

# Quality Early Childhood Development in South Africa: A Call to Action

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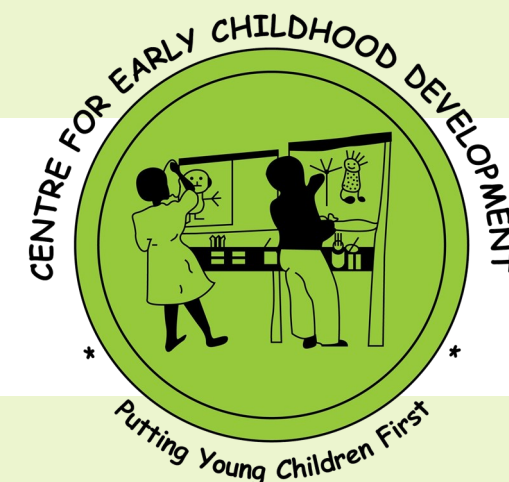


## Final Conference Programme

Click on the titles to view the presentation

27 - 29 September 2023

College of Cape Town, Crawford Campus  
174 Kromboom Road, Crawford, Cape Town

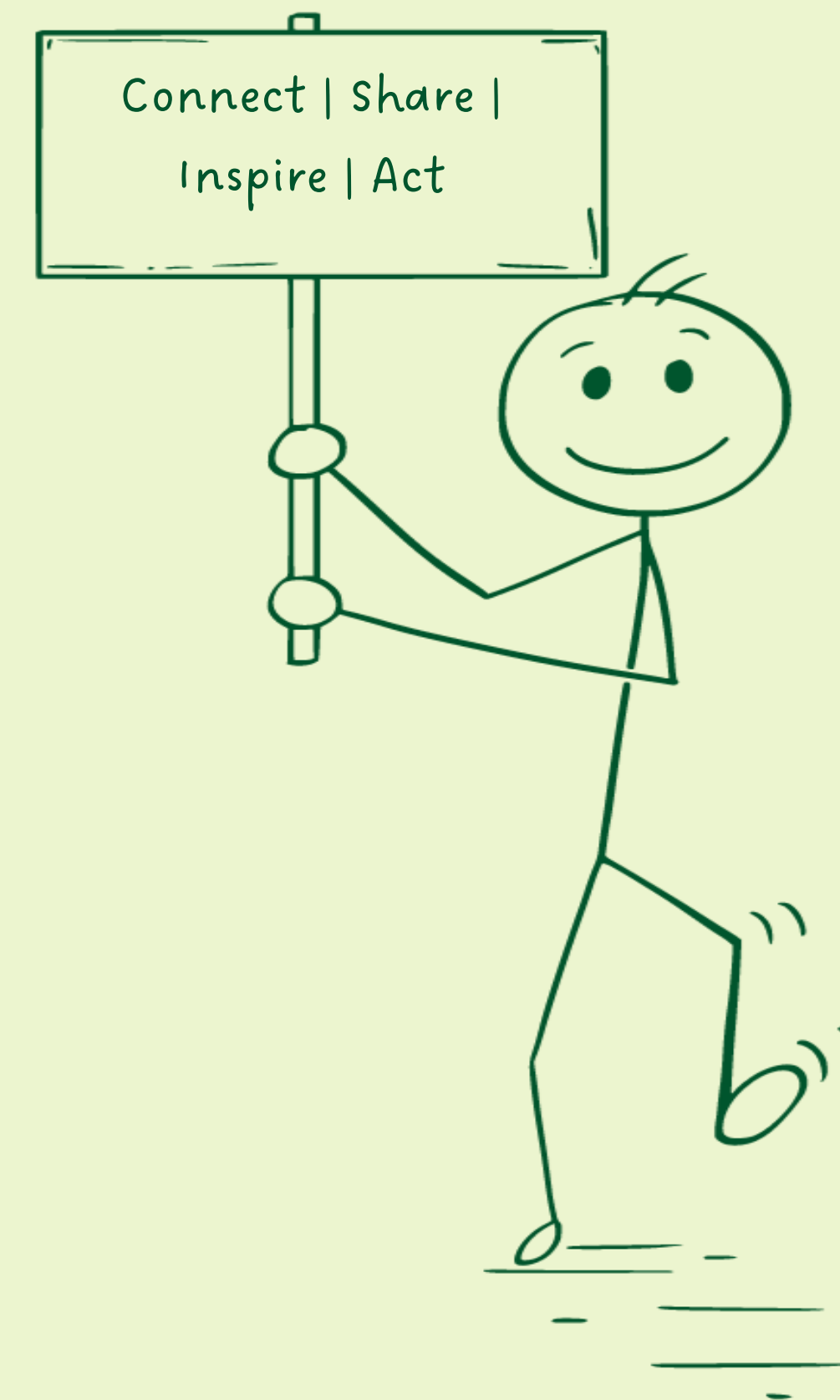


*The conference programme is subject to change*

# Day 1: 27 September 2023

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12h00 - 13h30	<b>Registration</b>	
13h45 - 14h00	<b>Conference Opening Act</b> - Centre for Early Childhood Development	
14h00 - 14h15	<b>Conference Welcome</b> - Mr Achmat Gafieldien, Deputy Principal Innovation & Development of the College of Cape Town	
14h15 - 14h25	Message from the City of Cape Town Executive Mayor Geordin Hill-Lewis	
14h30 - 15h15	<b>Keynote Address - On love and playfulness</b> Professor Nuraan Davids, Professor of Philosophy of Education – Stellenbosch University	
15h15 - 15h45	The development of emergent biliteracy in young children Dr Xolisa Guzula, Senior Lecturer in Applied Language and Literacy Studies – University of Cape Town	
15h45 - 17h15	<b>'Khawuleza' Event:</b>	
	1. Disparities between affluent and impoverished ECD centres: What is the reality, the impact and the solution?	Amanda Nomsa Mbali – Centre for Early Childhood Development
