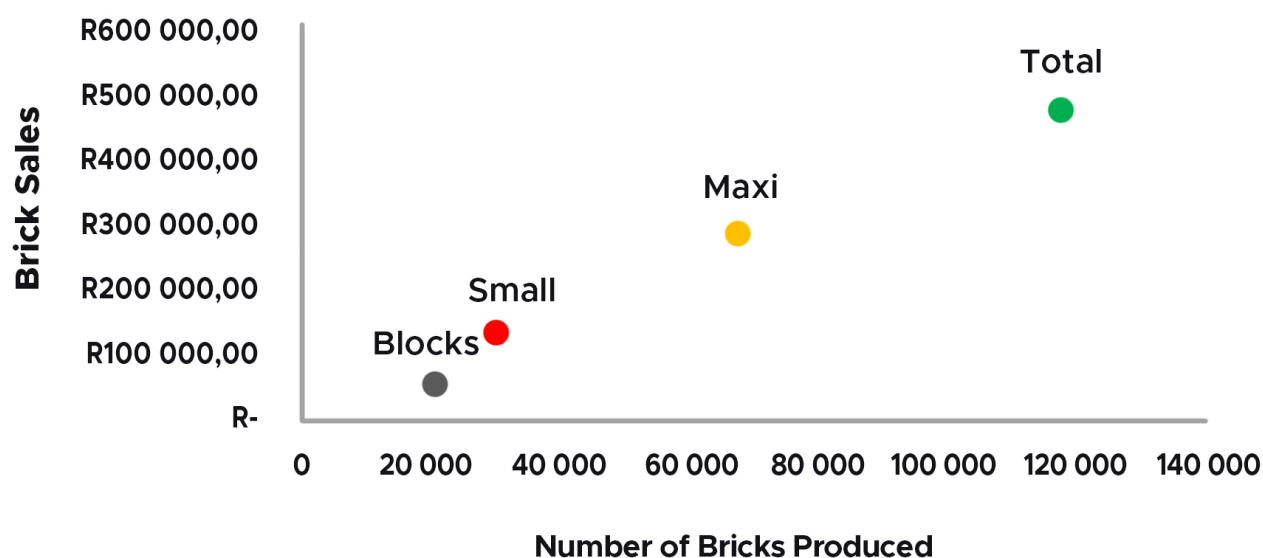


• Transitional Services

Brick Factory

The intellectually impaired (II) group, eligible for vocational skills training, has been actively engaged in various programs designed to develop their skills and prepare them for integration into the mainstream economy. Eleven beneficiaries from the II group received training and were employed at the Ndlovu Brick Factory as part of their transitional rehabilitation process. In collaboration with the Department of Employment and Labour (DEL), this group now produces cement bricks for sale, achieving an impressive output of between 800 and 950 bricks per day during peak periods. A total of 117 872 bricks were produced, generating a turnover of R480 296. This achievement not only highlights the group's growing skills but also underscores their valuable contributions to the program's success.

Bricks Production and Sales



Thanks to this impactful initiative, the II group is now economically empowered, with many members becoming the primary breadwinners in their families. The program has not only provided vocational training but also fostered a sense of pride and purpose, as these individuals are now contributing meaningfully to their communities. This success story is a testament to the power of inclusive employment and vocational development, showcasing the transformative potential of such programs for individuals with intellectual impairments.

EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

The Ndlovu Early Childhood Development (ECD) Programme continues to make significant progress in Moutse community. In 2024, **260** children were enrolled in the ECD programme and **184 240** meals were provided to the kids. The ECD had the following outlook in 2024:

ECD Centre	Grade RR	Toddlers	Total
Bloempoot	45	21	66
Malerato	16	18	34
Ntwane	39	37	76
Phooko	51	33	84
Grand Total	151	109	260

Government Collaboration

In 2024, Ndlovu's Early Childhood Development (ECD) Programme benefitted from the Presidential Youth Employment Initiative, which facilitated the placement of 10 graduate ECD Practitioners from the Early Care Foundation at our four ECD centres. These practitioners are serving as ECD Assistants for a 12-month period, with their placements running until August 2025, at which point a new group of practitioners will be brought on board.

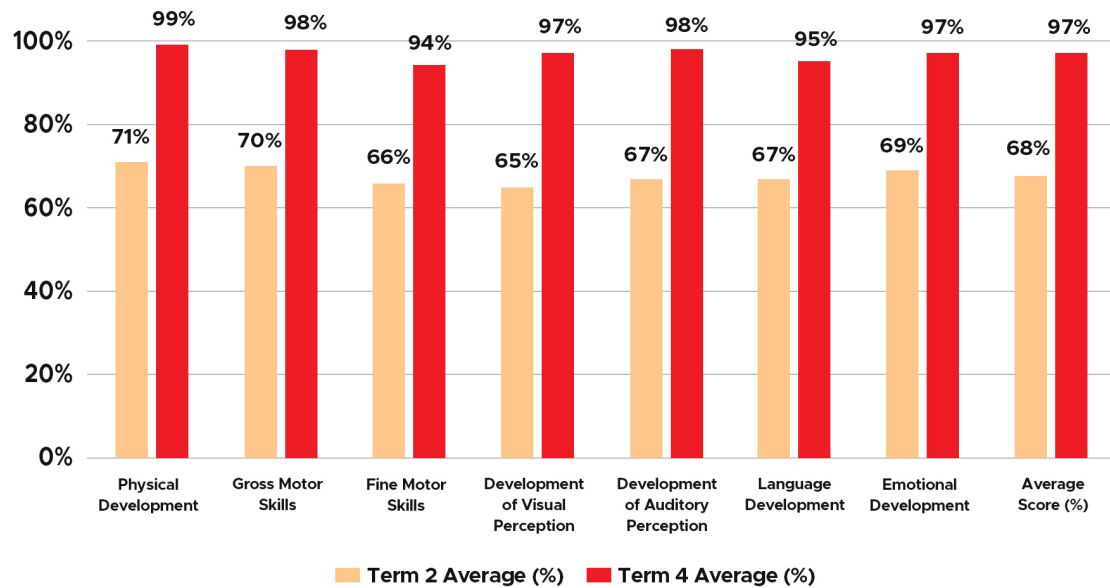


This initiative has significantly strengthened the human resources at all of our centres, enhancing the overall capacity of our teams. As a result, it has not only improved the quality of support available to our practitioners but also enriched the learning experiences of our young learners. The added support has allowed for more individualized attention, increased engagement, and an overall better learning environment. We look forward to the continued positive impact of this initiative as we further expand and improve our ECD programmes.

