At the time of printing this Annual Report the government had just declared a National State of Disaster: COVID-19 (coronavirus).

We envisage the weeks and months ahead will present challenges, not least for those 54 compromised communities in which we work to improve day-care conditions for over 12 000 pre-school children who are fed and cared for on a daily basis.

We look forward to your continued and loyal support as we determine the type of support they will need and on which they desperately depend.

Thank you

March 2020
MISSION

Our Mission is to provide relevant training and mentoring that empowers informal crèche owners and ECD practitioners to provide safe and stimulating places of care.

VISION

Our Vision is that every child has access to quality pre-school education in their community, to meet all their nutritional and development needs.
Strong and solid foundations are the bedrock for building a progressive society, and none more important than in the education of our children.

EDUCATION OPENS DOORS

For countless parents, their belief is that Grade 12 results alone will do this. Each year we know of families anxiously awaiting their loved one’s matric results. What is rarely considered at this time is the significant impact the educare, received during that child’s first 1000 days, had on their later academic performance.

Good nutrition, access to effective health services, intellectual stimulation, physical and emotional security and the quality of parental relationships combine to play an essential role in an effective early childhood ecosystem. It is all about ensuring that in their first two years our children are given a solid foundation for a fair chance in life.

While making sure our children are well supported to achieve a good, school-leaving pass there is an equal imperative to ensure excellence in their early childhood development (ECD) experiences.

NUMBER OF CHILDREN IMPACTED PER ANNUM

![Diagram showing the number of children impacted per annum from 2014 to 2019.]

- 5400 in 2014
- 8400 in 2015
- 6400 in 2016
- 9800 in 2017
- 10000 in 2018
- 12000 in 2019
At the Early Care Foundation (ECF) we are fully committed to improving access to quality support services in the early stages of a child’s life no matter the income level of parents. Our programmes are aimed at ensuring that practitioners who work with pre-school children, both in rural and urban settings, have the knowledge and skills to make these early years count.

**GEOGRAPHICAL REACH**

Our work is fully aligned with national government’s objectives for improving access to early years support programmes and we are proud that during 2018 we extended the geographical reach of ECF’s programmes to a fourth province of South Africa, the Western Cape.

Within the next two years we intend responding to numerous invitations from other ECD Forums by initiating projects in at least two other provinces.

**SUPPORT PROGRAMMES**

Making for the success of our work is a team of highly professional trainers and field workers who are supported by a multidisciplinary team of central office colleagues. All are driven by the knowledge that in harnessing the positive energies of the communities in which we work we will make the greatest impact in ensuring universal access to quality early years opportunities. Collaboration is key and plans are in place to partner with similar, like-minded organisations. Such cooperative partnerships will allow us to extend our reach within communities, further understanding their needs and boosting the efforts of the project partners.
ACCREDITATION REQUIREMENTS

Whilst expansion is important, we must never lose sight of one of our core focuses, equity of access, as outlined in the National Integrated Early Childhood Policy. Not just in quality of services and care but in provision of training and development opportunities for men and women, already providing a great service, stimulating young minds and nurturing our children. To this end we have realigned our tried and tested skills programmes to meet accreditation requirements for both the Quality Council for Trades and Occupations (QCTO) and the ETDP SETA. In the year ahead we will be opening registrations for the QCTO Level 4 full qualification courses.

SUCCESSFUL ENTREPRENEURS

We are justly proud of how far our practitioners have come since our early days and the vital role they play in children’s lives. Today, many are not only able to successfully run their own ECF centres, they can also hold their heads high in their communities as successful entrepreneurs and respected business people.

Whilst it will take many years to fully recover from the wrongs and inequality our country has known, our dark past should starkly contrast with our bright future, breaking the cycle of inter-generational poverty that has crippled our people, ensuring every child can rise above their circumstances, to learn, grow and to thrive is a vision that continues to lead the Early Care Foundation into the future.
A PRE-SCHOOL VISIT

Being a board member of ECF does not simply mean attending meetings and charting the organisation's path to the future; it also means gaining a real understanding of the organisation's work and meeting its beneficiaries. This includes the attending certification ceremonies for practitioners completing their ECF training courses and visiting them at their pre-schools. It is extraordinary what women, with support and training can do. They create special learning spaces from nothing, they nurture and develop children in a caring, healthy, safe environment. This is so evident in the bright, energetic, curious, confident and joyful youngsters who populate the ECF associated centres.