	2. Affirming ECD practioners and children through music and song: An overview of the MusicWorks Training Programme	Raymond Schuller - MusicWorks
	3. Stronger: A comprehensive toolbox for empowering family connection to allow children to succeed	Danielle Moosajie – Arise
	4. The Helix Collective – Crisis intervention funding for 0-5 year olds	Elisabeth van Wyk – The Helix Collective
	5. ECD Connect: A practitioner’s pocket assistant	Jade Jacobsohn – ECD Connect - DGMT
	6. Leading the way: Nurturing success through management competencies in South Africa's ECD sector	Dr Jessica Ronaasen – Stellenbosch University
	7. Creating open-source materials to support quality early learning	Kirsty Paxton – SmartStart Early Learning NPC
	8. Book-sharing for Fathers – Helping fathers create nurturing and stimulating relationships with their young children	Karen Ross – Mikhulu Trust
	9. MASKOT – Keeping children on track	Léanne Keet – Masikhule
	10. Beefing up the ECD package of care – Khula Nathi	Helen Donkin – Zero2Five Trust
	11. The Chaeli Campaign ECD Outreach Programme: Upskilling parents and ECD Practitioners to better support children with barriers to learning	Olwethu Nqevu – The Chaeli Campaign
12. Book Dash – Making beautiful, open books for the ECD sector	Julia Norrish – Book Dash	
17h15 - 17h30	<b>Networking – Tea/coffee</b>	



