

CHILDREN'S INSTITUTE

2012 Annual Report







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About the Children's Institute

S ince its establishment as a multi-disciplinary socially responsive unit at the University of Cape Town in 2001, the Institute has earned a reputation as one of South Africa's leading organisations working to achieve better conditions for children through child-focused research, evidence-based advocacy, policy development and education.

The essence of the Institute is to bring primary and secondary research and information to bear on the development of laws, policies, programmes and service interventions for children across a number of disciplines. Evidence-based advocacy forms a continuum with research, teaching and development activities, and is the vehicle by which the Institute maximises the impact of academic endeavours on policy and practice.

Activities focus on key challenges facing children in South Africa – in particular poverty, inequality, HIV/AIDS, high infant and child mortality and morbidity, violence and abuse, and limited voice. These areas are addressed within a rights framework underpinned by the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child and the South African Constitution.

Within the University, the Institute is regarded as a model for a socially-responsive academic unit.¹ Outside the University, the Institute has contributed significantly to a number of policy and legislative processes, and has participated in numerous – and sometimes initiated – collaborations and networks with both government and civil society duty-bearers for children's rights.

The Institute has a strong foundation of work in the field of children's policy that is widely acknowledged by the academic, civil society, government and news media sectors. Its communication products are used extensively in the South African children's sector, and the Institute is gaining a strong reputation in Africa, as well as globally.

Health, education, social development, social work, sociology, anthropology, politics, economics, law and communication are the main disciplines that inform our work. The Institute has researchers or associates in all these fields. Geography and environment,

The Children's Institute at the University of Cape Town is a leader in child policy research and advocacy in South Africa. Its activities focus on key challenges facing the country's children, in particular poverty, inequality, HIV/AIDS, high infant and child mortality and morbidity, violence and abuse, and limited voice. The Institute provides evidence to assist policymakers and practitioners to create laws, policies, programms and institutions that support the best interests of children in South Africa.

¹ The Children's Institute had been featured in the 2005 and 2009 issues of the Social Responsiveness Report of the University of Cape Town.



Promoting strategic dialogue with key role-players: Minister Trevor Manuel and South African Human Rights Commissioner Lindiwe Mokate at the launch of the *South African Child Gauge 2012*.

urban planning, and psychology are also pertinent. For research that depends on these disciplines, the Institute collaborates with experts from other University of Cape Town units and other universities and organisations.

The objectives of the Institute are to:

- · characterise the major challenges facing children in South Africa;
- conduct policy research, analysis and commentary;
- provide evidence-based information and technical assistance to all relevant roleplayers in the policy-making process;
- undertake training and teaching;
- · promote and impact on policy-making decisions that affect children's well-being;
- · monitor and evaluate the impact of policy on child well-being;
- disseminate information and research findings in a user-sensitive form to all interested, involved and affected role-players;
- · promote dialogue between stakeholders towards systemic reform; and
- conduct evidence-based advocacy.

The Institute in all its work strives to achieve excellence, promote interdisciplinary research, develop indigenous models of policy and intervention, and respect diversity. The work of the Institute operates at international, regional, national, provincial and local levels and focuses on all phases of policy development and implementation. The Institute

MISSION: Contributing to policies, laws and interventions that promote equality and realise the rights and improve the conditions of all children in South Africa through research, advocacy, education and technical support. collaborates with interested role-players including academics, policy-makers and practitioners in government and in non-governmental and community-based organisations.

The functions of the Institute are:

Research

- Defining research questions in specific child policy areas.
- Conducting quality policy research and clarification.
- Stimulating inter-disciplinary research.
- Collating and analysing secondary research and data sets.

Education

- Conducting policy research training for graduate students from different disciplines.
- Contributing child policy modules to existing programmes.
- Delivering short courses and other appropriate training to child practitioners and policy-makers.

Technical assistance and support

- Providing technical assistance to policy-makers and practitioners.
- Supporting child policy role-players with information, training and practice guidelines.

Advocacy

- Communicating with government decision-makers.
- Producing publications directed at the policy, service provider, academic and popular fields.
- Disseminating information on children's rights and their situation in South Africa.
- Participating in and supporting social movements that prioritise and promote children's well-being.
- Increasing the cadre of practitioners, scholars and researchers versed in evidencebased approaches to child-focused policies and practices.

The multi-faceted nature of priorities for children and the multi-disciplinary approaches needed to address them require continuous collaboration between the researchers.

Cross-cutting support areas are general and financial administration, human resources, communication and knowledge management.

VISION: A society in which children are valued, nurtured and protected; their rights are realised; and where they are able to participate, develop and reach their full potential.

Management and governance

he Children's Institute is administered through the Faculty of Health Sciences of the University of Cape Town. The director is assisted by the following bodies established to govern and manage the unit: a Governing Board, comprising members of different faculties of the University and Children's Institute staff representatives, and an International Board of Advisors.

Governing Board

Prof Marian Jacobs (chairperson) was the Dean of the Faculty of Health Sciences at the University of Cape Town until the end of 2012, when she retired. A public health paediatrician, she has a wide range of academic leadership experience, both nationally and internationally. She serves as an advisor on the Technical Steering Committee for the World Health Organisation's Department of Maternal, Newborn, Child and Adolescent Health and continues to serve on governance structures of several national and global institutions concerned with health. Prof Jacobs is a passionate advocate for children and, as a founding member of the Children's Institute, served as the Director for 2001 – 2005.

Prof Susan Kidson was the designated chairperson of the board in lieu of Prof Marian Jacobs's pending retirement at the end of 2012. She acted as Dean for the Faculty of Health Sciences while Prof Jacobs was on sabbatical until 1 March 2012, and again from the beginning of 2013. She is also a member of staff in the Department of Human Biology, where she was previously the Head of Department for six years. Prof Kidson specialises in cell and developmental biology. In addition to her duties as Acting Dean, she continues to run a research lab and train postgraduate students, and her area of interest is stem cell biology in the skin and the eye.

Prof Crain Soudien is formerly the Director of the School of Education at the University of Cape Town and currently Deputy Vice-Chancellor responsible for the portfolio on transformation and social responsiveness. He is a widely published sociologist and educationalist and holds a PhD from the State University of New York at Buffalo. He is involved in a number of local, national and international social and cultural organisations and is the former Chairperson of the District Six Museum Foundation, former President of the World Council of Comparative Education Societies and was, in 2008 – 2009, the Chair of a Ministerial Committee on Transformation in Higher Education. He is a Fellow of the International Academy of Education.

Prof Haroon Bhorat is Professor of Economics, and Director of the Development Policy Research Unit at the University of Cape Town. His research interests cover the areas of labour economics, poverty and income distribution. He is the current recipient of a highly prestigious national Research Chair under the theme of *Economic Growth, Poverty and Inequality: Exploring the Interactions for South Africa*. Prof Bhorat has co-authored two books on labour market and poverty issues in South Africa, and has published over 150 academic journal articles, chapters in books and working papers. He has served on a number of government research advisory panels and consults regularly with international organisations such as the International Labour Organisation, the World Bank and the United Nations Development Programme. He has served as an economic advisor to Presidents Thabo Mbeki and Kgalema Motlanthe, formally serving on the Presidential Economic Advisory Panel. He is currently an advisor to the Minister of Finance.

Ms Judith Favish is the Director of Institutional Planning at the University of Cape Town. She is responsible for the Institutional Information Unit, the Academic Planning Unit, the Quality Assurance Unit, and monitoring of social responsiveness. She is a co-convenor of a task team of institutional planners from the four higher education institutions in the Western Cape and the provincial government. She serves on the Accreditation and Institutional Audit Committees of the Higher Education Quality Committee (HEQC) and on the Academic Advisory Committee of the Tertiary School in Business Administration.

New board members who joined in 2012

Prof Pam Christie is Professor of Education and Director of the School of Education at the University of Cape Town. She is Honorary Professor at the University of Canberra, the University of Queensland, and the University of the Witwatersrand, where she formerly was Dean of Education. Prof Christie currently holds a UNESCO Chair in Teacher Education for Diversity and Development. In 2007 she chaired the Ministerial Committee on Schools that Work and has authored and co-authored numerous publications on education in both the South African and Australian contexts.