“Early childhood development is the most powerful investment in human capital that a country can make.”

- James Heckman, Nobel Prize Winner for Economic Sciences
The Early Care Foundation Board of Trustees is responsible for governance and compliance with all legislation, as well as providing strategic guidance and oversight that is in the best interests of the Trust.
NATIONAL ADVISORY BOARD

The Early Care Foundation's Development Boards are composed of panels of specialists who provide sectoral knowledge and support to the organisation at strategic and operational levels.

THE ECF STAFF

Under the leadership of the Director, The ECF’s management team works with ten field staff members to improve the pre-school conditions for over 10 000 children annually.
As we celebrate our 10th anniversary of active citizenry in Early Childhood Development (ECD) it is opportune to reflect on our journey of growth in the sector.

**INFORMAL CRÈCHES**

Soon after operationalising the Early Care Foundation (ECF) in 2009, Trustees and management became more conscious of informal crèches mushrooming in some of the poorest areas of South Africa.

Most were run by women whose own education had been cut short by circumstance. At that time some pre-schools survived but many soon closed due to poor management or were shut down by authorities concerned for the children’s safety. This left millions of vulnerable children unsupervised and with no access to safe and stimulating places of care.

"The decision was easy."

It was an easy decision. Going forward the organization would focus its energies on understanding the needs of this sector to offer support to the women who had seen opportunity in start-up businesses that cared for pre-school children.

**FOCUSING ON THE INFORMAL SECTOR**

In the intervening years Early Care Foundation has remained true to its focus on the informal sector and built an enviable reputation for accountability and delivery as we work in support of the National Policy for Early Childhood Development.
DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES

We developed our early skills training programmes conscious that many of the women in the sector were unable to cope with the demands of Level 4 being offered by other NGOs and colleges. Our niche remains the pre-Matric level which differentiates us from most other organisations. Over the years we have refined the courses and today we offer a comprehensive continuum of nationally accredited training programmes and short skills’ courses.

PACKAGE FOR SMALL BUSINESSES

Our intervention is best described as an incubation package for small businesses in ECD. The goal is to help owners and practitioners acquire the knowledge and skills needed to run sustainable small businesses which are fully registered by the various authorities and receiving a State subsidy to help with the children’s nutrition and employment opportunities for practitioners.

THE RESULTS

In the last decade, our team of experts has worked with 905 ECD centres and trained 1 373 underqualified practitioners, giving them the opportunity to reclaim their right to a career. In turn our work has had an impact on an estimated 36 200 children.

These children have flourished in their pre-schools where practitioners apply the Early Care model of play-based learning in a safe, familiar environment. Here the daily programmes offer the structure of routine and repetition on which children thrive and are best prepared for the formalities of primary school.

Early Care Foundation beneficiaries reached 2009 - 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>997</th>
<th>1495</th>
<th>34 000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ECD Centres impacted</td>
<td>ECD Practitioners trained</td>
<td>Children were impacted</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Early Care Foundation has once again had a full year of activities in 2019. There are numerous measures of these actions. However, below are some of the highlights and key indicators of the organisation’s work during the year.

GEOGRAPHIC FOOTPRINT

As indicated in previous Annual Reports the Early Care Foundation continues to expand its footprint into new areas and communities. It is active in large parts of Gauteng, with operations in the North West province and the Western Cape.

PROVINCES AND MUNICIPAL AREAS

GAUTENG
- Ekurhuleni Municipality (68 centres)
- Tshwane Municipality (55 centres)
- City of Johannesburg (80 centres)

NORTH-WEST
- Bojanala Platinum District Municipality (26 centres)

WESTERN CAPE
- Stellenbosch Municipality (22 centres)

ACTIVE PROJECTS IN 2019

The Early Care Foundation carried out projects in 3 provinces involving 28 different communities.
TRAINING SITES AND TRAINEES

In 2019, the Foundation had 203 sites involved in its programmes (183 in 2018). Of the 203 sites, 58 were established sites where training was continuing from projects initiated before 2019, and 195 were new sites involved for the first time in 2019.

This resulted in the training in 301 ECD practitioners (250 in 2018), comprising 166 site heads, 98 practitioners and 15 day mothers.

