

December 2019

QUARTERLY REPORT ***Khula Development Group***

We are grateful to be your partner in addressing the school drop-out issue that is hampering our children's future as well as the economy of SA. Herewith, our quarterly report.

Khula's mission is to reintegrate primary school children in poor and disadvantaged communities, at risk of dropping out, back into the school system.

Khula is currently active in 23 schools in 5 areas in and around Paarl and Stellenbosch in the Western Cape. The programmes of the organisation are managed from two branches, Paarl and Stellenbosch.

To accomplish the mission, the organisation runs four programmes:

- Reintegration of children – to promote regular school attendance by supporting absent, at-risk learners and their families
- In-school support – to provide basic foundation level academic and psychosocial support to reintegrated learners from grade R to grade 7
- Primary Caregivers – to encourage primary caregivers to accept the responsibility to ensure their children attend school every day
- SAgo2school – to promote a culture of regular school attendance and impart the value of education through child participation and community collaboration

TARGET GROUP

Various groups are targeted through different programmes:

- The Reintegration of children and In-school programmes target referred learners at risk of dropping out in primary schools
- The Primary Caregiver programme targets the primary caregivers of the referred learners of the reintegration programme

The SAgo2school programme targets the following groups:

- Learners from primary and secondary schools by way of child participation through mentoring
- Teachers through teacher appreciation events and selected teachers through the go2gether committee. At these committee meetings, best practice methods for the administration of attendance is discussed and agreed.
- The community through awareness campaigns and showcasing by Go-Go and Friends.

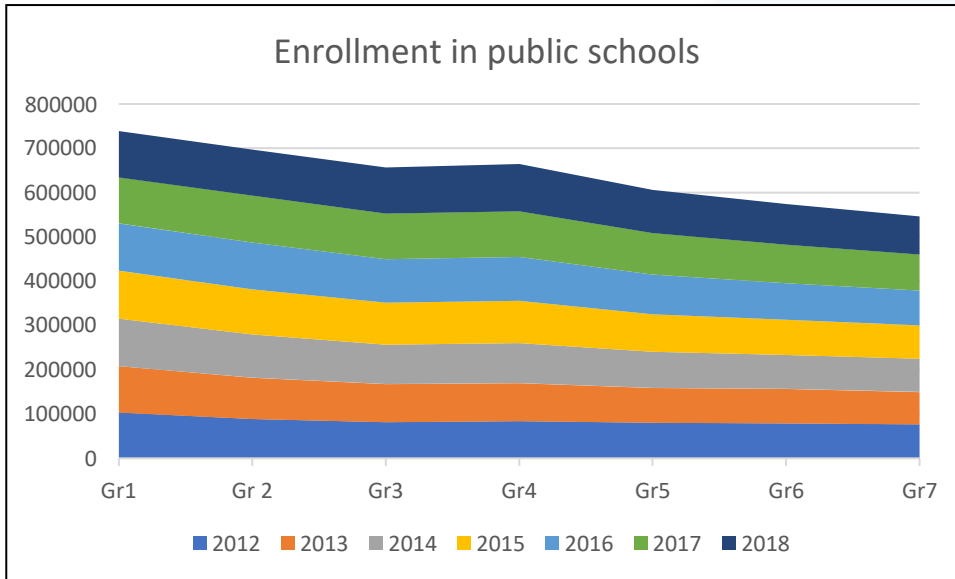
The current situation – South Africa

In SA, more than 600 000 children drop out of school over a 12-year cycle. These majority of these children become unemployable as they struggle to read and write. They become dependant on government grants to survive.

The problem is also showing in primary schools. From 2012 to 2018, 738 995 learners registered for Gr1. From 2012 to 2018 only 545 975 registered for Gr7. In this 7-year period, more than 193 000 primary school learners dropped out of the school system.