Associate Prof Shanaaz Mathews is the Director of the Children's Institute and is a specialist researcher with a PHD in public health. Prior to joining the Institute she was with the Gender and Health Research Unit of the South African Medical Research Council for 11 years. She is a founding member of the Western Cape Network on Violence against Women and was Chair of the Network 1999 – 2000 and Vice-Chair from 2000 – 2002. Her research interests include violence against women and children, as well as pathways to violent masculinities using both qualitative and quantitative approaches.

Prof Deborah Posel is a Professor of Sociology at the University of Cape Town and the Founding Director of the University's Institute for Humanities in Africa (HUMA). In 2000, she established the Wits Institute for Social and Economic Research (WISER). She was awarded the Gwilym Gibbon Prize Research Fellowship by Oxford University, and has been a visiting scholar at Harvard University, and a visiting professor at the École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales in Paris. She has written and published widely on aspects of South African politics and society during and beyond apartheid.

Dr Christiaan Scott is Head of Rheumatology in the School of Adolescent and Child Health (SCAH), University of Cape Town. He is one of only five paediatric rheumatologists in South Africa, and has a special interest in juvenile arthritis and systemic lupus erythematosis. Dr Scott is a member of the SCAH Executive Committee, and a keen advocate for children's rights. He is the South African coordinator for the Paediatric Rheumatology International Trials Organisation, and a member of the National Essential Medicines List Committee.

In addition, Katharine Hall, Helen Meintjies and Paula Proudlock have joined the Governing Board as staff representatives.

Governing board members who stepped down in 2012

Prof Evance Kalula, a Professor of Law (Employment and Social Security Law) at the University of Cape Town: Formerly the Director of International Links and Outreach in the Law Faculty, Prof Kalula has taken up the position of Director of the University's International Academic Programmes Office.

Dr Louis Reynolds, a senior specialist in Paediatrics, formerly with the School of Child and Adolescent Health at the University of Cape Town and the Red Cross War Memorial Children's Hospital: Now retired, he continues his involvement in health and human rights campaigns.

Prof Shirley Pendlebury, an honorary Professor of Education at the University of Cape Town and the Director of the Children's Institute from 2007 – 2012: While having retired in 2012, she is now an Emeritus Professor at the University of Cape Town and remains involved in a number of academic projects across different higher education institutions.

International Board of Advisors

Mrs Graça S. Machel (chairperson) is the Chancellor of the University of Cape Town. She is also the President of the Foundation for Community Development in Mozambique and the Chair of the National Organisation of Children of Mozambique.

Prof J. Lawrence Aber (*de facto* chairperson) is Albert and Blanche Willner Family Professor of Psychology and Public Policy at the Steinhardt School of Culture, Education, and Human Development, and University Professor, New York University. His basic research examines the influence of poverty and violence – at the family and community levels – on the social, emotional, behavioural, cognitive and academic development of children and youth. He is an internationally recognised expert in child development and social policy and has co-edited several publications in this field.

Prof Tokozile Mayekiso is the Deputy Vice-Chancellor for Research and Engagement at the Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University. She is a registered clinical psychologist with the Health Professions Council of South Africa. Prof Mayekiso is a former Dean of Arts and a Professor of Psychology with a special interest in child and adolescent psychology. She also serves on the boards of the Agricultural Research Council and the Institute for Co-operatives Development at the University of Fort Hare.

Ms Nomathemba Mazaleni is a former Chief of Party of the Integrated Primary Health Care Project of the Management Sciences for Health in Pretoria. A registered general nurse, midwife, community health nurse, educator and nurse administrator with a Masters in Community Health from the University of Liverpool, she was previously responsible for EQUITY programmes in the Eastern Cape province. She currently consults independently on health information systems and health systems development.

Prof John R. Pinkerton is Professor of Child and Family Social Work in the School of Sociology, Social Policy and Social Work at Queen's University, Belfast, Northern Ireland. His areas of special interest are young people leaving state care, family support and the translation of research into policy and practice in a global context. He is co-editor of the *British Journal of Social Work*.

Dr Jon E. Rohde was the director of the EQUITY Project in the Eastern Cape province after serving for 12 years in India as the UNICEF country representative and the global advisor on health and nutrition to the UNICEF chief at that time, Mr. James P. Grant. Dr Rohde now works as an international consultant in Africa and Asia, while teaching and writing from his home in South Africa. He is an Emeritus Professor of Public Health at the University of the Western Cape and Professor and Chair of the Advisory Board of the James P. Grant School of Public Health, BRAC University, Dhaka, Bangladesh.

Adv Tseliso Thipanyane has had extensive work experience in human rights, democracy and good governance over the past 20 years. He was the Head of Research and Documentation and thereafter the Chief Executive Officer of the South African Human Rights Commission from November 2005 to December 2009. He is currently based in New York as an independent consultant on democracy, good governance and human rights and is an adjunct lecturer in law at the School of Law, Columbia University. He also serves on the board of the Council for the Advancement of the South African Constitution.

Prof Danie Visser is Deputy Vice-Chancellor of the University of Cape Town; his portfolio relates to the strategic goal of research: its profile, impact and engagement; as well as climate change and sustainable development initiatives. He has executive oversight for faculty affairs, postgraduate matters and academic staff and policy matters. Prof. Visser is a Professor of Law and specialises in the Law of Unjustified Enrichment. He was editor of the *South African Law Journal* for 10 years.



Spotlight on children and inequality: The launch of the South African Child Gauge 2012 gathered more than 200 participants from government, civil society, donors and the media, and with Minister Trevor Manuel as keynote speaker.

The year in review

he challenges of child poverty and inequality emerged as a key theme of Children's Institute research and advocacy in 2012, and with it a range of exciting activities and achievements. This focus coincided with the government's release of the National Development Plan (NDP) to address these challenges, and a landmark conference on poverty and inequality convened by the University of Cape Town and the National Planning Commission in the Presidency.

Organisationally, 2012 was a year of change, and new beginnings. A smaller staff establishment required staff to work harder and smarter. The Governing Board was strengthened by the creation of an Executive Committee and the addition of three senior staff representatives. Assoc Prof Shanaaz Mathews was appointed as the new director following the retirement of Prof Shirley Pendlebury.

Highlights

The conference on *Strategies to Overcome Poverty and Inequality: Towards Carnegie III* has been described by many as a watershed event towards renewed enquiry to address poverty and inequality. It provided a dynamic space to share existing research alongside evidence emerging from practice by gathering 500 participants from more than 200 organisations, including from 20 South African universities, various government departments and numerous non-profit organisations. In the short term, the conference will help



The event was hosted in partnership with UNICEF and the Southern Africa Labour and Development Research Unit of the University of Cape Town. The *Child Gauge* can be downloaded at www.ci.org.za



Katharine Hall co-ordinated this dynamic event for the University of Cape Town and the National Planning Commission.

to inform the implementation of the NDP; in the longer term, it will help to guide an agenda for further research to inform strategies to overcome poverty and inequality, possibly culminating in a full Carnegie III conference in 2015.

The event's broad focus on poverty and inequality provided an excellent context for considering children – both as a sub-population that is disproportionately affected, and as an

important group for considering ways of intervention. The Institute's Katharine Hall was seconded to co-ordinate the conference and seven Children's Institute researchers presented papers. The Institute also convened two mini-plenary sessions at the conference – one on the *South African Child Gauge 2012* and the other on social assistance for orphans in the care of relatives.

The *South African Child Gauge*, the Institute's annual publication that monitors the situation of the country's children, very timeously focused on the theme of children and inequality in 2012. Its formal launch was a well-attended, high-profile collaboration with UNICEF and the University's Southern Africa Labour and Development Research Unit. The event received excellent media coverage, especially in light of the keynote speaker, Trevor Manuel, the Minister of Planning in the Presidency. Read more on p. 26.