PROGRAMMES

Early Care Foundation’s three core training and mentoring programmes can be summarised as follows:

The C.A.R.E. Programme creates an environment conducive to the proper care of children, including ECD, basic hygiene, childcare, nutrition, and the centre’s daily management. It aims to ensure that pre-schools are registered and eligible for government child-care grants.

The Child Development Programme (EDTP SETA accredited) which is child-centred and looks in detail at the child’s development and learning, physical, social and emotional and cognitive development.

The organisation also runs a number of ancillary courses such as the Day Mother Programme. It is a short, skills programme run over 13 days. It targets unemployed women to start a home-based caregiving service for up to six babies, toddlers or young children.

During 2019, The Early Care Foundation delivered CARE Programmes to 194 trainees, Money Management Programmes to 5 participants and Child Development Programmes to 60 trainees through its various projects. In addition, the Foundation’s facilitators carried out 658 site-visits to mentor, support and assess the implementation of training of course participants in their pre-schools and their classrooms.
IMPACT

In 2019, the Early Care Foundation has worked in 203 pre-schools with 264 site heads and practitioners, and 15 day mothers which impacted upon 10 800 pre-school children.

Its programmes have opened the doors to quality educare and ECD to these children and transformed childcare centres into emergent pre-school. The Foundation’s interaction with other site staff at these centres has also **positively impacted upon 759** other employees at the sites. This is because other practitioners not directly involved in the Foundation’s programmes, as well as childminders and ancillary workers at the sites became involved in improving the pre-school environments for learning and development; making them safer and more hygienic; and providing appropriate nutrition for the children in their care.

It is estimated that over 15 000 parents and guardians can now leave their children at these pre-schools under vastly improved conditions of safety, security, health and well-being, in the knowledge that their children are receiving quality, age appropriate ECD.

DEMOGRAPHICS – AGE DISTRIBUTION

As in previous assessments the age distribution of ECF programme participants remains fairly constant. The latest assessment shows that **35% of trainees are aged between 20-39 years, 55% between 40-59 year, and 10% are older than 60 years of age.**

There is obviously a substantial group of younger women currently working in the early childcare and ECD sectors. However, the government’s recent changes of focus in education towards early care and ECD, coupled to the changes to the formal qualification barriers to involvement in these sectors have significantly changed the environment in these sectors. Although, these changes will undoubtedly take time to gain traction, the ECF expects that even more young women will choose formal careers in these sectors.

EARLY CARE TRAINING CENTRE

As a result, the organisation has established an Early Care Training Centre. The organisation anticipates that there will be many school leavers who will be keen to transition to tertiary education and long-term careers in this sector. Currently, the younger participants in ECF’s programmes are already involved in early care sites. In contrast, this centre will cater to a new group, which will not necessarily already be employed at ECD sites.
REGISTRATIONS IN 2019

A fundamental aim of the Early Care Foundation model is to facilitate a process where emergent pre-schools register with the various government and municipal authorities to become formal entities that meet the set standards and are eligible to apply for childcare and other grants.

In 2019, the Foundation’s sites had 228 NPO registrations, 28 Department of Health registrations and 17 Department of Social Services registrations.

There is much ongoing work still to be done in this arena. However, there are many sites which are compliant with the set criteria that are awaiting visits and inspection by the authorities to receive their certificates of compliance or registrations.

LOOKING TO 2020

As the Early Care Foundation moves into 2020, there are undoubtedly challenges, but also multiple opportunities.

There are expectations of opening increasing numbers of field projects in existing and new provinces, and setting up a dedicated Early Care Training Centre of Excellence in Johannesburg.

These developments provide the potential of significantly increasing the numbers of new participants in its interventions. Most importantly though, it has a role to play in the delivery of the new QCTO Level 4 practitioners’ qualifications. The Foundation received an accreditation as a Level 4 delivery service delivery agency in 2018, which means that all its future course participants will gain access to formal qualifications at the entry level to the ECD sector.
In January 2018, the Early Care Foundation began its first project in the Western Cape, in the Stellenbosch District. The project was made possible with a grant from the GENESIS Charitable Trust, an international donor based in the United Kingdom.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

With the involvement of local community structures, the GENESIS Winelands Community Development Programme was launched. It is a three-year (pilot) programme and the Early Care Foundation’s first foray to the opposite end of the country. It provided the organization with an opportunity to test its Community Development Model in a completely new area with different cultural and socio-economic conditions.