# Day 2: 28 September 2023

Click on the titles to view the presentation

<b>DAY 2</b>	<b>Tea/coffee on arrival</b>			
09h00 - 10h30	Plenary: Drivers of Quality Early Learning, using evidence to inform action <b>Linda Biersteker, Sonja Giese, Dr Janeli Kotze &amp; Dr Nicholas Dowdall</b> Facilitator: Dr Nicholas Dowdall			
10h30 - 10h50	<b>Tea</b>			
	<b>Main hall</b>	<b>Conference room</b>	<b>Room 17/18</b>	<b>Room 19/20</b>
10h50 - 11h30	<b>Recognition of Prior Learning for access: Piloting an approach to 'open doors' at undergraduate level</b> Dr Giulietta Harrison – SANTS Private Higher Education Institution  Facilitator: Kirsty Barnes (CECD)	<b>Effective leadership and management in Early Childhood Development centres: A case study of Mvudi cluster</b> Shonisani Agnes Mulovhedzi – University of Venda  Facilitator: Zahra Manji (CECD)	<b>Down to business: Unlocking success for ECD centres by adopting a business mindset</b> Lyndsey Petro – GROW ECD  Thembisa Nkohla (CECD)	<b>Enhancing access to quality early childhood development (ECD) services in marginalised communities: The Kouga ECD Project</b> Jessica Blom – Centre for Early Childhood Development  Facilitator: Sarah Atmore (CECD)
11h30 - 12h10	<b>Implementation of the ECD Mobile programme in Northern Limpopo by Khamimamba Training and Resource Centre</b> Queen Baloyi – Khamimamba Training & Resource Centre  Facilitator: Kirsty Barnes (CECD)	<b>Child-centred climate action: Where the most vulnerable become the most valuable</b> Nicole Biondi – The Do More Foundation  Facilitator: Zahra Manji (CECD)	<b>Exploring the possible enablers of a numeracy and literacy integrated Family Maths Storytime Programme</b> Roxanne Long – South African Numeracy Chair Project, Rhodes University  Thembisa Nkohla (CECD)	<b>Enhancing early development nutrition</b> Petrina Pakoe, Amelia Koeries & Thandi Mtombeni – Peninsula School Feeding Association  Facilitator: Sarah Atmore (CECD)
12h10 - 12h50	<b>Occupational Therapy intervention in Early Learning Programmes</b> Léanne Keet – Masikhule  Facilitator: Jessica Blom (CECD)	<b>Making local government work for early childhood development</b> Tinotenda Muringani & Tshepo Mantjé – Equality Collective  Facilitator: Zahra Manji (CECD)	<b>Investing in home and community-based early learning programmes as a strategy for quality access</b> Rebecca Hickman – SmartStart Early Learning NPC  Thembisa Nkohla (CECD)	<b>Developing ECD teachers' knowledge and skills to meet the demands of quality education in a rural context</b> Ayesha Carrim – University of South Africa  Facilitator: Yusrah Ehrenreich (CECD)
12h50 - 13h30	<b>WhatsApp: A training tool that supports learning, implementation, and community building</b> Anya Morris – Africa A+  Facilitator: Jessica Blom (CECD)	<b>The importance of play in early learning: Knowledge, attitudes and practices of parents and caregivers with children birth to six years old</b> Lungile Mdluli & Mpho Papale – UNICEF  Facilitator: Zahra Manji (CECD)	<b>Ready-Set-Go: Empowering school readiness in children through collaborative parent-child programmes</b> Danielle Moosajie – Arise  Thembisa Nkohla (CECD)	<b>Teachers at the core: Exploring the usefulness, feasibility, and implementation of an early literacy and language programme</b> Monique Visser & Dr Shelley O'Carroll – Stellenbosch University  Facilitator: Yusrah Ehrenreich (CECD)
13h30 - 14h10	<b>Lunch</b>			
14h10 - 14h50	<b>Khula Nathi – Bringing growth monitoring to ECD centres</b> Helen Donkin & Julika Falconer – Zero2Five Trust  Facilitator: Yusrah Ehrenreich (CECD)	<b>The rhetoric of workforce professionalism: An analysis of South African early childhood policy</b> Dr Mary G Clasquin-Johnson & Hasina B Ebrahim – University of South Africa  Facilitator: Zena Haynes (CECD)	<b>[Re]Imagining parent and teacher understanding of parent participation in an ECCE setting</b> Ally Connelly – University of the West of Scotland  Facilitator: Sarah Atmore (CECD)	<b>Building a common understanding of quality ECE: Hearing from practitioners, caregivers and children</b> Malibongwe Gwele – Children's institute, University of Cape Town, & Linda Biersteker  Facilitator: Gloria van Rensburg (CECD)
14h50 - 15h30	<b>Evaluation of the EAT LOVE PLAY TALK pilot Parent Education Programme</b> Dr Jessica Ronaasen – The Do More Foundation, & Linda Biersteker  Facilitator: Yusrah Ehrenreich (CECD)	<b>Translanguaging as a medium of communication in multilingual peri-urban pre-school classrooms</b> Sibongile Mahan – University of South Africa  Facilitator: Zena Haynes (CECD)	<b>Effective professional development for early years education practitioners in disadvantaged communities: Challenges and strategies</b> Prof Chinedu Okeke – University of the Free State  Facilitator: Sarah Atmore (CECD)	<b>Inclusion of 21<sup>st</sup> Century skills in effective ECD programmes for children aged four to six years</b> Wilna van Rooyen – Vivlia Publishers  Facilitator: Gloria van Rensburg (CECD)
15h30 - 16h30	<b>Panel Discussion: Working together for quality ECD in South Africa</b> Dr Sigamoney Naicker – Department of Education Ms Ntjantja Ned – Hollard Foundation Trust Ms Tracey Chambers – GROW ECD Prof Hasina Ebrahim – University of South Africa  <b>Session facilitator: Prof Eric Atmore</b>			
	<b>Networking - Tea Break</b>			