Law reform advocacy and litigation in 2012 focused on improving poverty alleviation grants for orphans in the care of relatives, and on improving social welfare services for abused and neglected children. This project involves several Children's Institute researchers and a multi-disciplinary evidence base of over 10 years. It secured a victory

for children when the Department of Social Development announced (at the Children's Institute-facilitated debate at the Carnegie conference) the intention to introduce the necessary reform. If this reform is implemented it could improve access to much-needed social grants for over one million orphan children in the care of relatives and also improve protection services for children who have been abused and neglected. Read more about this project on pp. 24 – 25.



Minister Trevor Manual: "We need to internalise our responsibility for our democracy."



At the Constitutional Court: The Institute's Paula Proudlock (far right), and Lucy Jamieson (second from right) and advocates Steven Budlender and Geoff Budlender (far left).

In the course of litigation to improve orphans' access to social grants, the Institute's application as an *amicus curiae* (friend of the court) to lead statistical evidence on the number of orphans affected was refused by the South Gauteng High Court. The Institute appealed, and won its first Constitutional Court case. The Constitutional Court clarified that the High Court should allow friends of the court to add new evidence and emphasised the importance of institutions like the Children's

Institute bringing evidence to the attention of the courts to assist them in making judgments that are in the best interests of children.

In the past year, work on child health has been consolidated more through a new short course to educate health and allied professionals on child rights and child law. The feegenerating course was officially launched in March 2012 and has been attracting a multidisciplinary audience of health and allied professionals working in the public health sector. Course participants graduate with the necessary knowledge and enthusiasm to advocate for children's rights in their daily health practice and within the broader political society. See p. 18 for more details.

One more highlight of the year warrants sharing. It is about the *Abaqophi bakwaZisize Abakhanyayo* Children's Radio project, which since 2005 has been giving children in a rural area the opportunity to portray their lives, insights and concerns through the production of radio programmes. In 2012, a participant from one of the first cohorts of children who were trained in radio production joined the project as an intern after completing his schooling. He has also obtained a scholarship to attend university in 2013 (an unusual achievement for children from this area due to quality of education and access to financial resources). The project is discussed on p. 17.

Our work and reach

The Children's Institute is the only multi-disciplinary university-based organisation in the country that focuses exclusively on child policy. Having celebrated its eleventh year in 2012, it continues a unique blend of generating and applying research to policy and practice. This approach has resulted in wide recognition for its work from government, civil society and the development community. The Institute has also been building a strong profile in Southern Africa and more widely through participation in various international and regional networks.

In 2012, a careful expansion into the region continued by initiating a new child indicator project for selected countries in the Southern African Development Community (SADC). Building on the expertise of the *Children Count – Abantwana Babalulekile* data project and drawing on the know-how of staff who have completed research and fieldwork in the region, the new work is exploring the development of regional child-focused indicators to monitor the situation of children and inform and influence policy reform in selected SADC countries. More on p. 23.

Another example of reach into the region was the commissioned writing of two modules for a teachers' diploma developed by the Regional Psycho-Social Support Initiative (REPSSI). The Institute's involvement was based on the reputation and broad reach of its (now completed) Caring Schools project and a related SADC consultancy on caring schools. In 2012, the course materials were pre-tested by REPSSI with teachers, education department officials and lecturers in Zambia, Zimbabwe, Tanzania and Swaziland, and the first intake of 500 teachers started in January 2013.

Collaborations, networking and recognition



Sharing and reflecting on lessons for the future from a decade of experience.

Reform towards a better life for children is not only a long-term process, but also requires working in tandem with, and learning from, others with similar goals. One example of engagement and learning is the International Network of Child Policy Centres, which connects representatives of similar child policy centres from South America, Africa, Europe, the Middle East and Asia. As a network member since its establishment in 2002, the Institute was honoured to host the network's tenth-year anniversary meeting in 2012. The three-day

event included a seminar of evaluative, critical reflection on the work of member centres with the aim to build on the lessons from the first decade. The gathering was co-sponsored by the Centre for Children and Youth at the Meyers-JDC-Brookdale Institute in Jerusalem, and Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago.

Other engagement with regional and international audiences took place through conference presentations – most notably to the *37th International Education Conference* of the National Association of Black Social Workers; the *Orphans and Vulnerable Children in Africa Conference*; a trans-disciplinary conference on early childhood development and education; and a Southern African conference on children's rights.

A wide range of publications is core to the Institute's work, and great care is taken to not only contribute rigorous and robust research to the academic evidence base, but also to translate such evidence for use by other audiences. This approach contributes to the Institute's aim to enhancing the impact of research on policy and practice. It however requires a fine balancing act between academic and popular publication.

The 2012 publications record (pp. 38 – 43) shows that staff are continuing to tread this line with considerable success: four articles were published in peer-reviewed academic journals and two chapters in the leading Southern Africa child health textbook. Publications for the broader policy audience include the annual *Child Gauge* (and its range of supplementary materials), various policy briefs, research reports and research summaries, posters and legal guides. Several submissions to, and commissioned research reports for, government had a direct impact on child policy and law reform, while a commission by the Presidency in late 2012 to review progress for children over the past 20 years will inform the implementation of the NDP.

As a testament to its expertise in the area of knowledge translation, the Institute was approached in 2012 by several organisations to develop policy or advocacy briefs on various aspects of children's well-being to assist them in presenting evidence in accessible formats for a wider audience (see pp. 28 – 29).

The Institute's research on child-headed households continues to be one of the few sources of credible evidence on this group of children. This was evident from the popularity of its paper¹ on this topic, which was recorded as one of the top 10 most downloaded papers in *AIDS Care* in 2012 – the premier international social science journal focusing on HIV. The paper explores trends in the number of children living in child-only households, and characterises these children relative to children living in households with adults (mixed-generation households).

Staffing and governance

2012 was a year of transition for the Institute with the departure of Prof Shirley Pendlebury, who stepped down as the director after reaching compulsory retirement age. Her term was characterised by improved visibility and recognition for the Institute within the University, increased funding and fundraising support from the University, a re-invigorated and active Governing Board, and increased academic publications.

The creation of an Executive Committee and the addition of three senior staff representatives, Katherine Hall, Helen Meintjes and Paula Proudlock to the Governing Board strengthened the board and improved the link between staff and the board. They also took on leadership portfolios within the Institute to promote a successful transition between directors and to provide ongoing support to the office of the director.

1 Meintjes H, Hall K, Marera DH & A Boulle (2010) Orphans of the AIDS epidemic: the extent, nature and circumstances of child-headed households in South Africa. *AIDS Care*, 22(1): 40-49. The appointment of Assoc Prof Mathews in October introduced a new and exciting phase. Having started her career as a social worker at the Red Cross War Memorial Children's Hospital, she brings with her excellent research qualifications (a PhD in Public Health and 10 years as a specialist researcher at the Medical Research Council) and policy advocacy and leadership experience in coordinating gender networks and campaigns. Her area of expertise in child protection and violence against children complements the Institute's focus on key challenges for children in South Africa very well.

Other staff developments include saying goodbye to Norma Rudolph, who left the Institute in 2012. She has since received a scholarship for doctoral studies in education in Australia. Other good news was the award of a part-time post-doctoral fellowship at the Law Faculty to Tendai Nhenga-Chakarisa to conduct research into the language of children's rights in African contexts; and Lucy Jamieson having completed a masters in political science.

Closing remarks

Despite a weak economic climate and decreased staff capacity, the Institute's fundraising and income generation improved in 2012. This is testament to the dedication, quality and tenacity of the staff and the excellent support provided by the Governing Board.

Other support structures that have been critical to the Institute's ability to ride the waves of change in 2012 were a dedicated pool of donors, especially the ELMA Foundation, and the ELMA Philanthropies office in Cape Town. Assistance from the University's Donor and Alumni Development office was also crucial in securing two new donors in 2012. See pp. 32 – 35 for a comprehensive acknowledgement of supporters.