The project’s objective was to run a three-year Early Childhood Development (ECD) project in 25 informal pre-schools in the environs of Stellenbosch Municipality. The vision was to make the pre-schools the nexus of a programme that would have a positive impact on the socio-economic circumstances of employees and families associated with a group of selected childcare centres.
This project has allowed the Early Care Foundation to establish its activities in the area. It has been able to run its core programmes for participants and to facilitate the registration of formal pre-schools which are eligible for state child-care grants; as well as establishing sustainable small businesses creating jobs within these impoverished semi-rural farming communities.

GREAT OPPORTUNITIES

By the end of 2018, the project had achieved considerable traction. It is continuing and is currently active in 22 informal ECD sites, working with 22 site managers and 14 trainee ECD practitioners; and improving the early care opportunities for over 750 children from 0 – 6 years of age.

During the year, the project participants completed the Foundation’s CARE programme. Each participant received 13 days of face-to-face classroom-based tuition, complemented with 82 post-training mentoring visits to participants in their classrooms. These on-site visits are fundamental to all Early Care programmes.

They are designed to build the participants confidence, reinforce classroom learning and ensuring the appropriate implementation of theory at their ECD centres. The on-site visits to centres also provide indirect benefits for other child-minders, kitchen staff and ancillaries at the sites.
LOCAL ASSISTANCE

It is notable that the project has been well received by local structures. The Stellenbosch Municipality and Department of Social Development have come forward to assist in the registration of pre-schools to expedite their access to child-care grants. In addition, local organisations such as Ranyaka, Little Libraries and Breadline Africa are assisting various sites to access resources and build infrastructure, which will help them to register and become eligible for government grants.

SEASONAL IMPACTS

The Early Care Foundation has found cultural and socio-economic differences compared with other parts of the country, but none are significant enough to modify its programme design. The communities in the area suffer from the same problems as many other impoverished communities; characterized by unemployment, lack of education, few resources, poor service delivery, substance abuse and family violence.

However, there is one major difference in the area, which is seasonal work opportunities. These are the annual harvesting and tourist seasons. During these times many of the centres are short staffed as centre workers find casual work as pickers or in the tourist trade. These seasonal forms of employment offer the centre workers better remuneration than the child-care sites. This effect the timing of the delivery of training. However, more seriously, it impacts upon the provision of quality ECD, and childcare suffers during these periods. The Early Care Foundation is devising strategies to counter this problem in the short term. However, in the longer term the solution is to develop the pre-schools into small businesses that can pay their employees more than they could earn through casual labour. It is anticipated that as these pre-schools develop and become eligible for childcare grants, and as they grow and deliver quality ECD fees will increase to a point where viable, sustainable small business can pay regular salaries to full-time employees.
The African Self-Help Association (ASHA) Trust is established.

Development of ECD training programmes:
- 2014: Child Development Programme Accredited with ETDP SETA.

Independent evaluation of programmes:
- 2016: Independent evaluation of programmes.

Level 3 ECD NQF curriculum submitted to QCTO:
- 2018: Level 3 ECD NQF curriculum submitted to QCTO.

ASHA Trust becomes Early Care Foundation:
- 2018: ASHA Trust becomes Early Care Foundation.

The Early Care Foundation goes National:
- 2019: The Early Care Foundation goes National.

The ECF Centre of Excellence Training Centre Established:
- 2019: The ECF Centre of Excellence Training Centre Established.

ECF receives donations for Training Centre:
- 2018: ECF receives donations for Training Centre.

Registered as a training service provider for ECD Level 4:
- 2018: Registered as a training service provider for ECD Level 4.

Participated on the Level 3 ECD NQF curriculum working committee:
- 2017: Participated on the Level 3 ECD NQF curriculum working committee.

The ECF Centre of Excellence Training Centre Established:
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Child Development Programme Accredited with ETDP SETA:
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- 2018: Registered as a training service provider for ECD Level 4.

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- 2017: Participated on the Level 3 ECD NQF curriculum working committee.

The ECF Centre of Excellence Training Centre Established:
- 2019: The ECF Centre of Excellence Training Centre Established.

Child Development Programme Accredited with ETDP SETA:
- 2014: Child Development Programme Accredited with ETDP SETA.