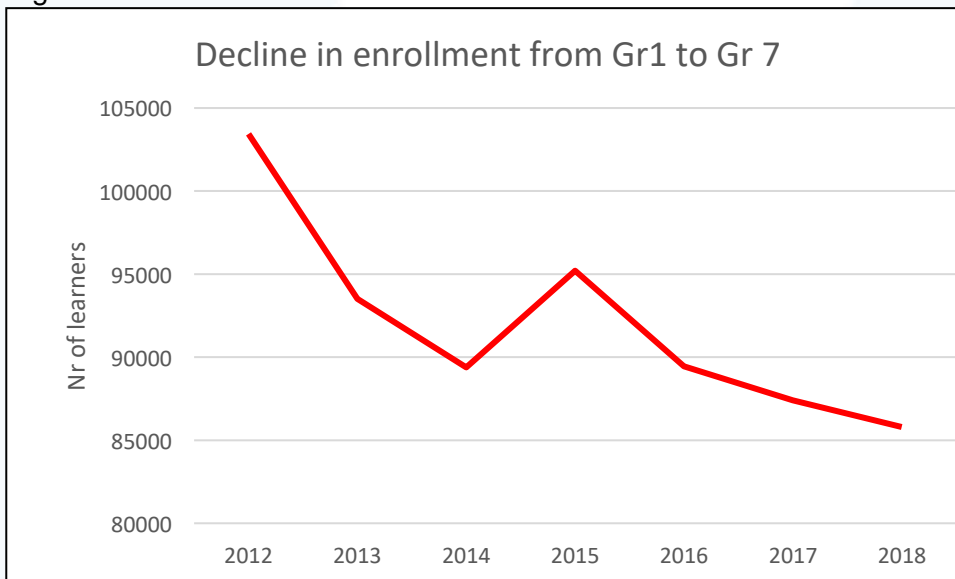


The graph shows the decline in registrations of learners from Gr1 to Gr7 in the Western Cape over a 7-year period.



Source: WCED Annual Report for 2018/19

In 2012, 103 444 learner's registers for Gr 1 but only 85 794 learners of those Gr1 learners registered for Gr7 in 2018. That is 17 650 learners less than started in Gr1.





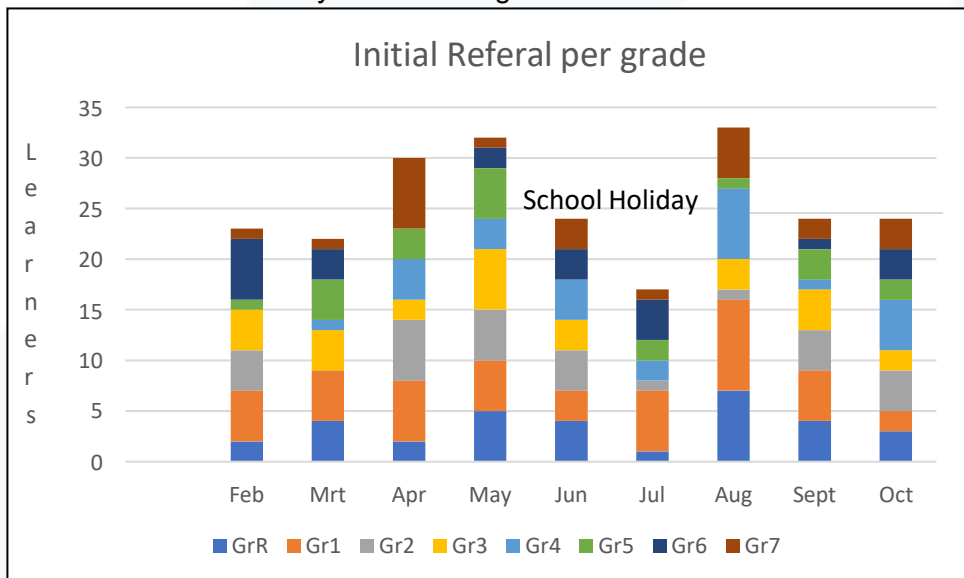
Reintegration

Khula's aim is to cultivate value for education starting in the primary schools. It is of the utmost importance that the parents and/or primary caregivers understand this value and impart it into their children.

The Khula fieldworkers face very challenging situations and issues in the communities. The increasing trend in drug abuse, child trafficking and total neglect of the children are just some of the issues.

Collaboration and networking with other organisations help to address some of the difficulties Khula face. It also improved the effectiveness of the organisations as information and support are better coordinated.

In the graph below it shows that the referrals from the schools are peaking in April, May and August. In June and July, we have holidays with lower referrals. Last year we experienced a higher referral rate from Gr 1's than any of the other grades.



Our statistics:

In Paarl and Simondium.