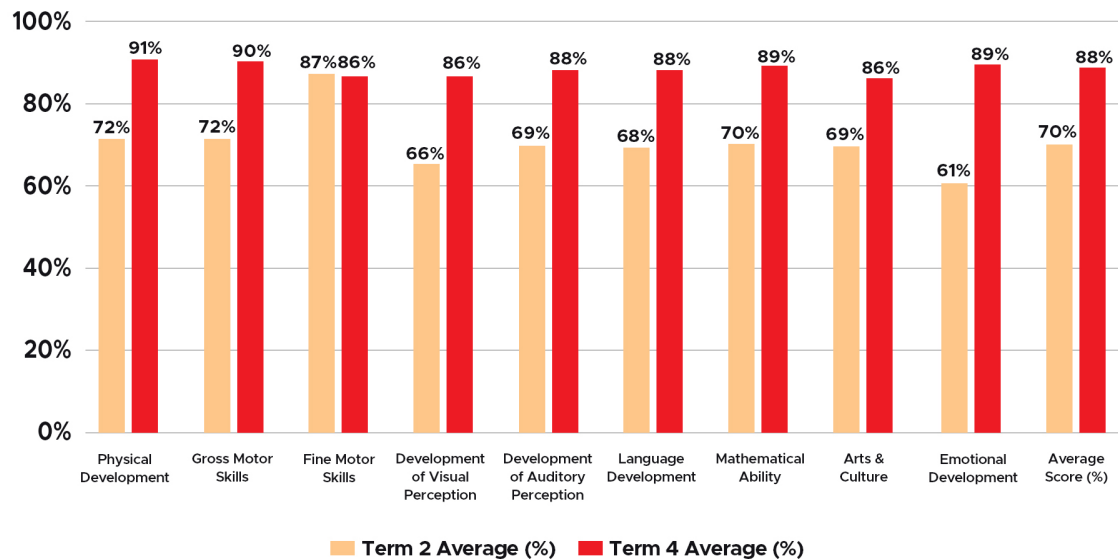
Graduating Class Assessments

The assessment of the ECD Class of 2024 has shown remarkable progress in the children's development, largely due to the innovative "Class Out of the Box" approach implemented at Ndlovu. This method, which emphasizes creative and hands-on learning, has proven highly effective in enhancing the children's cognitive and social skills. The Class of 2024 demonstrated significant improvement in their end-of-year assessments compared to the mid-year results. The 1-3-year-olds increased their scores from 68% to 97%, while the 4-5-year-olds improved from 70% to 88%. These results highlight the positive impact of the program on their development and readiness for the next phase of their educational journey.

Assessment Scores of 1 to 3 year-olds, 2024



Assessment Scores of 4 to 5 year-olds, 2024



ECD Graduation 2024

A total of **165** children graduated from all our ECD Centres in 2024, a remarkable achievement that underscores the effectiveness of our program and the dedication of both the children and the educators involved. The graduates were distributed across our various ECD Centres, each contributing to the overall success of this program. This achievement highlights the collective effort of the families, educators, and community members who have supported these children every step of the way. We are proud of the accomplishments of this graduating class and remain committed to building on this success as we continue to refine and expand our ECD offerings for future cohorts.

ECD Centre	Number of Graduates
Bloempoot	43
Malerato	18
Ntwane	53
Phooko	51
Grand Total	165



These outcomes underscore the effectiveness of the Ndlovu ECD Centres' approach in fostering holistic development among young learners. By focusing on various developmental domains such as cognitive, physical, social, emotional, and linguistic skills, the centres ensure a well-rounded educational experience for each child. Moreover, the utilization of the Class Out of the Box methodology allows educators to tailor interventions and support strategies according to individual needs, thereby maximizing each child's potential.



Early Childhood Development Impact Story

Kearabiloe Mokone, a 3-year-old boy, is raised by his 30-year-old unemployed mother, and the entire household of three relies on Kearabiloe's child support grant of R1060. In 2024, Kearabiloe was enrolled at Kopanang ECD in Ntwane village, where he initially displayed disruptive behaviour in class. It is common for children with such behaviours to be referred to professionals like social workers or psychologists, but the ECD practitioners, concerned about potential stigmatization within the Ntwane community, engaged with the mother, who expressed reluctance to have him referred. Instead, the practitioners drew upon ECD theory and their training to address the issue.

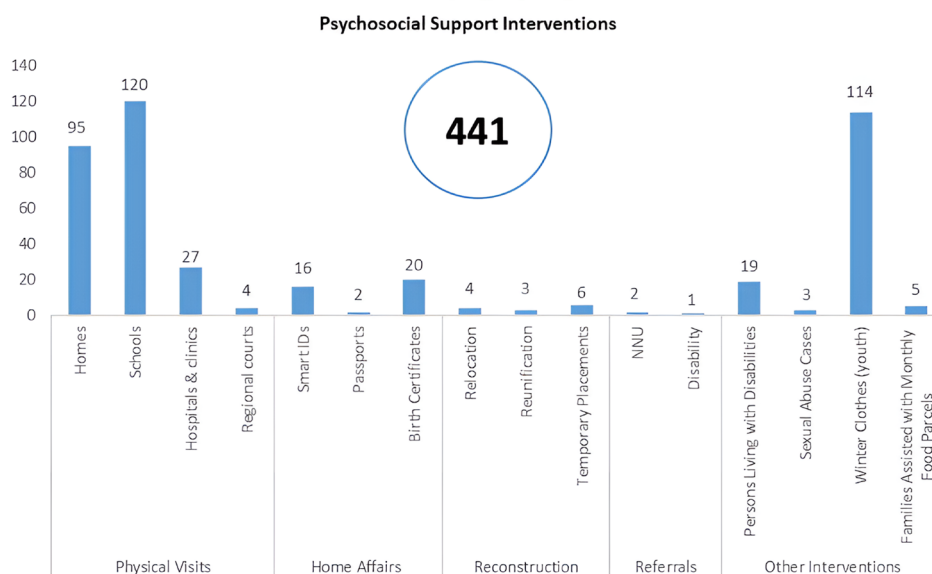
They identified that Kearabiloe's restlessness stemmed from being poorly socialized at home, particularly regarding potty training. The first step was to train him to use the toilet, as he initially refused to use regular toilets with other children, opting to relieve himself inside the classroom or outside. The mother was asked to participate in training by coming to the centre every morning for two months. Through consistent practice, Kearabiloe became fully toilet-trained, can now ask for permission to use the bathroom, and participates in toilet routines with his peers without disrupting lessons. He has since settled into the centre, no longer restless, and his fine motor skills have greatly improved.