# Day 3: 29 September 2023

Click on the titles to view the presentation

DAY 3	Tea/coffee on arrival			
09h00 - 10h00	<b>Panel Discussion: Equity from the Start: Advocacy and Social Justice in Early Childhood Development</b> Theodora Lutuli – ECD Activist; Inkwenkwezi Educare Centre Yusrah Ehrenreich – Centre for Early Childhood Development Mmatsetshweu Ruby Motaung – Training & Resources in Early Education Elisabeth van Wyk – The Helix Collective <i>Session facilitator: Jessica Blom</i>			
	Main hall	Conference room	Room 17/18	Room 19/20
10h00 - 10h40	<b>The development of the professional teaching standards for the ECD educator workforce in South Africa</b> Hasina B Ebrahim, Sheila Drew & Rene King – University of South Africa  Facilitator: Jessica Blom (CECD)	<b>The role of play in the development of executive functions in age three- to five-year-olds in South Africa: The LEGO PLAY 2.0 Project</b> Rachel Neville – JET Education Services  Facilitator: Zahra Manji (CECD)	<b>Ikamva Labantu Principals Training Programme: Making a difference</b> Mildred Bopoto, Barbara Stemmer – Ikamva Labantu Charitable Trust  Facilitator: Zena Haynes (CECD)	<b>Diverse mathematics learning styles in rural Early Childhood Development centres of OR Tambo District, Eastern Cape Province</b> Neliswa Gqoli – Walter Sisulu University  Facilitator: Kirsty Barnes (CECD)
10h40 - 11h20	<b>Toy library norms and standards: Debate, discuss and learn</b> Dr Monica Stach – Cotlands  Facilitator: Jessica Blom (CECD)	<b>Are commercially-produced resources essential for an emerging literacy programme?</b> Julie Hay – Singakwenza Early Childhood Education  Facilitator: Zahra Manji (CECD)	<b>Child protection is everyone’s business – A Protective Behaviours approach to personal safety</b> Candice van Rooyen – Protective Behaviours Southern Africa (PBSA)  Facilitator: Zena Haynes (CECD)	<b>Improving early childhood development in informal settlements: An innovative multi-country pilot project</b> Michaela Ashley-Cooper – Centre for Early Childhood Development & Thozama Nomnga - FEDUP  Facilitator: Tatum Dyson (CECD)
11h20 - 11h50	<b>Tea</b>			
11h50 - 12h30	<b>Overcoming barriers to ECD registration for the delivery of effective ECD programmes in rural settings</b> Nokubonga Purity Hlongwane – Zero2Five Trust  Facilitator: Boniswa Gquma (CECD)	<b>Using data collection tools and systems to drive change in early learning in South Africa: A case study</b> Sonja Giese & Andrew Dawes – DataDrive2030  Facilitator: Jessica Blom (CECD)	<b>Community Health Workers supporting mothers in the First Thousand Days through parental support and book-sharing</b> Karen Ross – Mikhulu Trust  Facilitator: Gloria van Rensburg (CECD)	<b>Breaking Barriers: A call for change in local governments’ regulatory framework for ECD centres, starting with the City of Cape Town</b> Yusrah Ehrenreich - Centre for Early Childhood Development  Facilitator: Tatum Dyson (CECD)