African Self-Help Association (ASHA) Trust is established:
# Financial Report

**Year end**
31 March 2019.

## Statement of Income

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2019</th>
<th>%</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Interest and dividends</td>
<td>848</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>605</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donations</td>
<td>8,542</td>
<td>91</td>
<td>5,779</td>
<td>91</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total income</strong></td>
<td><strong>9,390</strong></td>
<td><strong>100</strong></td>
<td><strong>6,384</strong></td>
<td><strong>100</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Expenses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expenses</th>
<th>2019</th>
<th>%</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Training and Incubation Projects</td>
<td>4,860</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>3,575</td>
<td>56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Learning and Development Programmes</td>
<td>843</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>447</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>External Evaluation</td>
<td>309</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>279</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insurance - fixed assets</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sub-total: project expenses</strong></td>
<td><strong>6,064</strong></td>
<td><strong>65</strong></td>
<td><strong>4,337</strong></td>
<td><strong>68</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Admin and operational overheads</td>
<td>2,108</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>1,119</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sub-total: expenses excl depreciation</strong></td>
<td><strong>8,172</strong></td>
<td><strong>87</strong></td>
<td><strong>5,456</strong></td>
<td><strong>85</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Depreciation</td>
<td>1,017</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total expenses</strong></td>
<td><strong>9,190</strong></td>
<td><strong>98</strong></td>
<td><strong>5,480</strong></td>
<td><strong>86</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Operating Surplus                      | 200        | 2    | 904        | 14   |

Note: These accounts are an extracted summary from the Auditors Report signed off by HARRIS DOWDEN & FONTAINE CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS (SA) for the 2019 financial year. A full copy of these statements is available on request from https://earlycarefoundation.org/
## BALANCE SHEET

### ASSETS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2019</th>
<th>2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fixed assets</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investments</td>
<td>16,440</td>
<td>7,372</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>16,474</strong></td>
<td><strong>7,377</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### EQUITY AND LIABILITIES:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2019</th>
<th>2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Accounts payable</td>
<td>655</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sustainability Fund*</td>
<td>4,621</td>
<td>4,598</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donor funds held over</td>
<td>8,428</td>
<td>6,792</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accumulated Operating Surplus</td>
<td>2,770</td>
<td>2,570</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total equity and liabilities</strong></td>
<td><strong>16,474</strong></td>
<td><strong>13,995</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*At the end March 2015 an amount of R3.5 million was transferred from reserves to the newly created Sustainability Fund. The first, and most important objective, is to build the fund to a level where an income stream from the fund can run Early Care Foundation’s operations thus removing or at least lessening reliance upon donors. The second purpose is a source of savings to ensure sustainability of the organisation in the unlikely event of it being financially overwhelmed by a catastrophic event.
A NEW HYPOTHETICAL MODEL

If both effects are combined into a new hypothetical model a third effect, the accumulative effect manifests. Importantly, this model is theoretical and not empirical. It is a simple approximation of the effect, tempered by the realism of practice.

THE POTENTIAL

The model assumes that ECF trained child-care centres have the potential to become pre-schools enterprises offering employment to six community members. Furthermore, it assumes the ECF programmes allow for a practitioner in each pre-school to be trained annually with the potential to start a new school. It is also assumed that each practitioner impacts on 20 children per annum.
**THE RESULTS**

The diagram illustrates a process where a child-care centre is transformed into Pre-school #1, and the principal and one practitioner are trained. The centre becomes a formal pre-school employing 6 people (a site head, 3 practitioners and 2 ancillaries) and benefiting 60 children. If the ECD practitioner from Pre-school #1 initiates Pre-school #2. Provided that both pre-schools have one practitioner in training every year, the multiplier effects is initiated. So, by year three the first two pre-schools, have developed new practitioners who can start pre-schools #3 and #4. In this way, the pre-schools enterprises grow to four, accumulatively providing 26 jobs and providing ECD for 260 children. Continuation of the process over time provides a potential to grow to 8, then 16, then 32 and so on, as descendants of the original school. If this multiplier process carries on for 10 years, the residual effect comes into play and the accumulative effect is evident. Its results are quite dramatic and generate large numbers of formal pre-schools, small businesses, job opportunities and impacts upon early learners.

**THE SUCCESS**

Obviously, this model is an oversimplification and would not run perfectly over time. There would be dropouts, trainees not opening new pre-schools; slower than predicted growth in some schools; some ventures would undoubtedly fail; and areas could fulfil their need for ECD. However, even with a 50 to 75% success rate the model still has the potential to boost the ECD sector by producing large numbers of sustainable pre-schools enterprises, creating jobs and providing thousands of children with quality childhood development.

