



THE WESTERN CAPE CEREBRAL PALSY ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL REPORT 2024/25

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Chairman's Report

Dear Stakeholders,

I am honored to present the Western Cape Cerebral Palsy Association's annual report for the 2024/25 financial year. As Chairperson, I am proud to reflect on our achievements and progress toward empowering individuals with cerebral palsy.

Overview of the year's achievements:

As we reflect on the past year, we acknowledge the challenges we faced due to vacancies in key positions. Despite these challenges, our team demonstrated remarkable resilience and dedication, ensuring the continuity of our vital services and support to our beneficiaries. We are pleased to report that our efforts yielded a clean audit, a testament to our team's hard work and commitment.

We extend our gratitude to Mrs. Fatima Shaboodien, who played a crucial role as interim coordinator during this period, providing invaluable support and guidance. As we welcome our newly appointed coordinator and bid farewell to Mrs. Shaboodien, we wish them both the best on their new journeys and have every confidence in their and this organization's future success.

Progress toward goals and objectives:

We have made progress toward our strategic goals and objectives, including:

- Continuing to provide comprehensive services, such as daily educational and learning programs, vocational and skills training, independent skills training, awareness-raising on disability and community issues, social work, therapeutic interventions, transport, and family support and counseling.
- Empowering staff to address daily challenges and promoting good governance administration through the implementation of new governance rules and standard operating procedures.
- Successfully pilot and implement standard operating procedures at the Village Work Centre, which will be rolled out across the organisation.
- Upgrading strategic infrastructure, such as ablution facilities at De Heide and the Village Work Centre, to support our service delivery objectives.
- Fostering strong stakeholder relationships through continuous engagement with donors, funders, sponsors, board members, and staff, demonstrating our commitment to transparency and accountability.
- Delivering our flagship specialized care clinic at Red Cross Children's Hospital, which has been running successfully for many years, and exploring opportunities to expand this initiative to other hospitals, such as Tygerberg Hospital.

These achievements demonstrate our investment in people, processes, practices, and infrastructure, displaying good governance and asset management practices while striving for best practices.

Challenges and lessons learned:

The past year has presented challenges, including vacancies in key positions, which have impacted on our business operations. However, we have learned valuable lessons about the importance of succession planning, staff retention, and adaptability in the face of adversity. We have conducted interviews for the vacant positions and are working to fill these critical roles. Additionally, the Department of Social Development's budget cuts due to austerity measures have required us to do more with less, but we have successfully addressed key issues without compromising our services.



Future outlook:

As we look to the future, we remain committed to our mission and vision. We will continue to advocate for the rights and needs of individuals with cerebral palsy, while exploring innovative solutions to address emerging challenges.

Our priorities will include:

- Strengthening our staffing and leadership capacity to ensure continuity and stability.
- Expanding our services and support to meet the growing needs of our beneficiaries.
- Building partnerships and collaborations to amplify our impact.
- Continuous review and monitoring of our processes and implementing improvement actions to ensure efficiency and effectiveness.
- Regular maintenance to ensure we adhere to the Occupational Health and Safety Standards.
- Upgrading degrading infrastructure to support service delivery objectives subject to the availability of funds, capacity, and resources.

By focusing on these priorities, we aim to continue providing high-quality services and support to individuals with cerebral palsy, while exploring innovative solutions to address emerging challenges.

Appreciation and acknowledgments:

I would like to express my gratitude to our stakeholders, including all employees, centre managers, board members, and partners, for their tireless efforts and dedication to our cause. Your support and commitment have been invaluable, and we are grateful for your continued partnership.

We are also thankful for the support of our sponsors, funders, trusts, governmental departments, and donors who have enabled us to make a meaningful difference in the lives of our beneficiaries.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Sincerely,

Mogamat Noor Osman

Chairperson, Western Cape Cerebral Palsy Association



WESTERN CAPE CEREBRAL PALSY ASSOCIATION BOARD:

Chairperson:

Mogamat Noor Osman

Vice-Chairperson:

Keith Dreyer

Treasurer:

Jenny Alexander

Members:

Aniel Jeaven, Mandy Newmar
John Zuyl



Navigating Services And Support with Limited Funding

NPO's have long been recognised for their vital contribution in delivering services through social value creations. They also focus on gaps in society that are not addressed by the government.

There is a notable increase in the number of NPO's arising, resulting in many NPO's being faced with resource scarcity in various degrees and proportions. Despite the government's commitment to mobilise efforts, resources, strategies to implement the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, budget cuts to vital services leaves a serious risk to undermining progress towards achieving those SDGs.

It is within this context that the Western Cape Cerebral Palsy Association found itself having to continue to strengthen its support and services to one of the most vulnerable groups in our society, people with Cerebral Palsy, intellectual, physical and other disabilities.

Inevitably further funding cuts impacted on sustainable growth and strengthening of services. The safety net of essential services it supports was placed under further threat along with the rising costs of basic necessities. Whilst we remain fragile, the WCCPA continued to play a significant role in the service delivery arena through continued direct support and services to people with disabilities and their families. We recognise the need to remain proactive and ensure that we remain relevant and strong. Recognising that our needs were evolving, our obstacles increasing, together with a changing landscape, we focused our energies on the basic needs of all our projects and service users ensuring that the quality of services met high governance and compliance standards.

The organisation continued various intersectoral platforms to actively advocate for inequalities and discrimination that people with disabilities are faced with daily. We continued to keep the government accountable to their failures in meeting constitutional obligations, which impacted on the rights of persons with disabilities.