SOCIAL WORK SERVICES

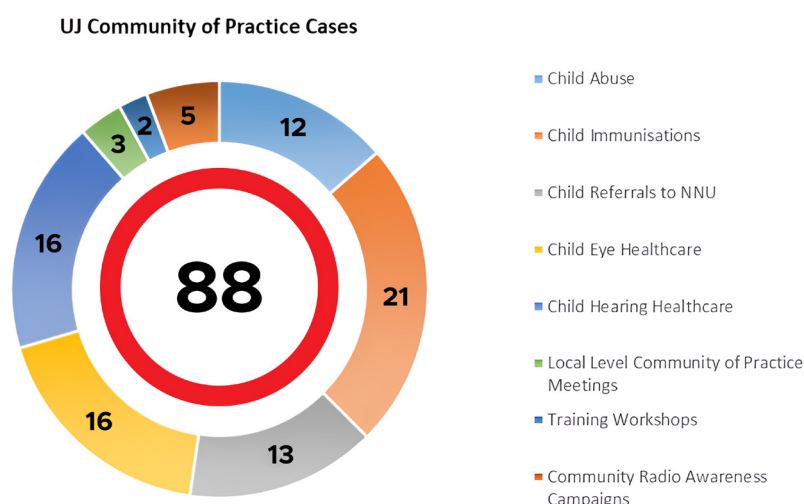
Ndlovu's Social Work Services aim to deliver social care, support, and protection to vulnerable groups by promoting family and community-based response mechanisms and providing social welfare services. Orphaned & Vulnerable Children (OVC), individuals living with disabilities, and older persons often face vulnerabilities and poverty, leaving them unable to realize their full potential. NCG works to enhance social care, support, and protection by ensuring the provision of basic needs such as clean water, food, shelter, healthcare, and safety. The program specifically addresses the challenges faced by Child Headed Households (CHHs), offering life support and social skills assistance to empower them in overcoming the difficulties of growing up without parental guidance or family support. Furthermore, Ndlovu's Social Workers assist CHHs/OVC in obtaining relevant legal identity (ID) documents and registrations for specific grants, education, and other essential services. The goal is to provide comprehensive support that addresses both immediate needs and facilitates long-term empowerment for vulnerable individuals and households.

This year, Social Work Services managed to handle **519 cases**. The cases are categorised as follows:

- Psychosocial Support Interventions – a total of **441** cases were handled by our Social Worker as shown in the following graph.



- Community of Practice (CoP) – a total of 88 CoP cases were handled with the necessary interventions being instituted as shown below.



Social Work Services Impact Story

Sisanda Shokwe was abandoned in 2006 by her birth mother when she was just four months old, leaving her under the care and protection of Ms. Molepa, her paternal aunt. Sisanda came to Ndlovu's attention when she attempted to apply for a smart identity card in order to write her Matric exams in 2024. Her biological mother, Ms. Shokwe Nolundi, has never maintained any contact with Sisanda throughout her childhood. Meanwhile, her biological father, Zachariah Ramutula, maintained only irregular contact with her after her abandonment.

Several attempts were made to trace her mother, and efforts to reach Sisanda's father through irregular telephone contact to assist her in applying for an unabridged birth certificate were unsuccessful. Without a birth certificate, obtaining a smart identity card seemed like a distant hope. However, Zachariah Ramutula eventually acknowledged paternity and became involved in helping Sisanda after he was traced in Gauteng, though he had no permanent residential address. He reported that he was unemployed and survived by hustling at Johannesburg Park Station. Despite these challenges, the father and the Ndlovu Social Worker continued communicating to help Sisanda secure an unabridged birth certificate and, ultimately, a smart identity card.

Tragically, Sisanda’s father was shot dead on October 3, 2024, and his killers remain at large. Nevertheless, the paternal aunt and our Social Worker continued visiting the Department of Home Affairs to process the necessary documents. Funds were eventually secured to conduct DNA tests on both Sisanda and the paternal aunt, and the results came back positive. In November 2024, an application for Sisanda’s smart identity card was processed.

Sisanda received her identity card in early 2025 and was overjoyed. She immediately went to open a bank account at Capitec, despite not yet having an income. Overcoming many obstacles, Sisanda also passed her Matric exams and is optimistic about her future, believing that she now has a variety of career options.

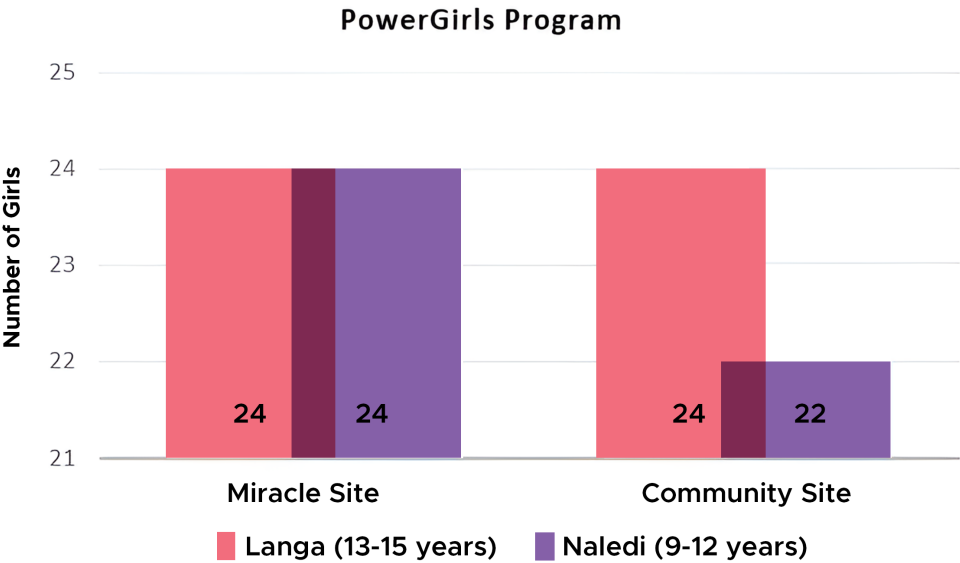
In keeping with Ndlovu’s motto of “Cradle to Career,” the Social Worker and Ndlovu Vocational Training Centre have engaged Sisanda to register for plumbing with the next cohort of students, which will begin in July 2025.



