

TSHEPANG EDUCARE TRUST

ANNUAL REPORT 2024/2025



**TSHEPANG
EDUCARE TRUST**

HOPE FOR A BRIGHTER FUTURE

ORGANISATION OVERVIEW

Vision and Mission

Vision: To ensure that every child in and around the Thabo Mofutsanyane District has equitable access to quality Early Childhood Development (ECD) opportunities that enable them to thrive and be school ready by age five.

Mission Highlights: Accredited training and mentorship of ECD teachers, registration and compliance support for community Early Learning Programmes (ELPs), and advocacy to promote the importance of ECD.

Operational Reach and Impact

Founded in 1985, Tshepang operates across the Free State, servicing towns such as Clarens, Harrismith, Senekal, QwaQwa, and Ficksburg. Our programmes assist in reducing stunting, improving maternal/child health, and enhancing foundation phase performance.



In 2024, Tshepang worked with 3,269 children, supported 70 ECD centres, and trained 93 practitioners.

2026/2027 OBJECTIVES AND FUTURE STRATEGY

Our future strategy focuses on expanding our integrated model to bridge service gaps and further professionalise the sector.

Expand Access: Focus on funding and expanding access to quality ELPs, specifically for the 0-5 age group in rural areas and informal settlements that encourage home based learning activities like reading, storytelling, and drawing.

Empower Parents: Scale up contextually relevant parenting programmes that encourage home-based learning activities like reading, storytelling, and drawing.

Quality Training: Offer accredited training (NQF Level 1-4) and continuous professional development, leveraging our Centre of Excellence.

Integrate Health: Strengthen the link with child health services for early screening and referral of children showing developmental delays or stunting.

Going forward, our Social Support Programme will serve as a key strategy to strengthen community resilience by providing holistic support to children, families, and caregivers in need.

PROGRAMME ACHIEVEMENTS AND IMPACT (2024)

Tshepang's integrated approach is delivered through three core programmes: the Centre of Excellence, the Social Support Programme, and the Integrated ECD Outreach Programme.

A. Workforce Professionalisation (Centre of Excellence)

We equip caregivers and practitioners with practical, accredited training, fostering peer-to-peer mentorship for quality care, particularly with babies and toddlers.

Accredited Training: 28 ECD practitioners enrolled in Level 2 accredited training.

Centre Support: 24 ECD sites have applied for Level 2 Accredited Skills training.

Quality Mentorship: Master Mentors were deployed for on-site coaching in play based

B. Formalisation and Regulatory Support

Our focus on compliance helps unregistered ECD sites meet regulatory requirements, increasing the number of ELPs eligible for subsidies and ensuring safety standards.

Historical Impact: Over 500 ELPs have been supported to operate effectively over Tshepang's history.

Technical Assistance: Provided technical assistance for health, fire, and municipal clearances to formalise operations.



C. Social Support and Community Mobilisation (Outreach)

The Social Support and Outreach Programmes address systemic barriers, reaching vulnerable families in informal settlements and farming communities.

Documentation Support: 48 undocumented children were profiled and received social and administrative interventions in areas like Arlington, Lindley, and Petrus Steyn.



CONCLUSION AND CALL TO PARTNERSHIP

Tshepang Educare Trust provides a scalable and sustainable model that transforms the ECD sector at local and national levels. By integrating system reform, workforce development, and community mobilisation, we are strengthening systems and contributing to national goals for universal early childhood access.

Partnerships with funders, government, and the private sector are essential to formalise more centres, expand regulated capacity, and equip a new generation of skilled practitioners, ensuring long-term impact in access, quality, and equity. **Your investment is an investment in the future of children, their caregivers, and their communities.**

BOARD OF TRUSTEE MEMBERS



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Chairperson



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Member

CURRENT STAFF MEMBERS



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Fortunatus Slabbert
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Volunteer



Joyce Mbhele
Community
development
worker intern



Mamiya Nhlapo
Community
development worker
Intern



Nthabeleng Motloung
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Intern



Moleboheng Nthoba
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