Despite considerable adversity, the WCCPA has continued to show resilience, commitment to hard work and continued our efforts to serve our communities. The WCCPA used their existing expertise and capabilities in effective ways. Although funding has decreased, the demand for NPO services continue to increase. It is important to note that although services were offered with less funding, it should not be assumed that NPO's can do with less.

In conclusion, the WCCPA underscores the critical importance of sustained and increased government commitments to vital services offered by NPO's. We believe, this could mitigate many of the challenges faced daily by people with disabilities and their families.

" To deny people their human rights, is to challenge their very humanity "

Nelson Mandela



Fowzia Achmat

The Western Cape Cerebral Palsy Association Board of Management mourns the loss of a longstanding colleague anti-apartheid activist and community development cadre, Ms Fowzia Achmat.

Favourably known to many as " Ma Achmat" she was first introduced to the world of disability through her assistance with all operations at Rosedon House, a residential facility for people with Cerebral Palsy, Intellectual and physical Disabilities. Subsequently, she served on the Rosedon House sub-committee where she was later recruited onto the Western Cape Cerebral Palsy Association Board of Management.

In her last three years of her life, she was appointed interim co-ordinator of the WCCPA until her death in 2024 .

With a background in community development, it placed her in good standing to assist and advise on many of the social and community issues that arose through the years. She placed all her energies into improving the lives of the most vulnerable. Always respectful ,attentive ,unselfishly shared her experiences, knowledge and expertise. Always concerned about her fellow colleagues and the service users. She managed her responsibilities with much integrity, humility and humanity.

Always in our hearts

Hamba Kahle Ma Achmat





The WCCPA Projects and Services

Cultivating teamwork and collaboration with all our staff members and service users at all the WCCPA projects remains essential. It gives way to maximum impact, achieving objectives and strengthening collective relationships. With limited resources, collective collaboration enables diverse perspectives to come together, problem solve and seek solutions. At all the projects, the focus is on quality of care, education and training, sharing knowledge, implementing practises, health, psychosocial and rehabilitative interventions that are appropriate to the diverse needs of those we serve.

Social Work Services

Social Work services play an important role. at the Western Cape Cerebral Palsy Association. They form part of a multidisciplinary team and render services to improve the overall functioning and wellbeing of persons. with cerebral palsy and other disabilities. All these services are compliant with the relevant legislation and guided by norms and standards developed for the sector.

Social Work Supervisor:
Belinda Lewendal

11 First Avenue, Claremont,
021 683 1300



De Heide Children's Special Care Centre

A Special Care Centre for 28 children and adults with severe to profound multiple disabilities. A daily interactive care and education learning programme is provided alongside individual therapeutic interventions, staff and parent support.



40 Years of Excellence



De Heide Special Care proudly celebrated there 40 years of excellent services to children and adults with profound and severe multiple disabilities. On the 23 November 2024, the founding members came together at De Heide SCC to honour the stalwarts and pioneers and celebrate their efforts in ensuring that De Heide began with a solid foundation. It was a very proud moment with much reminiscence. They were very proud of what De Heide had achieved. Much thanks, appreciation and love to all our special founders. We pay homage to all those that were part of the pioneers and who sadly have passed away.
Mrs Bella Israle, Mr Michael Fig, Mrs Gairoo Essop, Mr Clifford Martin, Mr Ken Coetzee (WCCPA Members).
Mr Gary Kerr, Mr Errol M Crae, (De Heide Sub-committee)

Principal:
Mrs. Fatima Shaboodien

11 Second Avenue, Claremont,
021 683 5470



info@wccpa.org

Cerebral Palsy Clinic

The Western Cape Cerebral Palsy Association in partnership with Red Cross Children's hospital provides specialized medical and therapeutic services to children with Cerebral Palsy. The clinic adopts a multi-disciplinary approach to treatment, where the children are encouraged to reach their full potential. Here, early intervention is critical, hence it is important that families have access to these treatments and therapies. Additionally, the transfer of skills and management of the child with Cerebral Palsy, their wellbeing and quality of life, becomes crucial for the families.

021 683 1300



The Village Work Centre

A Skills Training Work Centre for 85 adults with disabilities. The workers participate in protected contract work using a graded training system to meet the individual functional needs of each worker. A life skills programme is offered alongside the work activities programme.

Centre Manager:

Bilquees Darries:

11 First Avenue, Claremont,

021 683 1300

The Village Work Centre – Woodwork Section

The Woodwork Section provides young adults with Intellectual Disabilities the opportunity to acquire skills within a structured environment. Under the supervision of the Manager, many wooden items are created through a simplified and graded skills programme. The task of seeking new contracts will always continue, along with constant upskilling for service users to meet the required operational standards.

Wooden items are displayed and sold from the shop on the premises

Manager:

Wayne Kleinsmidt:

11 First Avenue, Claremont,

021 683 1300



Rosedon House Residential Facility

A residential facility for 53 adults with Cerebral Palsy and additional disabilities. A supervised living skills programme that provides opportunities for continued adult education in daily life skills, thus encouraging independence. Furthermore, as the adults reach old age and become frail, additional carer support and assistive devices is provided.

Facility Manager:

Dianne Fernandes

11 Rosedon Road, Rondebosch

021 696 2042

Acknowledgements

We wish to thank all contributors whose financial support, donations-in-kind and voluntary services during the past year enabled us to provide vital services to adults and children with cerebral palsy

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Department of Health
Department of Social Development
Western Cape Education Department -
resources and equipment

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BETTER TOGETHER.



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