The arrival of Assoc Prof Matthews positions the Institute to contribute to a particular child policy moment in South Africa. Government and donors are acknowledging the importance of building a sound evidence base on the nature and extent of child abuse and violence against children and the appropriate policy and service responses that are needed to address these challenges. The Institute will be able to rise to meet this need through Shanaaz's experience in leading large multi-year research projects that look at violence through a public health lens.

Similarly, the emergence of early childhood development as an area of future Children's Institute research and advocacy builds on the opportunities provided by the government's focused drive of ECD, including a recent diagnostic review of ECD implementation.

As South Africa approaches 20 years of democracy, the reality for children has not shifted significantly. Children's lives are still marked by poverty, inequality, HIV, high levels of infant and child mortality as well as experiences of violence and abuse. In this context, the Children's Institute strives to realise children's rights by remaining focused on the key challenges facing children and by advocating for policy shifts and effective services to meet the needs of all South Africa's children.

Our work in context

he state's obligation to promote and protect the survival, development and well-being of children is enshrined in the Bill of Rights in the South African Constitution. Yet, inequality and poverty intersect with problems such as HIV, violence, and high levels of unemployment, which all influence the ability to realise these rights. The vast disparities in the material status of households, in household form and access to employment influence children's opportunities and access to services and resources. These have critical repercussions for children's health, safety, education and development.

In 2010, nearly two-thirds of children (60%) lived below the poverty line (with a per capita income below R575 per month) and 35% lived in households where no adults were employed.¹ The official under-five mortality rate was 56 deaths per 1,000 live births in 2009.² Most of these deaths are caused by HIV, diarrhoea and respiratory infections – all of which could be reduced enormously through effective health and basic service interventions. Compromised immunity and under-nutrition are cross-cutting factors in the majority of preventable deaths. Abandonment and fatal child abuse are the leading causes of non-natural deaths among young children.

Despite huge budgetary investments in the education system, education outcomes vary enormously – largely because the quality of schooling is so inequitable. The disparities in human capital development start from early on, and there is increasing awareness that the early years of childhood are a critical window period. Yet exposure to early childhood development programmes and support services, whether centre-based or at home, remains vastly unequal, reinforcing inequalities between children.

South Africa now has a complete set of laws and policies that are aimed at ensuring that children and families have access to the range of services and goods that are necessary for their survival, development and protection. However, the country is struggling to realise its legal obligations and the vision of a more equal society, partly due to co-ordination and implementation failures.

Within this context, the purpose of the Children's Institute is to inform and influence policy and practice through research, advocacy and education. It focuses on identifying the main challenges facing children and contributing to the evidence base on the crosscutting root causes that underlie these challenges. Through targeted communication strategies the Institute aims to bring such evidence to the attention of those in decision-

2 Department of Health (2012) Health Data Advisory Co-ordination Committee (HDACC) Report, February 2012. Pretoria: DOH.

¹ Statistics South Africa (2011) General Household Survey 2010. Pretoria: Stats SA. Analysis by Katharine Hall, Children's Institute, University of Cape Town.

making who are able to make the necessary reforms. Using a range of advocacy approaches, it promotes dialogue with and between such decision-makers towards solutions that will result in lasting systemic change for large numbers of affected children.

The projects and consultancies in 2012 collectively reflect the interdependence of research, advocacy and education that is typical of the Institute's work, although not all these elements are necessarily equally present in each undertaking. Where possible and appropriate, work includes participatory approaches and engagement at national, provincial and community levels.

The following projects and consultancies are presented:

Projects

- Children's Radio Project Abaqophi BakwaZisize Abakhanyayo (The Shining Recorders of Zisize)
- Short Course: Child Rights and Child Law for Health and Allied Professionals
- Healthy Cities Project
- Children's Act Project
- Children Count Abantwana Babalulekile Project
- Southern Africa Network for Child Indicators
- Law Reform to Improve Grants for Orphans and Social Services for Abused Children
- South African Child Gauge

Commissions and consultancies

- Facilitation of consultations on the draft Green Paper on Families
- Knowledge translation of academic evidence

Projects

Children's Radio Project *Abaqophi bakwaZisize Abakhanyayo* (The Shining Recorders of Zisize)

Giving children the opportunity to portray their lives and perspectives through the production of radio programmes



The Abaqophi bakwaZisize Abakhanyayo children's radio project was established in 2005 to give children living in a remote rural area of South Africa the opportunity to voice their experiences and perspectives for a broad audience, using radio as a vehicle. Through child-directed storytelling, public broadcast of the material and analysis of the children's narratives over time, it aims to improve understandings of children's experiences growing up in a

context of poverty and AIDS; and encourage adults to consider and appropriately address children's needs and experiences.

The project is a collaboration between Zisize Educational Trust, a non-governmental organisation based in Ingwavuma, KwaZulu-Natal province, and the Children's Institute.

Over 60 children aged nine years and older have been involved in the project since it began, most on an ongoing basis. During weekly after-school sessions and intensive holiday workshops, children are trained and supported to produce broadcast-quality programmes in a variety of formats, with a particular focus on personal 'radio diaries'. These are aired along with studio discussions and local news on a live monthly show hosted by the children on their local community radio station. Selected programmes are also used to facilitate discussion in meetings and workshops locally and further afield. They can also be heard at www.childrensradioproject.ci.org.za.

In 2012, the project instituted an intern position for the first time. This was filled by Lindokuhle Zikhali (pictured), a matriculant who had actively participated in the project since he was 11 years old.

The children generate remarkable narratives about their lives. A paper analysing these narratives was presented at the *Strategies to Overcome Poverty and Inequality: Towards Carnegie III* conference, hosted by the University of Cape Town in 2012.

Funds from the Media Development and Diversity Agency and the DG Murray Trust supported the project in 2012.

Short Course: Child Rights and Child Law for Health and Allied Professionals

Equipping health and allied professionals with the knowledge and skills to realise children's rights in their daily practice



This accredited five-day course provides cutting-edge education in child rights and child law for health and allied professionals – including training on consent to medical treatment and the reporting of child abuse and neglect as outlined in the Children's Act.

The course illustrates how children's rights can be used as an effective tool to improve the health and well-being of children and their families; and equips health and allied professionals with the knowledge and skills to realise

children's rights in their practice, the health care system and beyond.

The course examines the relationship between children's rights and child health and is structured into six modules:

- Child health and children's rights.
- Child rights in international law and the South African Bill of Rights.
- Laws, policies and programmes that give effect to children's rights in South Africa.
- Making children's rights a reality: in individual professional practice.
- Making children's rights a reality: within the health care system.
- Making children's rights a reality: addressing the social determinants of health.

The course is registered with the Health Professions Council of South Africa and the South African Council for Social Service Professions, and carries a total of 60 CPD (continuous professional development) points in Medical Ethics, Human Rights and Legal Issues for health professionals, and 20 CPD points for social workers.

After a successful pilot in 2011, the first two short courses were held in March and December 2012, and there are plans to include the course as a module in the University's new Postgraduate Diploma in General and Community Paediatrics. Other tertiary institutions are encouraged and supported to integrate the materials in undergraduate and postgraduate curricula, and participants have access to updated course materials and further readings on a website.

In 2012, the course was funded by a combination of course fees from students and funding from Atlantic Philanthropies.

Healthy Cities for Children

Investigating the relationship between urban environments and well-being in the global South



This work is part of a collaborative, interdisciplinary study on the role of the urban environment in shaping illness, health and well-being, initiated by the African Centre for Cities (ACC) at the University of Cape Town. The Children's Institute leads a sub-project on Healthy Cities for Children, which investigates the impact of urban planning and urbanisation on children's well-being in postapartheid South Africa.

The Healthy Cities for Children project assembles a team of postgraduate students, supervisors and other mentor researchers working on various aspects of child well-being in an urban context. The students' projects focus on the impact of the urban environment on child nutrition; patterns of geographic mobility and child care arrangements in South Africa; urban fatherhood and child care; and children's access to health facilities, respectively. Activities in 2012 were dedicated to the gathering and analysing of data, with the first two postgraduate theses to be submitted in 2013.