Total active cases:

570

Total Cases Closed:

195 of which

119 fully reintegrated

25 relocated

23 Dropped out

22 Services to school terminated

New referrals -

198

Family Conferences held -

79

Form 22's completed –

62

(the last resort when children are neglected)

External referrals to DCPO's -

117



Successful home visits -	3111
Unsuccessful home visits -	164
Joint Home Visits -	477
School Visits -	2486

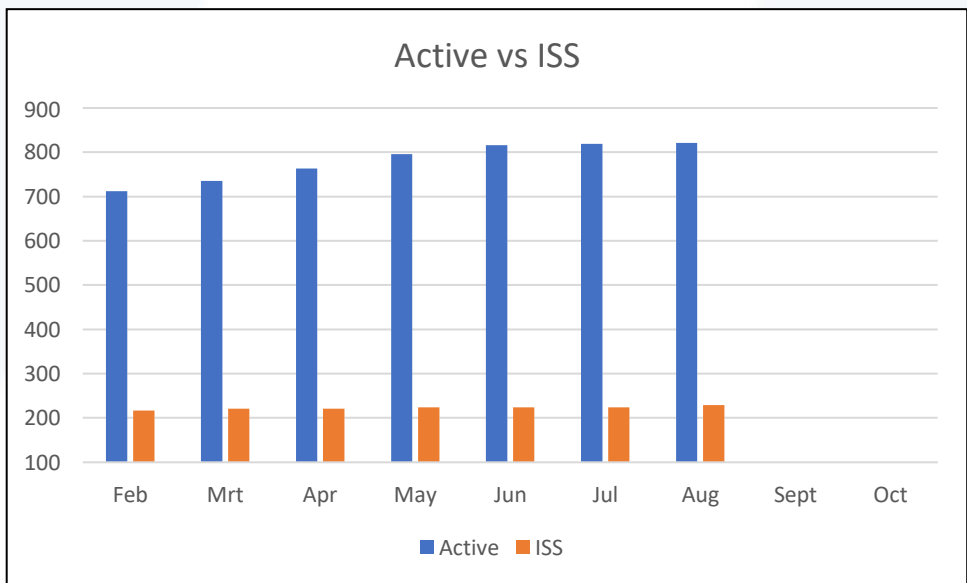
In Stellenbosch and Klapmuts.

Total active cases:	234		
Total Cases Closed:	24	of	which
	18	fully reintegrated	
	3	relocated	
	2	Dropped out	
	1	Services to school terminated	

New referrals -	65
Family Conferences held –	12
Form 22's completed –	29
(the last resort when children are neglected)	
External referrals to DCPO's -	10
Successful home visits -	1495
Unsuccessful home visits -	125
Joint Home Visits -	743
School Visits -	901

In-School Support Program (ISS program)

It will be a huge success if we were able to refer all reintegrated learners to the In-school support program. But, constraints and challenges re volunteers and facilities do prohibit us from seeing all the reintegrated learners. As seen in the graph only approximately 25% of reintegrated learners are enrolled in the In-school support program.





The positive feedback from the schools and parents with regards to the improved performance of these learners are extremely satisfying. Our Occupational therapist is working on a curriculum for 2020 which will be implemented in Paarl as well as Stellenbosch schools. These learners are offered the opportunity to get assistance in catching-up on developmental delays / gaps. These developmental challenges may be as a result of their prenatal, postnatal, early childhood and current circumstances impacting on their ability to thrive. Most learners referred to Khula and in particular in-school support are struggling to survive.

Primary Caregivers Program

A more structured approach was launched with several phases to reach primary caregivers. The first impressions are that this approach is more successful in building trust and relationships. During collaboration events surrounding primary care giver support, the general consensus by various different service providers were that working with Primary Care Givers is a difficult, time consuming task. It is however essential to keep on keeping on with this programme, as a whole family (systemic) approach is proven to be more effective than only working with the child. There are still struggles and challenge's in this programme, but the issues could be handled more effectively.