**THE NEED**

Such an accumulative model must have merit in the country with about 3.5 million youngsters not enrolled in early childhood care centres. Requiring nearly 90 000 properly resourced pre-schools and over 450 000 additional competent ECD practitioners to facilitate their development. The ECF aspires to perfect this model to its fullest potential in communities where it is desperately needed.
The 2016 Annual Report outlined the results of the first phase of an evaluation carried out by Eric Schollar and Associates on the impact of the Early Care Foundation’s interventions on pre-schools over time. Amongst others this research indicated that participating pre-schools displayed:

**GROWTH RATES**

Cumulative growth rates of 12.1% in learners, lowering teacher to pupil ratios; and 35.3% growth in the number of practitioners in the pre-schools illustrating the job creation potential of the organisation’s model.

**INvolvement**

Participants overwhelmingly reported that involvement with Early Care Foundation (ECF) training and mentoring programmes had significantly enhanced their skills set; and improved the infrastructure and function of their pre-schools to levels where parents were prepared to pay increased fees to enrol their children in these centres.

**Still operational**

Over 95% of pre-schools involved in the organisation’s interventions were still operating in the decade since its inception.
The study concluded that ECF was delivering a proven, significant scale of well-managed and consistent programmes; and that in the opinion of Schollar and Associates that ‘there is ample evidence to justify the continuation and extension of the ECF programme to an increasing number of schools’.

THE ECF PRE-SCHOOLS WERE RATED AS:

9% ‘excellent ‘or ‘very good’; and 61% ‘good’, which is a significant achievement considering the communities where these pre-schools are situated.

EFFECTIVE PROGRAMMES

The study concluded that ECF was delivering a proven, significant scale of well-managed and consistent programmes; and that in the opinion of Schollar and Associates that ‘there is ample evidence to justify the continuation and extension of the ECF programme to an increasing number of schools’.

In 2019, the Early Care Foundation will embark upon phase three of this evaluation by Eric Schollar and Associates, to apply a rigorous longitudinal evaluation of the outcomes and impacts of the organisation’s programmes on youngsters who have attended early care and ECD at its pre-schools.
The Early Care Foundation welcomes all donations large and small. Just look at the difference your contribution could make.

Please visit our website to find out how to make a contribution now.

www.earlycarefoundation.org
The 2019 Annual Report has brought you stories to show how together we have made change happen and how the right amount of money, given at the right time, has made a real difference to the quality of life for women and children in Challenged communities. We make sure that your donation works hard to achieve the maximum possible benefit for the projects and communities it supports.

If you would like to donate but are not sure how, we have a number of different options.

**THE EARLY CARE FOUNDATION PROJECTS FUND**
You can either make a once off or regular donation to The Early Care Foundation’s Projects Fund. This fund has distributed R16 million to over 900 projects in the last five years.

**TAX EFFICIENT GIVING**
The Early Care Foundation is registered with SARS as a Public Benefit Organisation and will issue an 18A tax receipt for all donations received. Individuals and companies can obtain tax relief on donations made to The Early Care Foundation.

**THE EARLY CARE SUSTAINABILITY FUND**
To ensure the organisation’s longevity, we are building a Sustainability Fund. It is ring-fenced to build an investment from which interest will cover The Early Care Foundation’s operations expenses. This will provide financial independence and make the organisation less reliant on donor funding in years to come. We welcome all contributions large and small to help us build the fund.

**BBBEE OPPORTUNITIES FOR DONORS**
The Early Care Foundation is a Level 2 contributor to BBBEE, an Exempted Micro Enterprise, and with 100% black women ownership. Early Care Foundation offers a number of attractive BBBEE opportunities to donors:

- Ownership
- Skills Development
- Socio-Economic Development

**LEGACIES**
By leaving a legacy to The Early Care Foundation you can specify the activities you want to support or you can leave the decision to us, safe in the knowledge that your gift will be effective and will make a difference year after year.

**TO FIND OUT MORE**
If you would like to know more, please contact our Director, Deirdre Caulwell, who is always happy to discuss how you can get involved. You can contact her on 011 463 0551 or email deirdre@earlycarefoundation.org. Alternatively, please visit the The Early Care Foundation website: www.earlycarefoundation.org for additional information on making a contribution to the The Early Care Foundation.
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Your contributions have been instrumental in helping us enrich and develop our programmes and organisational capacity.

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