The research process has been providing the opportunity for interaction between researchers, urban town planners and policy-makers through the hosting of Urban Child City Labs events, where research is presented and discussed.

In 2013, a final set of the Urban Child City Labs will give all team members a chance to present their studies and findings, creating once more a platform for sharing evidence with policy-makers. A series of research papers and fact sheets are also planned.

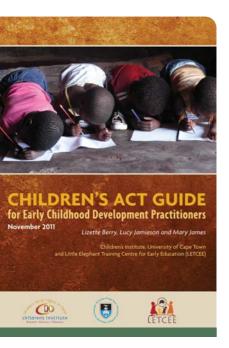
The project will continue to build research capacity among emerging academics, and enhance capacity for policy-relevant research by being part of an international and national group of researchers on this topic.* Prof Ria Reis, a medical anthropologist from the Medical University of Leiden and the University of Amsterdam, serves as a critical friend to the project by assisting with postgraduate research capacity-building and coauthor planned publications.

A grant from the South Africa–Netherlands Research Programme on Alternatives in Development (SANPAD) supported this work in 2012.

^{*} The partnership with the ACC is facilitating regular contact between the Children's Institute, "urban practitioners" and various other universities and research bodies, such as the Centre for Urbanism and Built Environment Studies at the University of the Witswatersrand, the Human Sciences Research Council, and the South African Cities Network.

Children's Act

Monitoring and promoting the implementation of the Children's Act



The Children's Institute has a solid reputation for implementing successful law reform campaigns that promote the use of evidence by civil society and decision-makers and ultimately result in reforms that promote children's best interests. These campaigns use a variety of strategies including communication of evidence; dialogue; parliamentary advocacy; provision of technical support to the Executive, Parliament and civil society; public interest litigation; actual drafting of laws; education; and media advocacy.

Between 2002 and 2008 the Children's Institute facilitated a law reform campaign to promote the use of evidence and children's sector participation in the making of the Children's Act. A number of victories were achieved, not least being the inclusion in the Act of clear obligations on the provinces to provide a comprehensive range of social welfare services for children including early childhood development (ECD) programmes, prevention and early intervention pro-

grammes such as counselling and home-based care, protection services, foster care and child and youth care centres.

Since the Act came into full operation in 2010, the Children's Institute has focused on promoting the effective implementation of this pioneering Act. Work in 2012 centred mainly on budget research and on producing training materials and training practitioners in order to promote an understanding of how to implement the Act.

Budget research and advocacy

The Children's Institute, in partnership with Debbie Budlender, has been analysing the budget allocations and expenditure trends of all provincial social development departments for the past five years and communicating the findings to targeted civil society, donor and government leaders. The research provides a popular annual assessment of government's budgetary commitment for implementing the services required by the Act. The research paper is developed with peer review by key government officials and civil society partners, thereby ensuring it is used in decision-making and advocacy processes.

For the 2012/13 financial year, besides conducting the standard analysis of the nine provinces' social development budgets, deeper analysis of a number of topical areas was undertaken, notably: government personnel, funding of non-profit organisations, ECD, the Isibindi roll-out*, and the transfer of reform schools and schools of industry from the Department of Education to the Department of Social Development. The paper and a summary were widely distributed electronically and the research was also presented at the annual South African Human Rights Commission and UNICEF Budget Symposium.

Training

While the Department of Social Development has produced training materials for social workers, there is limited information on the Act available for the full range of practitioners involved in implementing the Act. To fill this gap, the Institute has published legal guides and popular articles to provide practitioners with knowledge of how to apply the new law. In 2012 two further guides were produced in the format of accessible and colourful booklets: One for ECD practitioners and another for drop-in centre managers. The ECD guide was distributed via civil society and government partners to practitioners around the country and the drop-in centre guide will be distributed in early 2013.

The series also includes a guide on legal age thresholds for children, a guide for health professionals; and a guide for child and youth care workers, the latter produced in partnership with the National Association of Child and Youth Care Workers. These guides are available on the Children's Institute website at **www.ci.org.za**.

Children's Institute staff use the guides as teaching aids on the Act for educating students and in-service professionals. In 2012 the focus was on educating health students and professionals working in the public health sector on the new provisions relating to consent to medical treatment and reporting of abuse and neglect. See pp. 30 - 31 for more information on the training for health professionals and students.

This project is supported by the DG Murray Trust and the ELMA Foundation.

^{*} Via the Isibindi programme, trained child and youth care workers identify vulnerable children and help their families to access birth certificates and identity documents, social grants, HIV and TB medication and treatment, school fee exemptions, improved housing, water and electricity. They also provide home-based care, child protection services and psycho-social support. As Isibindi is expanded over the next four years, a total of 858,000 vulnerable children will be reached, and 10,000 child and youth care workers will be employed.

Children Count – Abantwana Babalulekile

Developing, tracking and presenting child-centred statistics for multiple audiences



Set against a rights framework, this project monitors the situation of children. It traces the effects of programme delivery through child outcomes; informs targeting; and provides a strong evidence base for those who advocate for children's rights and well-being. Now in its ninth year, it is a resource for policy-makers, practitioners, civil society, researchers and the media. Using the best possible sources

of information, including large national household surveys, administrative and modelled data, 40 child-centred indicators are monitored on an annual basis:

- Demography (child population figures, parental co-residence, orphaning rates and childheaded households);
- Income poverty (poverty headcount rates, adult unemployment, access to social grants for children – including monthly updates on the number of child grants disbursed);
- Education (school attendance, gender parity, accessibility of schools, pupil-teacher ratios, basic service provision in schools);
- Health (HIV prevalence, voluntary counseling and testing amongst pregnant women and access to treatment by pregnant women and children, teenage pregnancy, child mortality and immunisation rates);
- · Nutrition (child hunger, stunting, micro-nutrient deficiency);
- Living environments (housing type, overcrowding, access to adequate water, sanitation and electricity).

Selected indicators are published annually in the *South African Child Gauge*, and the full set of indicators is available on **www.childrencount.ci.org.za**. Users can download fact sheets, and work interactively with the data. For instance, bar charts and trend graphs, tables and maps for different years can be created, by province, sex, age and population group.

In 2012, analyses that illustrated the challenges of inequality and poverty for South Africa's children were incorporated into the *South African Child Gauge 2012* (see p. 26), and were also presented at the *Strategies to Overcome Poverty and Inequality: Towards Carnegie III* conference (see p. 9).

Work to develop indicators on the situation of young children and early childhood development (ECD) started in 2012. In a related project, the groundwork was laid to support the development of regional child-focused indicators for countries in the Southern African Development Community (discussed next).

Over the years, the project has been supported by the Annie E. Casey Foundation; Save the Children Sweden; Atlantic Philanthropies; the ELMA Foundation; the UK Department For International Development (DFID); the Programme to Support Pro-Poor Policy Development, a partnership programme of the Presidency and the European Union; and the DG Murray Trust.

Southern Africa Network for Child Indicators

Supporting the development of regional child-focused indicators



This project has set out to explore the development of regional child-focused indicators to monitor the situation of children. The overall aim is to support locally-generated child indicator work in some countries in the Southern African Development Community (SADC), to facilitate monitoring and reporting on progress towards the realisation of children's rights, and to inform and influence policy in the SADC.

The first "scoping" phase of the work started in late 2012. It included a review of relevant rights and legislative frameworks in seven SADC countries: Botswana, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Zambia and Zimbabwe. The review includes rights frameworks at international, regional (Africa) and sub-regional (SADC) level, as well as country-specific rights frameworks, legislation and policy relevant to children and their well-being.

A parallel process was to scan available surveys for the respective countries to develop a list of datasets and variables relevant to the rights frameworks. The next step is to compare these datasets to identify variables for cross-country comparison, where this would be appropriate.

The idea of a regional network has been discussed in a few international forums, and the team is consulting with researchers to identify key contacts in each of the countries who might form a loose consortium or network of researchers. A further stage of the project will be to develop collaborative proposals to generate policy-relevant statistical monitoring and comparative work in the region.