Sisanda proudly holding her smart ID Card

POWERGIRLS

In 2024, we had **94 girls** enrolled in the PowerGirls program, each being nurtured to thrive, overcome challenges, and grow into empowered individuals ready to shape their futures. These girls, many of whom come from difficult backgrounds, are provided with opportunities to build confidence, develop life skills, and access the tools needed for success. The Naledi Group trainings focus on themes of respect, honesty, and self-esteem while the Langa Group trainings emphasize empathy, loyalty and love.



This year, all 6 Program Facilitators participated in a refresher course alongside other facilitators from the MAMAS Alliance. This training reinforced their skills in mentorship and support, ensuring they are well-equipped to guide the girls through their personal and educational development. Additionally, one outing was organized for the girls, offering them a chance to experience the world beyond their immediate surroundings. For many, this was a rare and valuable opportunity to gain exposure to new environments, helping them build social skills and broaden their perspectives. These outings are designed not just as recreational activities, but as integral components of their personal growth, providing experiences that are often a privilege for children from underprivileged communities.

As part of our continued commitment to supporting the menstrual health and hygiene of disadvantaged young girls, we have successfully secured the production of **50 000** packs of sanitary pads from the Imbumba Foundation. This consignment was delivered in March 2025, and distribution is set to begin at the start of the second school term in mid-April 2025. This milestone marks a significant step forward in our program, enabling us to provide essential sanitary products to those in need as we kick off our operations in 2025.



PowerGirls Impact Story

Bonolo Mahlanyane is a beneficiary of the Ndlovu Child Care and Youth Development Programme, following her younger sister's enrolment at the Bloempoort Nutritional Unit. When Ndlovu Care Group adopted the Power Girls program in 2019, sisters and cousins of beneficiaries were eligible to join as indirect beneficiaries. Bonolo was enrolled in the program that year, but she initially struggled with social interaction. She lacked confidence, rarely engaged with others, and was hesitant to present in front of the group. Over time, however, Bonolo's growth became evident. The program, which identified English as a challenge for many of the girls, used a unique approach to help them overcome language barriers. Facilitators encouraged the girls to make notes in English in their diaries, even though they interacted in their home languages. This approach created a safe space for the girls to learn without fear of ridicule, and Bonolo, along with others, gradually gained the confidence to ask for help with spelling and to read aloud to the group. By the time she graduated in 2023, Bonolo had gained not only confidence in public speaking but also received badges for her achievements in public speaking and arts and culture, showcasing her personal growth and intelligence.

Raised by a single mother alongside her four siblings, Bonolo's family faced financial hardships, relying on her grandmother's old age grant and, after her grandfather's passing in 2023, government child support grants. As the firstborn, Bonolo took on significant responsibilities at home, assisting with cleaning, laundry, and cooking for her siblings. In the PowerGirls program, she received recognition for her efforts at home, as the girls earned badges for good behaviour and completing household chores without being prompted. Despite these challenges, Bonolo never lost hope. Her involvement in the program played a crucial role in shaping her future aspirations. In 2024, she won the title of Miss Ngwato-a-Mphela Secondary School, which is a testament to her belief in herself and her goals. Bonolo's resilience paid off when she graduated with good grades and was admitted to the University of Johannesburg to study a Bachelor of Education. Additionally, her mother secured employment at Ndlovu Care Group, improving their family's financial situation and ensuring better care for her children.

BOYS PROGRAMME

In 2024, we had **23 boys** in the Boys Program, each being guided on a path toward becoming successful, well-rounded individuals. Our program focuses on equipping these young men with essential life skills through weekly facilitator-led activities. These sessions, which include both individual and group formats, cover critical topics such as gender-based violence, personal development, and mental health. The program not only provides a safe space for learning and self-improvement but also fosters opportunities for the exchange of ideas and experiences, promoting peer support and community building.

Our facilitators participated in a MAMAS refresher training workshop alongside their counterparts from other organizations within the alliance. This training was designed to strengthen the facilitators' capacity to deliver the program more effectively, providing them with updated tools and methodologies to enhance their impact. The collaboration with other organizations allowed for valuable knowledge sharing, enabling the facilitators to adopt best practices and refine their approach to program implementation.

As a result, our team is better equipped to guide the boys through their personal development journeys, ensuring that they receive the comprehensive support needed to address the challenges they face in today's world. This holistic approach is critical in helping the boys build resilience, develop emotional intelligence, and cultivate the skills necessary to thrive in both their personal and professional lives.

Boys Program Impact Story

Junior Mohlala is a 14-year-old boy from the rural area of Phooko in Dennilton, currently in Grade 7. He joined the program in 2022 after a social worker assessment. Coming from a small family of four, Junior's parents are both unemployed and rely on a SASSA grant for support. They live in an RDP house. When I first started working with Junior, I noticed that he was shy and reluctant to participate in group activities. He was particularly uncomfortable interacting with other boys and struggled to speak in front of his peers. We observed that he spent most of his time alone, with his only social interactions limited to his family. Junior's reluctance to make friends stemmed from being mocked by other children about his home and background.

One day, we introduced a topic called "Choose Your Friends," where each boy was asked to stand in front of the group and share what kind of friends they wanted in their lives. Listening to the other boys speak about their friendships had a profound impact on Junior, and it helped him change his perspective on interacting with others. Gradually, Junior became more confident and engaged, eventually taking on a leadership role. He became the first to arrive and help prepare before the other boys arrived, and the last to leave. I recall a memorable outing where the boys were given a challenge to climb trees. Junior was the first to take on the challenge, and he helped encourage and support the other boys to finish it.

Being part of the boys' program has truly transformed Junior's confidence and outlook. He is now more social, engaged, and eager to participate, marking a remarkable change in his behaviour and mindset. This is Junior Mohlala's success story.



AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMME

After the restructuring of the After School Program (ASP) this year, a total of **128 learners** were enrolled across both the Bloempoot Campus (Ngwato-a-Mphela Secondary School) and the Elandsdoorn Campus (OR Tambo Combined School). The program was designed to enroll at least 10 regular learners per grade at each campus this year focusing mainly on essential subjects namely English, Mathematics, Technical Mathematics, Physical Science and Technical Science. During this reporting period, we achieved excellent attendance rates, with 85% in Term 1 and 94% in Term 2, as shown below. The following graph demonstrates some improvements in the learner performances for Grades 8, 9, 10 and 11 during the mid-year assessments.

