

# The Thogomelo Project

## PROVINCIAL IMPLEMENTATION STATUS: WESTERN CAPE

*“Building South Africa’s capacity to care for its community caregivers and protect vulnerable children”*

The Thogomelo Project aims to build the capacity of community caregivers (CCGs) to care for themselves and in turn to enhance the quality of care and protection they provide to vulnerable children and families. The project was initiated in 2008 by the national Department of Social Development with the support of USAID. The project is implemented by a consortium consisting of PATH, Health and Development Africa (HDA) and the International HIV/AIDS Alliance (IHAA) in close partnership with community caregivers (learners) and their

supervisors; provincial training service providers (TSPs); and district and provincial Departments of Social Development.

The Thogomelo Project is now in the third year of its five-year pilot phase. This document profiles the provincial achievements, reach and impact as reflected in the Mid-term Process Evaluation of June 2011. This information aims to support decision-making, quality assurance and sustainability of project results.

### Thogomelo curricula

Curriculum	Child protection
<b>Thogomelo Psychosocial Skills Development Programme for CCGs</b>	<p><b>Levels:</b> 1 &amp; 2 of National Qualifications Framework</p> <p><b>Target:</b> Community caregivers</p> <p><b>Content:</b> Understanding and dealing with psychosocial stress; maintaining psychosocial wellbeing and sources of psychosocial support; and basic child protection skills</p>
<b>Thogomelo Child Protection Skills Development Programme for Supervisors of CCGs (and other child caring occupations)</b>	<p><b>Levels:</b> 3 &amp; 4 of National Qualifications Framework</p> <p><b>Target:</b> Supervisor/coordinators of community caregivers</p> <p><b>Content:</b> Knowledge and skills to respond to child abuse, neglect and exploitation; and referral networks</p>
<b>Thogomelo Supportive Supervision Skills Development Programme</b>	<p><b>Levels:</b> 3 &amp; 4 of National Qualifications Framework</p> <p><b>Target:</b> Supervisors of community caregivers</p> <p><b>Content:</b> Supportive supervision skills; enhancing caregiver and organisational wellbeing</p>



social development  
Department:  
Social Development  
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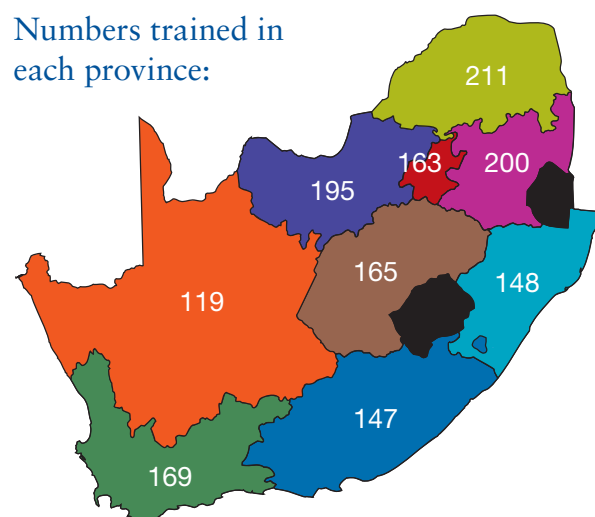


## National project achievements to date

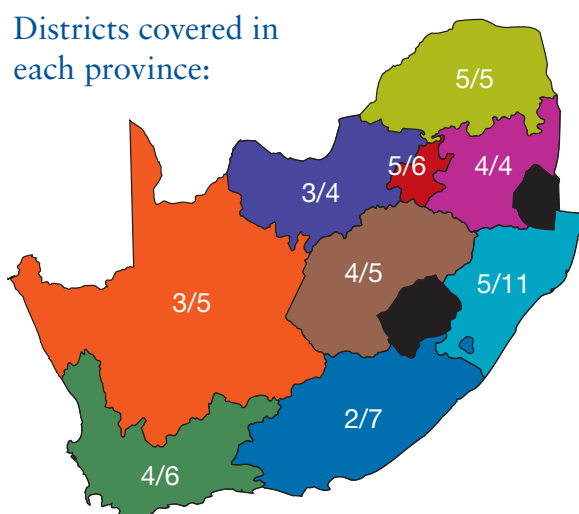
- Development of three curricula registered with the Health and Welfare SETA (see table on previous page).
- Capacity development of 12 provincial training service providers in curriculum content, facilitation methodology and accreditation requirements.
- A total of 1 526 community caregivers and supervisors were trained. In Psychosocial Support 1 289 learners were trained, in Child Protection 207 were trained and 21 learners were trained in a Field Review of Supportive Supervision for Supervisors of community caregivers (Years 1 to 3), verification of 193 community caregivers in Year 3.
- Production of three good practice case studies on the development of accredited curricula, capacity development of training service providers and incorporating gender in capacity development.
- Resources for community caregivers: a child protection CD-Rom containing relevant policy and legislation; a psychosocial support diary for caregivers; resource guides in child protection and psychosocial support; and a costing model for use by the Department of Social Development, training service providers and stakeholders to accurately cost the Thogomelo accredited training.