In addition to providing an evidence base for policy and programming, it is hoped that this project will stimulate greater interest in and capacity for child-focused research, and help to generate a body of research in advance of the 5th Conference of the International Society of Child Indicators, which will be hosted by the Children's Institute in Cape Town in 2015.

Work on this project is funded by the Southern Africa Trust.

Law Reform to Improve Social Grants for Orphans and Social Services for Abused Children

Researching and advocating for improvements in social assistance



Since 2002 the Children's Institute has been conducting research and advocacy to improve social assistance for orphans and social welfare services for abused children.

Approximately 60% of South Africa's children live in poverty.¹ However, orphaned children in the care of family members and children living with their mothers, especially those in rural areas, experience poverty levels higher than average, at over 70%.² Family members caring for orphans can access

either the Foster Child Grant (FCG) of R800 or the Child Support Grant (CSG) of R290. The higher valued FCG takes up to three years to access as it is reliant on social workers and a court inquiry. Due to this complicated system only 460,000 orphans were accessing the FCG in 2011 compared to over 1 million orphans who would be eligible if the grant targets orphans living in poverty.³ The lower valued CSG on the other hand takes between three days to three months to access and is reaching over 11 million children, including 570,000 orphans.⁴ But it is too low in value to provide adequate social assistance to children living in poverty.

In 2012 the Institute continued its research and advocacy aimed at bringing about reform. Key activities included:

- conducting research for the Department of Social Development, together with the Community Agency for Social Enquiry, on the challenges and proposing options for reform;
- · drafting regulations to illustrate how the reform options could be translated into law;
- · creating dialogue platforms to promote discussion with government;
- · presenting at civil society and government consultative workshops;
- participating as an *amicus curiae* (friend of the court) in litigation to get clarity on Children's Act clauses on foster care eligibility; and
- media advocacy to promote public awareness on the challenges and potential solutions.

In September 2012 the Department of Social Development announced the intention to introduce a kinship grant for orphans in the care of family members. This announcement

was made at a mini-plenary debate on the topic, organised by the Institute and the Centre for Child Law at the *Strategies to Overcome Poverty and Inequality: Towards Carnegie III* conference (see p. 9). This was followed in November 2012 by a departmental consultative workshop with civil society to present more details of how the new grant would be created, using the mechanism of the CSG but providing a larger amount for orphans in the care of relatives. This "extended Child Support Grant" proposal was welcomed by civil society with the proviso that there is further consultation on the details to ensure that the proposal is in the best interests of all children affected by the reform.

The anticipated outcome of the reform is a larger-in-amount CSG for approximately one million orphans in the care of family members and a streamlined application process directly to the South African Social Security Agency (SASSA) that will greatly reduce the waiting period for the grant. Others who will benefit are children who have been abused or neglected or who are otherwise vulnerable and who are in need of prevention, early intervention or protection services. These children will benefit because social workers and courts will have more time to provide these much needed services due to their high foster care caseloads being reduced as orphans start applying directly to SASSA for the new extended CSG.

The Department of Social Development has indicated its intention to implement the extended CSG in 2013. A number of hurdles however still need to be negotiated. These include inter-departmental and Treasury approval and allocation of budget, agreement on key conceptual details such as the amount of the grant, the definition of family member, and social service professionals' involvement in the application process.

In 2013 the Institute will focus on facilitating consultation on the key conceptual details, empowering civil society to be ready to make submissions on the draft law, and advocating for a mechanism that will enable timeous access to social grants for orphans and improved protection services for all vulnerable children.

In 2012, the project was funded by the M•A•C AIDS Fund and the ELMA Foundation.

Statistics South Africa (2011) General Household Survey 2010. Stats SA: Pretoria. In: Hall K (2012) Income and Social Grants – Children living in poverty. Children Count – Abantwana Babalulekile website. Available at: www.childrencount.ci.org.za

Statistics South Africa (2011) General Household Survey 2011. Stats SA: Pretoria. Analysis by Hall, K, Children's Institute, University of Cape Town.

^{3.} Ibid.

^{4.} South African Social Security Agency (2011) SOCPEN database - special request. Pretoria: SASSA.

South African Child Gauge^{TM PENDING}

Monitoring the situation of South Africa's children, and the realisation of their rights



This annual publication has been one of the Children's Institute's flagship projects since 2005. The 2012 issue focused on "Children and inequality: Closing the gap". This theme is closely aligned with the government's long-term goals outlined in the National Development Plan, and linked to the start of a third Carnegie enquiry into poverty and inequality, initiated by the University of Cape Town in collaboration with the Presidency's National Planning Commission in 2012.

This seventh issue was produced and launched in partnership with UNICEF and the Southern Africa Labour and Development Research Unit (SALDRU) at the University. The volume opens with a reflection on children and

inequality by the National Planning Commission's Trevor Manuel, followed by a series of 10 essays on the extent and impact of income inequality on children's living conditions, care arrangements, health and education, and interventions that could break the cycle of poverty and reduce inequality.

The accompanying policy brief presents an overview of some of the key findings and recommendations in the book, and flags challenges and opportunities for policy-makers and practitioners in addressing inequalities affecting children. Other complementary material includes an A1 poster and a summary for children.

The book was launched in mid-October at a high-profile event in Cape Town on the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty. Minister Trevor Manuel was the keynote speaker; alongside UNICEF South Africa's deputy representative, George Laryea-Adjei; South African Human Rights Commissioner, Lindiwe Mokate; and a panel of *Child Gauge* contributors.

As has been the trend in the past, the launch received excellent media coverage – it was referred to by the news media for 10 consecutive days following the launch. The estimated Rand value of coverage received came to just under R1.6 million.

The 2013 issue on early childhood development as the foundation for individuals' longterm health, development and ability to contribute to society will focus on the implementation of a basket of essential services for young children.

The continued publication of the *South African Child Gauge* in 2012 was made possible by the ELMA Foundation, UNICEF South Africa and Atlantic Philanthropies.

Commissions and Consultancies

The Children's Institute is frequently approached by partner organisations, development agencies or government departments to undertake commissioned research or related consultancies. In being true to its purpose and goals, the Institute embarks on such work only if it will contribute to the realisation of our mission and objectives.

Facilitating consultation on the draft Green Paper on Families

While the concept of 'family' varies widely across South Africa, most children in the country live in some form of family. The family context is a critical and influential environment that should be conducive to the promotion and fulfilment of children's rights. Family well-being is closely intertwined with child well-being. Influencing the development of South Africa's family policy is therefore an important avenue to promote children's rights and improve conditions for children, which are key elements of the mission of the Children's Institute.

In the first half of 2012, Lizette Berry was recruited to facilitate consultations with government and non-profit sector representatives on the draft Green Paper on Families, which aims to arrive at policy proposals for supporting and strengthening families. Workshops with more than 500 participants in total were held in each province and at a national level. Participants were able to share their perspectives on the primary challenges that families are experiencing in contemporary South Africa, and to critically review the draft paper.

Analytical reports on each consultation reflect the range of participants' responses and points of consensus. A consolidated report gives a synopsis of the provincial perspectives and a set of key recommendations for improvements to the Green Paper. This report was presented to the steering committee for the project, including the Chief Director of the Families Directorate in the Department of Social Development. The reports aim to inform the development of the White Paper on Families, and Lizette worked closely with the drafters of the White Paper from the Human Sciences Research Council (HSRC) throughout the project period.

This work also has enabled the development of collaborations, such as partnership with the HSRC, to produce conference and academic papers; knowledge of the family welfare sector and key government contacts; and the identification of potential research related to family and child well-being.

The consultancy was facilitated by an intermediary (StrategeQ Development) on behalf of the national Department of Social Development, Directorate: Families.

Consultancies

Knowledge translation of academic evidence to a wider audience

The Children's Institute is increasingly being recognised for its contribution to knowledge translation. The *South African Child Gauge* (see p. 26) and a series of policy briefs have contributed to a growing reputation of making academic research accessible to a wider audience, with the overall aim to impact on policy and practice. In 2012, the Institute was approached by several organisations to develop policy or advocacy briefs on various aspects of children's well-being to assist them in communicating evidence in accessible formats for a wider audience.