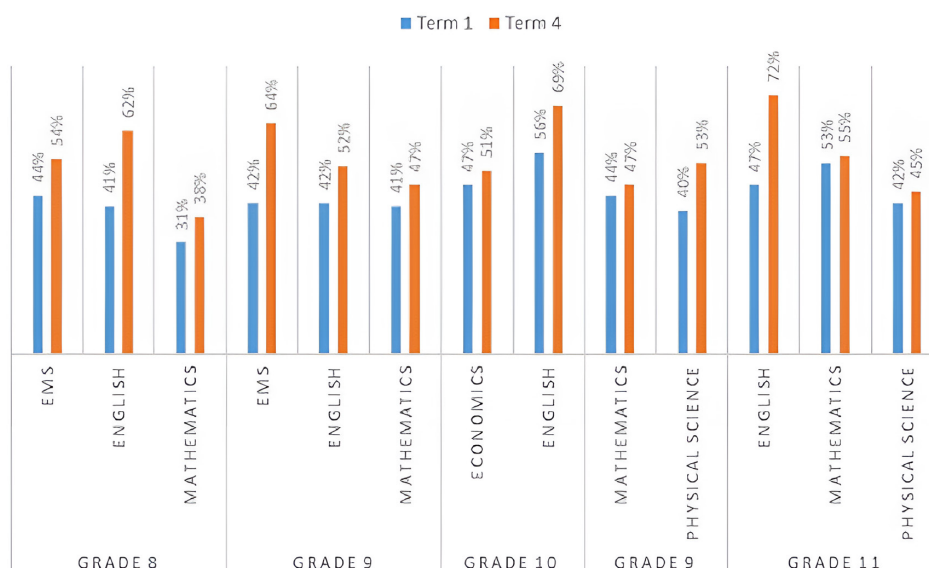
After School Program Beneficiaries - 2024			
Level	Elandsdoorn (OR Tambo)	Bloempoot (Ngwato-a-Mphela)	Grand Total
Grade 8	33	17	50
Grade 9	11	15	26
Grade 10	11	13	24
Grade 11	15	13	28
Total	70	58	128
Safe Study Space and Homework Assistance			
Level	Elandsdoorn Campus	Bloempoot Campus	Grand Total
Grade 4	12	8	20
Grade 5	5	7	12
Grade 6	8	10	18
Grade 7	10	10	20
Grade 8	8	8	16
Grade 9	10	6	16
Grade 10	12	12	24
Grade 11	9	10	19
Total	39	36	75
English for kids - Elandsdoorn Campus			10
Total number of kids assisted:			213

Main Programme Highlights

- Ngwato-a-Mphela Secondary School (Bloempoot Campus)**

In 2024, there was a notable improvement in student performance across various subjects, with a marked difference between their achievements in Term 1 and Term 4. This demonstrates the significant impact of the After School Program (ASP) at Ngwato-a-Mphela. Particularly impressive was the substantial improvement in English and EMS (Economics and Management Science) across all grades. While the positive effects of the ASP are evident, it is also clear that learners continue to face challenges in Mathematics and Physical Science, as illustrated in the following graph.

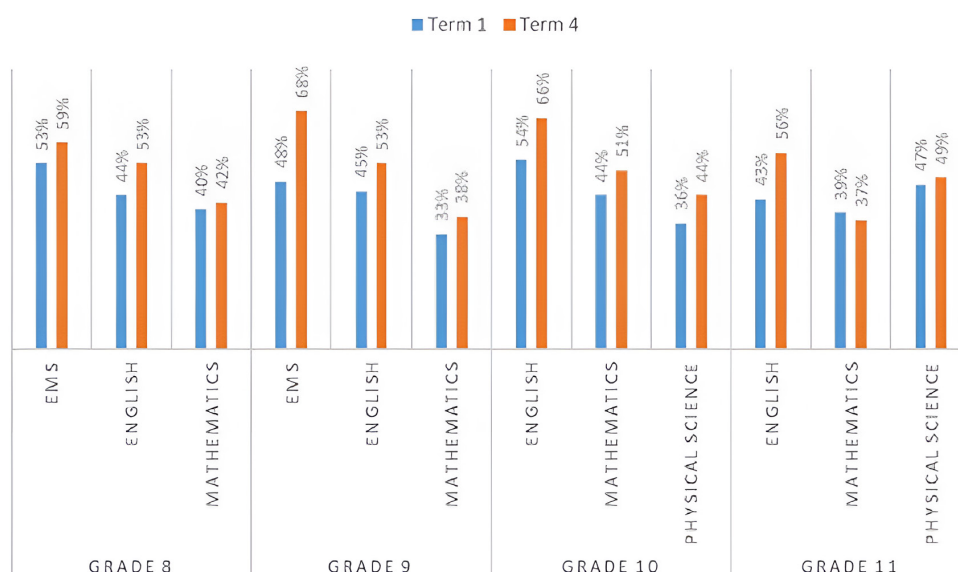
BLOEMPOORT CAMPUS: NGWATO-A-MPHELA



• OR Tambo Secondary School (Elandsdoorn Campus)

Learners demonstrated significant improvement in English and EMS across all grades, with performance levels in Term 4 showing marked progress compared to Term 1. However, there is still a need for increased efforts to boost pass rates in Mathematics and Physical Science, although some improvements have been observed, as highlighted in the following graph.

ELANDSDOORN CAMPUS: OR TAMBO



ASP Impact Story

Thandiwe Beyonce Makhubu, a 17-year-old from the rural community of Moutse, has defied the odds to achieve academic excellence despite being raised by her grandmother in a low-income household. Her future seemed uncertain until she joined the Ndlovu After School Program (ASP), which provided her with access to dedicated teachers, resources, and a supportive environment that helped her overcome the challenges of rural education. With guidance from the program's facilitators, Thandiwe excelled in mathematics and earned a distinction in EMS in Grade 9. As she progressed to high school, she continued to benefit from the ASP, receiving help with school projects and research, which set her up for success. Thandiwe's journey is a powerful testament to the impact of the Ndlovu After School Program on rural learners.