Sago2school

With all the complex challenges that teachers in Quintile 1-3 schools must deal with, the administration and promotion of school attendance is often the last thing on their priority lists. Through conversations with various teachers from our 5 mentor schools, we have come to the realisation that those teachers who are not officially participating in the programme, are especially in need of more support and guidance in certain areas of their work for example:

- Administration of attendance data
- Identifying which learners are at high risk of falling out of the school system
- Identifying which learners should be referred to Khula
- Identifying which children need social services intervention
- Guidance in filling in Form 22's
- Psycho-social support and care for their own wellbeing

With this in mind, we have strategically adjusted our emphasis of the programme in order to incorporate better participation of ALL the teachers in a school and not just the *go2teachers*.

Khula was honoured to be part of the Prizegiving Ceremonies of all 5 of our mentor schools. Every *go2captain* proudly received a SAGo2school certificate of participation from Khula. We also introduced 2 floating trophies per school that were awarded to the classes with the best attendance. Mergon Foundation in partnership with Make A Difference Leadership asked Khula to recommend grade 7 learners that could benefit from receiving a bursary for their High School Education in a Quintile 4 or 5 school.

We managed to assist 6 top achieving learners from 6 of the schools that we work in, to apply for these bursaries. Four of the learners were successful. We are especially proud of these four learners and will follow their progress for the next couple of years.



Testimonies:

“My lewe as ‘n Tik verslaafde..”

My lewe as ‘n verslaafde van dwelms, was lekker aan die begin, maar later raak dit moeilik want jy word verslaafd. My familie was teen my, my kinders het groter geword en ek het besef dit was tyd om te verander;

Ek het na hulp gesoek; Een middag toe ek my dogter by die skool gaan haal het, was die Khula veldwerkers daar, ek het die dames voorgekeer en vertel wat my probleem is, en dat ek my lewe wil verander. Ek het gedink aan my kinders. My familie het nie in my belang gestel nie. Die dames van Khula het aan my genoem dat daar op ‘n Vrydag oggen ‘n primêre versorgingsgroep gaan wees, ek het dadelik begin inskakel, en beter begin voel. Ons as vroue kon gesels en mekaar bemoedig, ek het steeds dwelms en drank misbruik. Daar was tye dat ek nie goed gevoel het nie, ek het selfmoord probeer pleeg. Die Khula werkers was reeds besig om vir my aansoek te doen by ‘n rahabiliasie sentrum en ek was gewillig om te gaan, sodat daar ‘n verandering kon plaas vind.

Skaars ‘n maand en ek is Opgeneem in Toevlug rehabilitasie sentrum vir dwelm-en Alkohol afhanklikheid. Dit was eers moeilik die eerste week, ek het my kinders baie verlang, my familie het dadelik my ondersteun en die Kinders se versorging waargeneem. Die program was vir vyf weke lank. Die program het gehelp dat ek kon weg kom van al die negatiewe elemente, gebroke verhoudings wat hersel mos word. My susters het my ondersteun. Ek het al die hulp onvang wat ek nodig gehad het, soos sielkundige berading, daar is ek geleer oor positiewe gedagtes, soos om uit die Bybel te lees, om goeie vriende te maak.

By die program het ek besef dat dit begin by jouself, ek het ‘n sterker persoon geraak, tenspyte die huislike omstandighede. Ek is nugter.

We love to read the testimonies of the children, teachers and primary caregivers. This is what motivates us to keep going!

Administration and finances

The branch managers have stepped up in their role as mentors and administrators. It is such a pleasure to know that they have taken responsibility and ownership of their respective branches and are managing it as if it is their businesses. This gives head office space to plan forward and implement strategies.

With regards to succession planning, we are also excited to know that any of the branch managers will be capable of stepping up to head office level. In the branches itself strong candidates are identified to lead a branch if and when necessary.

We outsourced our payroll system. This reduced the pressure on month-end, and we know that we will be kept up to date with all the new labour laws etc.



The finances for the 2019/20 year were managed remarkably well despite the petrol, electricity and other increases experienced this year. We are more concerned about the effect of the economy on the funders. In the past our committed income was determined before the financial year started. There is no salary increases for the staff budgeted for 2020 and administration expenses were cut with 13%. We expect no new appointments and adjusted our budget accordingly. The committed income for 2020 is still R2 000 000 short of our budget including R40 000 for replacement of 4 laptops and a camera.

Conclusion

We are thankful and privileged to serve the poor and disadvantaged communities. Khula would like to thank you for your support as no progress would have been made if we did not have the necessary funding and support from our partners.

We wish you a blessed holiday season.

Erns Labuschagne
CEO



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