Teenage births

The Southern Africa Labour and Research Unit (SALDRU) at the University of Cape Town requested assistance to produce a policy brief on teenage births by drawing on relevant SALDRU research. The brief highlighted how teen birth rates have decreased from 30% in 1984 to 23% in 2008 and that the proportion of younger teens giving birth has also decreased. Teenage childbearing does however have a significant impact on the education of teen mothers and the health and education of their children.

The production of the brief formed part of SALDRU's participation in the Scholarly Communication in Africa Programme (SCAP) – a research and implementation initiative hosted by the University and aimed at increasing the visibility and developmental impact of a spectrum of research outputs from universities in Southern Africa. Institute staff facilitated the conceptualisation of the brief's key messages, its structure and format with SALDRU staff, and also undertook the writing, design and layout, and input on dissemination strategies for the brief.

Early childhood development

Ilifa Labantwana, an early childhood development (ECD) programme founded by three donor partners who support the ECD sector in South Africa, requested the Institute to generate a policy brief on the findings of an evaluation of a range of Ilifa-funded ECD initiatives and their articulation with the broader ECD policy landscape. Again, the Institute's role centred on the conceptualisation, key messaging and writing of the policy brief with a particular emphasis on relevance for government decision-makers.

Childhood blindness

The third knowledge translation consultancy in 2012 dealt with childhood blindness, which is strongly associated with poverty. One in every five blind children live in Africa; yet 50% of childhood blindness can be prevented or treated. The development of an advocacy brief on childhood blindness came about after a presentation on children's rights to health at an ORBIS International advocacy meeting. The brief is used to engage with governments and civil society across Africa to advocate for the integration of cost-effective prevention and treatment measures into government policies and programmes.

Lori Lake and Lucy Jamieson undertook the ORBIS work; Lori and Charmaine Smith worked together on the SALDRU brief; and Lizette Berry joined them on the Ilifa Labantwana consultancy.

Mutual benefits

These knowledge translation consultancies have contributed to: developing and strengthening the Institute's own knowledge base of issues affecting children; enhancing and strengthening collaboration with academics, donors and advocacy groups focusing on children's rights; and affirming the Institute's reputation for effective communication and advocacy. In turn, it is believed that children and the children's sector benefit from the Institute's assistance to other role-players by enabling them to communicate a nuanced and evidence-based understanding of issues that impact on children's well-being, and the realisation of their rights.



Research to impact on policy and practice: The *South African Child Gauge*, policy briefs and fact sheets are used in knowledge translation to communicate academic evidence to multiple audiences.

Education, teaching and supervision

A s a university-based organisation, the Children's Institute regards education as part of its core business. One of the University's strategic goals is to contribute to South Africa's development challenges through engaged research and teaching. Drawing on rich experiences of socially-responsive research and public engagement, Children's Institute researchers are well placed to advance this goal by "making critical real-world issues a strong part of students' learning experience".* The aim is to grow the complement of professionals able to make relevant and appropriate contributions to the realisation of children's rights.

Although a soft-funded research unit, staff are increasingly involved in university teaching by integrating applied research into the curriculum, and by supervising and examining postgraduate research. In addition, the Institute's first fee-generating short course started at regular intervals in 2012, and its legal guides on the Children's Act are used in the training of and *ad hoc* seminars for health and social welfare professionals.

Teaching

The main teaching activities in 2012 centred on courses at the Faculty of Health Sciences, and the Humanities Faculty.

Staff have been teaching on the Child in Context course for fifth-year medical students since 2000. The course is designed to help students understand the social, political and economic contexts in which children are living. Seminars by the Children's Institute introduce students to children's rights, the Children's Act (consent to medical treatment and reporting of abuse), child poverty statistics and social grants for children. Staff who taught in 2012 were Lucy Jamieson, Lori Lake, Katharine Hall and Tendai Nhenga-Chakarisa.

For the fourth year running, Ariane De Lannoy lectured in the Department of Sociology's undergraduate course on Individual and Society. Her lectures focused on the influences of agency and structure on educational outcomes in South Africa. She also taught third-year students in a semester course on Practical Research Methods.

Lizette Berry, Lucy Jamieson, Lori Lake and Paula Proudlock also presented a range of guest lectures and seminars for undergraduate and postgraduate students in the Faculty of Health Sciences, Humanities Faculty and a University of Stellenbosch international masters course, respectively. See pp. 41 – 42 for details on these.

^{*} The Strategic Plan for the University of Cape Town 2010 - 2014.

Supervision

Eight students at masters or PhD level were supervised in 2012.

Shanaaz Mathews supervised two Public Health masters students: a University of Cape Town student, whose research focused on child sexual assault, and a student at the University of Western Cape, whose thesis investigated child abuse in schools.

Shirley Pendlebury co-supervised, with Theresa Lorenzo of Disability Studies at the University of Cape Town, a PhD student who was conducting participatory action research with parents of physically disabled learners in the Eastern Cape.

Ariane De Lannoy co-supervised a University of Cape Town Sociology masters student, who was focusing on "First generation university students' transition into higher education".

Tendai Nhenga-Chakarisa supervised three students: a PhD student in the Faculty of Law at the University of Cape Town, who was focusing on "Access to justice and fair trial in South Africa: contribution of traditional tribunals for rural women"; a PhD student from the Law Faculty at the University of Pretoria, who investigated "The impact of international law on the regulation of child labour in South Africa"; and an LLM student at the University of Cape Town, who researched "Legitimacy of humanitarian intervention".

Paula Proudlock was appointed by the Law Faculty at the University of Cape Town as an external examiner for a master student's mini-thesis on child-headed households.

In addition, Shirley Pendlebury and Ria Reis from the University of Amsterdam mentored PhD students in the Healthy Cities project to write for publication. Katharine Hall mentored an intern, Winnie Sambu, a masters student in Economics and Development Management, who is studying jointly at the University of the Western Cape and Universitat Bochum in Germany.

Professional development training

Short course: Child rights and child law for health and allied professionals

This accredited, five-day course is the Institute's first fee-generating venture of this nature. It provides cutting-edge education in child rights and child law and aims to equip health and allied professionals with the knowledge and skills to realise children's rights in their practice, the health care system and beyond. More details on p. 18.

The multi-disciplinary training team consists of Paula Proudlock, Lori Lake, Lucy Jamieson, Tendai Nhenga-Chakarisa, Lizette Berry and Shanaaz Mathews.

Children's Act

Paula Proudlock conducted a seminar on the Children's Act for approximately 30 psychologists, social workers and psychiatrists of the Department of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry at the Red Cross War Memorial Children's Hospital.

Grants and finances

he Children's Institute is a policy research unit of the University of Cape Town, located administratively in the School of Child and Adolescent Health, Faculty of Health Sciences. The Institute is entirely soft-funded. It covers the costs of all staff, operations, equipment and projects from grants and self-generated income. The University contributes in-kind through rent-free office space, library access, and the services and support of its Research Office and Faculty Finance Department, among others. For most university services, the Institute pays a levy, in compliance with the University's standard cost-recovery practice.

At 31 December 2012, the balance of funds stood at R7 million. This amount is partially committed to contractual grants and core operational expenses for 2013. The remainder constitute reserve funds. A further R1.7 million is held in reserve by the Faculty of Health Sciences on the Institute's behalf.

Income

The total income for the financial year in 2012 (1 January – 31 December) was R6.2 million. Grant funding constituted 76% of the total income (R4.7 million). Commissions and consultancies (R663 000, 11% of total income), and grants and compensation from the University (R473 000 or 8%) raised the bulk of remaining funds in 2012. Interest on investments generated R283 095, or 4.6% of total income.

Over the course of the last few years, the Children's Institute has diversified its funding sources. While grant funding remains a critical source of financial support, the Institute's funding streams are considerably broader than in the past. Student fees are proving to be a crucial mechanism for sustaining its short course for health professionals that was initiated in 2011, and run twice in 2012. Substantially improved financial compensation from the University, including internal research grants and payment for teaching, commissioned work and a part-time secondment, also assisted in strengthening the Institute's financial stability in 2012. In addition, the University's Department of Alumni and Development has been assisting the Institute to secure project grants from two new donors (M·A·C AIDS Fund and the Southern Africa Trust).