12h30 - 13h10	<b>Towards reconstructing student-teacher beliefs about children through theoretical and practical encounters in Grade R</b> Dr Linda Bosman & Lynn Chambers – Stellenbosch University  Facilitator: Boniswa Gquma (CECD)	<b>Quality assurance in ECD in South Africa</b> Hasina B Ebrahim – University of South Africa  Facilitator: Jessica Blom (CECD)	<b>Bringing a Wordworks online self-study training course to ECD practitioners: A snapshot of pilot learnings</b> Asanda Mpahla – Wordworks  Facilitator: Gloria van Rensburg (CECD)	<b>Understanding fathers’ involvement in their children’s early learning and development: Perceptions of South African fathers and mothers of young children</b> Lauren van Niekerk – University of Cape Town  Facilitator: Kirsty Barnes (CECD)
13h10 - 13h50	<b>Lunch</b>			
13h50 - 14h30	<b>Improving South African Grade R children’s participation and transforming a teacher’s pedagogical approach through robotics dialogue storybooks</b> Hanrie Bezuidenhout – University of Johannesburg  Facilitator: Thembisa Nkohla (CECD)	<b>Malungeni: From baseline to change – Promoting quality ECD in practice</b> Dr Giulietta Harrison – SANTS Private Higher Education Institution  Facilitator: Yusrah Ehrenreich (CECD)	<b>Ocean kraals: Re-surfacing discarded stories and materials for sustainable futures</b> Joanne Peers, Dr Theresa Giorza & Carole Scott – Centre for Creative Education  Facilitator: Zena Haynes (CECD)	<b>Analysing the growth of early grade mathematics research in South Africa</b> Mellony Graven, Hamsa Venkat & Pamela Vale – Rhodes University  Facilitator: Boniswa Gquma-Lisa (CECD)
14h30 - 15h10	<b>Developing students’ and early childhood development practitioners’ awareness of sensory gardens benefits</b> Nkhensani Susan Thuketana – University of Pretoria  Facilitator: Thembisa Nkohla (CECD)	<b>Sivulithuba: Creating opportunities for capacity building and access support in the early years</b> Mmatsetshweu Ruby Motaung – Training & Resources in Early Education  Facilitator: Yusrah Ehrenreich (CECD)	<b>Chapter 7 of the Children’s Act: What are the best interests of young children?</b> Daniel Peter Al-Naddaf – Equal Education Law Centre  Facilitator: Zena Haynes (CECD)	<b>The importance of mental mathematics for supporting Foundation Phase teaching and learning</b> Mellony Graven & Hamsa Venkat – Rhodes University  Facilitator: Boniswa Gquma-Lisa (CECD)
15h10 - 15h50	<b>Exploring the impact of a story-based pre-Grade R teacher training programme</b> Dr Shelley O’Carroll – Independent  Facilitator: Thembisa Nkohla (CECD)	<b>Early childhood development practitioners’ competence in developing learners’ literacy skills</b> Nomasomi Matiso – Walter Sisulu University  Facilitator: Yusrah Ehrenreich (CECD)	<b>Enhancing early childhood education? Exploring the intersection of teacher education and digital learning</b> Donna Hannaway – University of South Africa  Facilitator: Zena Haynes (CECD)	<b>Training ECD teachers for early intervention and inclusion for children with disabilities</b> Dr Ensa Johnson, Dr Mary G Clasquin-Johnson & Dr Arine Kuyler – University of South Africa  Facilitator: Boniswa Gquma-Lisa (CECD)
15h50 - 16h15	Conference Closure - Dr Linda Bosman (SARAECE) & Prof Eric Atmore (CECD)			
	<b>Tea Break</b>			