The program not only provided academic support but also instilled confidence and life skills. Thandiwe's hard work and determination, combined with the ASP's support, paid off when she passed her matric with a bachelor's admission. She has since enrolled in a Bachelor of Psychology program at the University of Venda, a milestone she credits to the program's help. As she looks to the future, Thandiwe remains deeply grateful for the ASP's role in her journey, stating, "Without the After School Program, I would not have achieved my goal of studying psychology." Her story serves as a powerful reminder of the transformative power of education and the critical importance of initiatives like the After School Program.



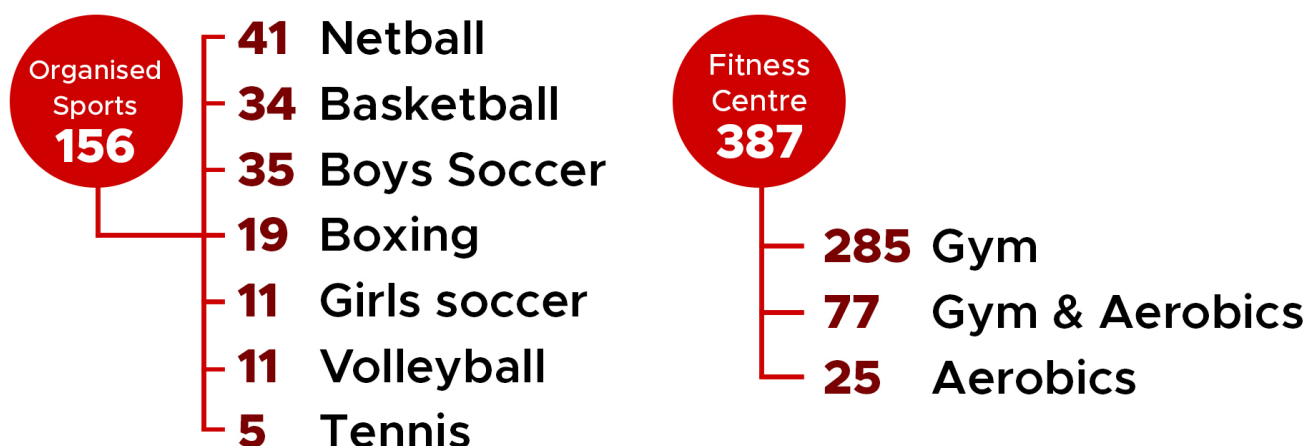
SPORTS, ARTS AND CULTURE

The Ndlovu Sports Programme, supported by the Johan Cruyff Foundation, made significant strides in 2024, reaching **2 063** children, youth, and adults in local communities. The program provided regular access to sports and physical activities across various disciplines. Key highlights include the male basketball team winning first place in the Sekhukhune District League, the female team securing third place, and three players being selected for the prestigious Rhinos team for the Basketball National League.

Summary of Achievements in 2024

Number of people reached:

- **1 520** children, youth and adults belonging to the group of weekly regular visitors (including people who are spectators, and those involved in other activities).
- **543** children, youth and adults belonging to the group of weekly regular visitors that used Ndlovu Courts for organised sports or physical activities from Jan-Dec 2024 as follows:



• Major Highlights from Social Activities:

a. Open Day

The Ndlovu Sports Open Day, held on May 11, 2024, aimed to raise awareness in the community about the importance of sports and After School Programmes for learners. With 34 adults and over 20 youth in attendance, the event highlighted the sports disciplines offered at Ndlovu, as well as the facilities and safety measures at the Cruyff courts. Coaches provided detailed explanations of the program's operations, activities, and benefits, helping attendees understand its positive impact. The response from young attendees was highly encouraging, with many expressing interests in joining the programs. Additionally, the event facilitated open communication, allowing Ndlovu Sports to gather feedback and address community concerns.

b. Hiking Event

On June 8, 2024, Ndlovu Sports hosted an 8km hiking event that attracted around 100 participants from the local community, including children, youth, and adults. This event provided an opportunity for participants to engage in physical activity while promoting unity and well-being. After the hike, the South African Police Service (Dennilton) led a Human Trafficking Awareness Campaign aimed at educating the community about the dangers of human trafficking. The police officers shared valuable information on identifying risks, recognizing trafficking hotspots, and minimizing the chances of becoming a victim. They also outlined how to report suspicious activities. This event effectively combined physical exercise with essential safety education, reinforcing Ndlovu Sports and local authorities' commitment to community health and protection.

c. Aerobics

The sports team organized an Aerobic Boot Camp at the Elandsdoorn sports facility to encourage exercise as a lifestyle and help gym members improve their health by promoting better blood flow, lowering blood pressure, reducing the risk of heart disease, maintaining strong bones, preventing osteoporosis, and relieving stress. Boot camp exercises also boosted energy, supported weight loss, and built muscle strength. The event attracted 38 participants, including gym members, community members, and sports beneficiaries, who enjoyed a series of exercises led by two aerobics instructors. Additionally, a community engagement event was held at the Dennilton police station, where 15 officers participated in a one-hour aerobics session facilitated by three instructors. This outreach aimed to promote the gym at the police station, with instructors explaining the services offered. Following the event, there was a noticeable increase in new enrolments at the fitness centre.



d. Sports Day for People Living with Disabilities

One of the highlights of early August 2024 at Elandsdoorn Sports was the Sports Day for People Living with Disabilities. As affiliates of the South African Special Olympics, we provided an opportunity for individuals with disabilities to engage in various sports, including soccer, bocce, wheelchair tennis, and other indigenous games. A total of 32 beneficiaries from the Ndlovu Disability & Rehabilitation Centre competed against participants from the Tswelopele Disability Centre, another local facility supporting people with disabilities. This collaboration between the two centres is invaluable, as it allows participants to connect, build friendships, and share experiences. In 2025, we aim to expand the event by involving more centres, enhancing the atmosphere and helping to identify talented individuals for the national Special Olympics teams.