### National reach

Numbers trained in each province:



Districts covered in each province:



## Provincial status: Western Cape (Years 1-3)

### Development of provincial accreditation capacity in psychosocial support

Training service provider	Facilitators	Assessors	Moderators
ELGIN LEARNING FOUNDATION	1	2	2
PHILLIPI TRUST FOUNDATION	2	2	2

### Total learners trained in psychosocial support SDP:

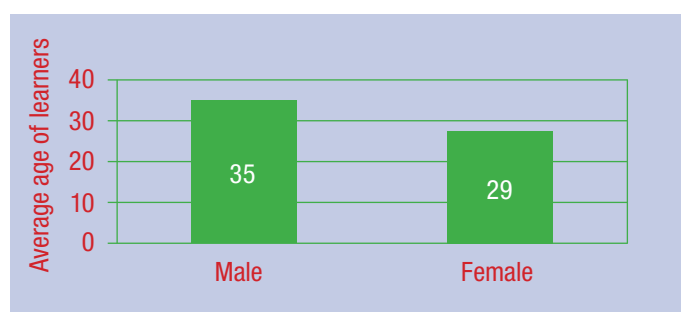
Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Total
60	79	30	169

## District reach

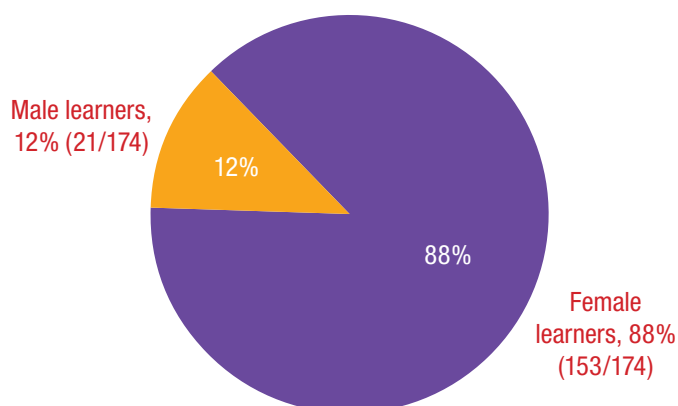
Learners from 4 out of the 6 districts in the Western Cape have been trained:

West Coast, Cape Winelands, Overberg and City of Cape Town.

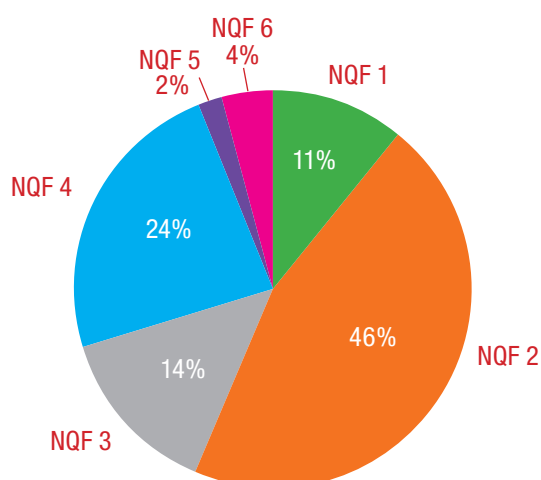
## Average age of male and female learners 2010



## Percentage of male and female learners trained in PSS



## Educational (NQF) levels of PSS training learners in Year 2



## National findings from the mid-term process evaluation

- Consolidation of buy-in from all levels of DSD is required; encourage DSD to play an increasingly central role in the Thogomelo project management; provide training to provincial officials in programme implementation and quality assurance of deliverables.
- Potential for Thogomelo to be conducted as an unaccredited skills development programme to be explored.
- Affordability study to be conducted to review value for money and sustainability of various implementation models; increase awareness of value of Thogomelo Costing Model.
- Increased involvement and participation needed of HCBCs in the Thogomelo programme.
- Communication with provinces to be improved. Encourage dialogue and partnership.
- Thogomelo training should focus on depth rather than breadth to increase impact at lowered costs (this means training learners in one district as opposed to across the province).

## Province specific findings of the mid-term process evaluation

Conducted with national, provincial and district Departments of Social Development, training service providers, home community-based care organisations and learners through a qualitative stakeholder analysis, including focus group discussions with learners.

## What are the project successes in Western Cape?

- The costing tool served useful for the TSPs to develop comprehensive budgets.
- TSPs felt that their involvement in the project had strengthened their relationship with DSD.



### Action required in Years 4 and 5

- Increased and continued DSD participation in the Thogomelo training, as well as ownership of the programme.
- Access and use of the costing tool to be promoted and increased, particularly provincial and district DSD.
- Briefing of learners and HCBC organisations prior to training to be improved.
- DSD and the TSPs must continue to develop their relationship to ensure that the project is sustainable.

### Evidence of impact

- Learners' abilities to handle stress and manage their time improved.
- Community networking and referral capabilities of the CCGs improved.
- Facilitators benefitted from the content of the training.
- Learners have a better understanding of the complex society that people are working in.

### Cost of training

- The cost to train 30 learners excluding materials, travel, accommodation, venue hire and catering is R134 484. The cost per learner is R4 482.80 (including assessment, moderation and verification costs).
- The cost for TSP staff to attend accredited facilitator/assessor/moderator training is a minimum of R3 000 per trainee (excluding travel, accommodation, venue hire and catering).

### What our learners say

It's really made a good impact on my life because sometimes we neglect ourselves. We just work!

Thogomelo gave us an eye opener to see that men can also be caregivers. It made me realise that even though I am a male, I can also cry. I didn't feel left out because I was one of the few men.



For me, it really opened doors. It gave me a lot of confidence and encouragement.

Through this training, I learnt to listen to my family if they have anything to say. I am now better equipped to deal with family conflict.



Contact details of Thogomelo Project Team: Candy Msimang (National and provincial coordinator):  
Email: [candy.msimang@hda.co.za](mailto:candy.msimang@hda.co.za); Tel: 087 310 5000