• Major Highlights from Sports Activities:

a. Soccer

The boys' and girls' soccer tournaments are part of the Ndlovu Cruyff League (NCL) for our U13 and U15 categories. The league features 8 teams, with each team playing 2 matches per week. In 2024, our boys' U15 team finished 2nd in the league, while our girls' team took 1st place. In the upcoming year, we plan to register the NCL as a community club under the national South African league, which will provide disadvantaged boys with greater opportunities to showcase their talent at the national level.

b. Basketball

The Ndlovu basketball team actively participated in local and district tournaments throughout the year. They competed in the Sekhukhune league games organized by the Sekhukhune Basketball Association, with Ndlovu hosting the first round of district games. Our men's open team won every match on the day and continued their success by winning both the second and third rounds, ultimately qualifying for the finals of the Sekhukhune Basketball League in September 2024, where they were crowned champions. In addition to the league games, the basketball team attended trials in Mpumalanga, where five players participated in an effort to join the Rhinos team, affiliated with Basketball South Africa. Three players from Ndlovu were selected to join the Rhinos team for the Basketball National League, marking a significant achievement for the team.



c. Volleyball

Our open volleyball team competed in the local tournament in August 2024, where they triumphed over five other teams. The tournament featured teams from various municipalities around Elias Motsoaledi, consisting primarily of young, unemployed individuals who are dedicated to staying active and advancing in sports, with hopes of eventually reaching international levels. Additionally, our U13 volleyball team participated in the local 8-team volleyball league and finished in 4th place. In the upcoming year, more tournaments have been scheduled at the district and national levels to increase the exposure of our volleyball players and open up better professional opportunities in the sport.

d. Netball

Our netball team delivered an outstanding performance in the Sekhukhune District League, emerging as the district champions for 2024. In addition to winning the league, several players from the team were selected to join the district team, which will compete in prestigious national tournaments and events in the upcoming season. These players have become role models in our community, setting a positive example of the opportunities that sports can offer to those with talent.

• Social Impact Story

In the first quarter of 2024, Ndlovu Care Group (NCG) hosted a memorable 20th Anniversary celebration for the Johan Cruyff Foundation (JCF), commemorating the establishment of the first Cruyff Court in South Africa, the Elandsdoorn Cruyff Court. The event, attended by more than 1000 people, including distinguished JCF officials, NCG staff, other local teams and local community members (children, youth and adults), highlighted the enduring partnership between NCG and JCF. Speeches from NCG, JCF representatives, and community leaders celebrated the transformative impact of their collaboration, emphasizing how it has created opportunities for community participation, unity, and empowerment through sports.

The event was a grand affair, showcasing the deep-rooted relationship between the two organizations. NCG, JCF officials, and community leaders delivered inspiring speeches, reflecting on the history and impact of the JCF-NCG collaboration over the years. They shared insights into how this partnership has transformed lives through sports, providing innovative opportunities for community participation and fostering a sense of unity and empowerment.

Adding to the festive atmosphere, the renowned Ndlovu Youth Choir (NYC) delivered scintillating performances, captivating the audience with their vibrant music and uplifting spirit. Their performances were a highlight of the day, entertaining both the guests and the crowd, and underscoring the cultural richness and talent within the community.

In keeping with the Johan Cruyff Foundation's mission to create opportunities for active participation in sports, the event also featured a multi-disciplinary tournament. This tournament showcased the range of sports offered at the Cruyff Courts, encouraging broad community involvement. A total of 271 players participated in the tournament, across various disciplines:

- **Netball** – Three local teams, including the NCG team, competed in this category, with each team comprising 15 players.
- **Basketball** – Two teams, each consisting of 15 players, represented NCG in the basketball matches.
- **Soccer** – Eight teams, with 15 players each, took part in the soccer tournament, drawing significant interest and enthusiasm from both players and spectators.
- **Girls Soccer** – Four teams, each with 15 players, participated in the girls' soccer matches, highlighting the growing involvement of young women in sports within the community.
- **Wheelchair Tennis Singles Match** – Four players competed in a wheelchair tennis singles match, showcasing the skill and determination of athletes with disabilities.
- **Curtain Raiser Match** – A special 7-a-side match was held featuring players from the NCG Disability Centre, known as the Ndlovu Jorris House Match. This match was a symbolic and heartwarming demonstration of inclusivity in sports.

The day was not only a celebration of a significant milestone but also a vivid illustration of the impact that sports, guided by the vision of the Johan Cruyff Foundation, can have on a community. The event fostered a spirit of camaraderie and inclusion, bringing together people of all ages and abilities to participate in and enjoy the power of sport. As the day concluded, it was clear that the legacy of the Johan Cruyff Foundation, through its partnership with Ndlovu Care Group, would continue to inspire and uplift the community for years to come.



• Sports Impact Story

In January 2024, Akili Tshiteya stepped onto the basketball court for the very first time. What seemed like a daunting challenge for a newcomer quickly turned into an exciting adventure. Over the next few months, Akili's dedication, work ethic, and passion for learning allowed him to not only grasp the fundamentals of the game but to also surpass expectations and start making a name for himself within the basketball community. His determination to improve and his innate talent for the sport stood out, and he quickly caught the attention of coaches and fellow players alike.

By October 2024, just nine months after picking up a basketball, Akili had earned a spot on the district-level school sports basketball team. His performance during the trials was nothing short of impressive, showcasing his rapid improvement and remarkable potential. His success did not stop there—his strong showing in the trials earned him a coveted place on the provincial team. Akili's journey culminated in an unforgettable experience at the national championships in Pretoria in December 2024, where he competed against some of the best young talents in the country.

Akili's momentum continued into 2025, and once again, he proved that his success was no fluke. His determination and hard work saw him selected for both the district and provincial teams once more, this time for the LBA (Limpopo Basketball Association) competition. This event was hosted in collaboration with Basketball South Africa and International Basketball Federation (FIBA), and Akili's inclusion in the teams cemented his status as a rising star in the basketball world. His achievements so early in his basketball career speak volumes about his natural talent, drive, and relentless pursuit of excellence.

"As Akili's coach, I have had the honour of watching him grow not just as a player, but as a leader and a person. His growth on the court is matched by his development off the court. He is not only an exceptional athlete but also an exemplary team member. His leadership abilities, keen communication skills, and unwavering work ethic make him a valuable asset to our team. Akili has become a model for others, always putting in the extra effort during practices and inspiring those around him to strive for greatness". (Nicholas Talane - Basketball Coach)



Beyond the court, Akili’s transformation has been evident to everyone who knows him. His parents have noted the positive changes in his behaviour since he joined the team. He has become more disciplined, focused, and responsible. Akili now manages his time more effectively, balancing academics, training, and personal life with remarkable maturity. His communication skills have improved, making him more approachable and easier to collaborate with, both on and off the court.



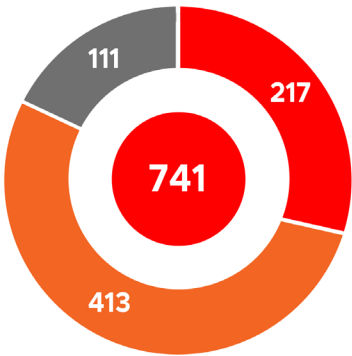
As Akili prepares to take on the national championships again, this time in Durban, KZN, we are filled with immense pride. His journey is not just a personal victory but also a testament to what can be achieved through hard work, determination, and a genuine love for the sport. He has overcome challenges, embraced every opportunity for growth, and proven that with passion and perseverance, anything is possible.

We are excited to see Akili continue to evolve, not just as a basketball player but as a young man with a bright future ahead. We have no doubt that this is just the beginning of his journey, and we look forward to witnessing even greater achievements from him, both on and off the court.

AUDIOLOGY PROGRAMME

During this reporting period, the services of Ndlovu-Wits Audiology (NWA) were subdued compared to the same period last year, primarily due to financial and human resource capacity constraints. The NWA saw **741** patients, and only five hearing aids were fitted, while 97 patients remained on the waiting list due to funding constraints.

NWA Patient Volumes, 2024



● School-based Hearing Screening ● Diagnostic Assessment ● Screening at NWA



VOCATIONAL SCHOOL

The Ndlovu Vocational School remains dedicated to offering courses that equip learners with practical skills for immediate employment while also nurturing their long-term growth and development. These efforts align with our steadfast commitment to addressing South Africa's unemployment challenges by providing education and creating employment opportunities for the youth. Reflecting on the achievements of 2024, the NVTC successfully contributed to the empowerment of 98 young individuals through vocational skills development, as detailed below. Notably, over 70% of our graduates are now either gainfully employed, have become entrepreneurs, or have advanced their studies by leveraging the qualifications they obtained.

- **38** learners were trained and graduated in the plumbing trade
- **20** learners were trained and graduated in the bricklaying trade
- **20** learners were trained and graduated in the carpentry trade. All these graduates were absorbed by different companies upon competition
- **8** youth living with disabilities (YLWD) were trained in agriculture skills and now employed at the Ndlovu-AFAS farm.
- **12** youths were trained in IT Infrastructure Support in collaboration with ServiceNow and 75% of them successfully completed the course and got different employment and career advancement opportunities.

NVTC Impact Story

Makhenthula Ndamulelo Ricardo's journey to success began when he enrolled in a bricklaying learnership program at the Ndlovu Vocational Training Centre in 2024, facilitated through the MMSEZ. The knowledge he gained from this training empowered him to launch his own thriving construction company, Orisan Solution (Pty) Ltd. Based in his hometown of Venda, he is already making significant strides in the construction industry while continuing to enhance his skills through hands-on experience. His company is not only growing but also contributing to the local economy, as it currently employs five full-time workers and over 10 contract employees, all from his own community. His story stands as a testament to the transformative power of vocational education and the opportunities it can create. With each brick he lays, he is not just building structures; he is paving the way for a brighter future for himself and his community.

We take immense pride in his achievements and are grateful to have played a role in his success. He expressed heartfelt appreciation to Ndlovu Vocational Training Centre for equipping him with the skills and confidence to chase his dreams. *"I'm truly grateful for being part of the program at Ndlovu. It was tough while we were there, but it was also incredibly helpful. I left with the tools to start my own company, and though it felt like play at times, the skills I learned were invaluable. This is all the work of my hands, and at times, we need to reflect on and appreciate where we come from,"* he shared.



His story serves as a powerful reminder that with the right support and unwavering determination, the possibilities are limitless. The ripple effect of his success is felt throughout his community, where his growing business provides stable employment opportunities and encourages others to pursue their own dreams.

WATER SANITATION AND HYGIENE

In response to the ongoing water challenges faced by the Moutse community, the Ndlovu Care Group (NCG) took proactive steps by establishing a network of boreholes to provide clean and safe water. Currently, there are 77 strategically placed boreholes serving the community. Each borehole is equipped with two 5,000-liter storage tanks, a pump, and multiple taps to allow for simultaneous access, ensuring efficient water distribution. Of these, 23 are solar-powered boreholes.

These boreholes have had a significant impact, benefiting over 80 000 people. This initiative has not only improved access to water for household use but has also enhanced livelihoods. This is reflected in the growth of home food gardens and improved food security. Over 3 000 food gardens are now being irrigated from the boreholes, positively contributing to nutrition and food security within the community.

Looking ahead, NCG remains focused on borehole maintenance and strengthening local management to ensure the continued provision of clean water. In addition, 154 water tanks and 560 community taps have been installed, further improving access to water and sanitation in the area. These efforts highlight NCG's ongoing commitment to addressing the Moutse community's water needs and promoting sustainable development in the region. In 2024, much of our work centred on the maintenance of all established boreholes, ensuring they remain in optimal condition to serve the community effectively. However, we have learnt that the maintenance of solar-powered boreholes is a bit expensive as compared to those powered through the electricity grid.

CONCLUSION

This report highlights the crucial role Tjommie consistently plays in supporting the initiatives of the Ndlovu Care Group's Child Care & Youth Development programmes. Tjommie's unwavering commitment has become a foundation upon which our work stands, empowering us to create meaningful change in the lives of vulnerable individuals within marginalized communities. The Ndlovu Care Group is immensely grateful for this steadfast support, as it serves as a driving force for transformation and empowerment throughout our outreach efforts.

We also extend our heartfelt appreciation to our dedicated staff members, whose relentless commitment and hard work are vital in advancing our mission. Their passion and dedication are central to achieving the objectives of our programmes, ensuring that our impact remains both significant and sustainable. In 2024 alone, our Child Care & Youth Development programmes reached an impressive **22 202** direct beneficiaries, while over 80 000 individuals have benefited from the water boreholes in our communities. This remarkable accomplishment underscores Tjommie's pivotal role in uplifting vulnerable children and empowering disadvantaged communities. Through continued collaboration and support, Tjommie remains a beacon of hope, sparking positive change and fostering self-sufficiency within the communities we serve.



Creating hope and development opportunities to build healthy, responsible and self-sustaining communities.

Ndlovu Care Group works with communities to design and implement innovative, evidence-based solutions and programmes through an integrated approach addressing; healthcare, child and youth needs, WASH, infrastructure support and research for improved cohesive community development.

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