External commissions and consultancies are an important aspect of income generation.

The Institute is frequently approached by partner organisations, development agencies and government departments to take on commissioned research. This is undertaken only when there is a good fit with work underway at the Institute, and when it can further our strategic goals. In 2012, the commissions undertaken by the Institute enabled the extension and/or deepening of core work in the areas of early childhood development

Income and Expenditure Report

For the year ended 31 December 2012

INCOME	ZAR
Grant funding received	-4,680,719
ELMA Foundation	-2,700,000
M·A·C AIDS Fund	-630,325
DG Murray Trust	-429,375
UNICEF South Africa	-295,998
South Africa–Netherlands Research Programme	
on Alternatives in Development (SANPAD)	-293,130
Southern Africa Trust	-263,158
Media Development and Diversity Agency, via Zisize Educational Trust	-73,335
Humanities Instituut Voor Ontwikkelingssamewerking (HIVOS)	4,603
Other income	-1,490,437
Consultancies and commissions	-662,931
University of Cape Town grants and transfers	-473,205
Short course fees: Child Rights and Child Law for Health and Allied Professional	s -69,325
Sales: South African Child Gauge	-1,881
Interest on investment	-283,095
TOTAL INCOME 2012	-6,171,156
Less University levy	170,794
NET INCOME 2012	-6,000,362

EXPENDITURE

	6,327,621
TOTAL EXPENDITURE 2012	
Direct project activity costs	821,266
Fundraising and networking	300
Conferences	20,354
Communications and publications	19,994
Information technology	57,071
Organisational development	14,159
General operating costs	186,373
Consultants, research associates and ad hoc faculty support	104,691
Staff costs	5,103,413

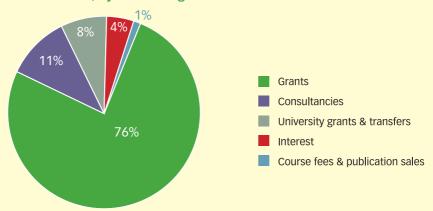
(ECD), caring schools, prevention and early intervention, alternative care, social grants, child health and child indicators. Consultancies and commissioned work that generated income in 2012 included:

- A review of the provision of social assistance grants for orphan children in the care of relatives, in partnership with Community Agency for Social Enquiry, for the national Department of Social Development.
- Two modules for a Teachers' Diploma in Psycho-Social Support for the Regional Psycho-Social Support Initiative (REPSSI).
- The hosting of an international symposium to critically examine the role of Child Policy Research Centres, on behalf of the International Network of Child Policy Centres.
- A policy brief on ECD, for Ilifa Labantwana.
- An advocacy brief on childhood blindness, for ORBIS International.
- Facilitation of consultative workshops on the National Family Policy, for StrategeQ Development, on behalf of the national Department of Social Development.
- A technical brief on the development of the child and youth care workforce that provides community-based social welfare services to vulnerable children as part of an international study on social welfare workers, for Management Sciences for Health.

Expenditure

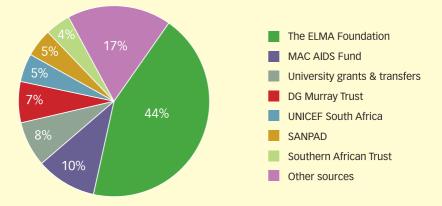
The total organisational expenditure for the period January – December 2012 was R6.3 million. Staffing costs amounted to 79% of the total expenditure. Project activity costs constituted 13%; general operating costs 3%; *ad hoc* appointment and faculty finance support 2%; and information technology, conference attendance and organisational development 1.7% collectively. Levy paid to the University on income grants amounted to 3% of total expenses for the year.

The deficit for 2012 was R327 000. This amount is substantially reduced from previous years, a result of successful and diversified fundraising, in combination with a reduced staff complement in 2012, as well as prudent funds management and expenditure choices throughout the organisation. Funds committed for 2013 suggest that the Institute's financial health will improve even more in the next financial cycle.



Income stream, by main categories

Income stream, by main sources



Staff

AS AT DECEMBER 2012

Director

Shanaaz Mathews

Associate Professor

Research and advocacy staff

Lizette Berry	Snr researcher
Ariane De Lannoy	Snr researcher
Katharine Hall	Snr researcher
Lucy Jamieson	Snr advocacy co-ordinator
Helen Meintjes	Snr researcher
Tendai Nhenga-Chakarisa	Snr researcher (part-time)
Paula Proudlock	Programme manager

Communication staff

Lori Lake	Commissioning editor
Charmaine Smith	Communication and knowledge manager

Administration, finance and information technology staff

Isabbel Cooper	Finance officer
Kevin Ernstzen	IT and operations manager (part-time)
Nombulelo Vena	Departmental assistant (part-time)
Zelda Warrin	Snr administrator
Bronwen Williams	Snr administrator



Directors past and present: (from left to right) Prof Marian Jacobs; Prof Shirley Pendlebury; Assoc Prof Shanaaz Mathews, who started in October 2012; and Dr Maylene Shung King.



Go well Shirley! Prof Pendlebury, who retired in June 2012, was sent off by staff with reflections on fond memories of her time at the Institute.

Intern

Winnie Sambu	University of the Western	Cape/Universitat Bochum, German	ny
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Visiting & associated researchers & collaborators

Rachel Bray	Consultant researcher
Debbie Budlender	Debbie Budlender and Associates
Sonja Giese	Promoting Access to Children's Entitlements
Prinslean Mahery	University of the Witwatersrand
Jaqualine Mangoma	University of KwaZulu-Natal
Katherine Newman	John's Hopkins University, United States
Ria Reis	Medical University of Leiden and University of Amsterdam,
	the Netherlands
Norma Rudolph	Independent
Gabriel Urgoiti	Independent
Sue Valentine	Independent
Ingrid Woolard	Southern Africa Labour and Development Research Unit,
	University of Cape Town

Staff who left during 2012

Anthea Maree	Information officer
Shirley Pendlebury	Director
Norma Rudolph	Principal research analyst
Danie van den Berg	Snr finance officer (part-time)

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Nhenga-Chakarisa T (2012) *Legal and policy framework relevant to refugee and migrant children.* Presented at the Orphans and Vulnerable Children in Africa Conference, Pretoria, 30 October 2012.

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Jamieson L (2012) Children's Institute's contribution to strengthening the welfare workforce for children. Presented at visit of delegation of Ethiopian government officials to the Children's Institute, 23 November 2012.

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De Lannoy A (2012) Educational outcomes in South Africa: Influences of agency and structure. Lecture series as part of the undergraduate course "Individual and society" (SOC1001F), Department of Sociology, University of Cape Town.

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sionals. Seminar for postgraduate medical students, Diploma in Child Health, Faculty of Health Sciences, University of Cape Town, July 2012.

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[Updated by] Hall K (2012) Children's access to basic services. In: Hall K, Woolard I, Lake L & Smith C (eds) *South African Child Gauge 2012*. Cape Town: Children's Institute, University of Cape Town.

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Hall K & Wright G (2012) A child-friendly focus will help us redraw our map. *The Star*, 22 October 2012: 11.

Hall K & Wright G (2012) Inequality shapes the new generation. *Pretoria News*, 22 October 2012: 6.

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The annual report was compiled through a collective effort by all staff, led by Charmaine Smith and Paula Proudlock.

Editing, design and print liaison by Charmaine Smith.

Typesetting and design by Jenny Young.

The photos were captured by staff members, with the following exceptions: *Strategies to Overcome Poverty and Inequality* conference (p. 10) and the launch of the *South African Child Gauge* 2013 (pp. 2; 8 – 9; 10; 29; 36, front cover, top left, and middle right) by Liam Cornell; Shirley's farewell (p. 37) by Andrew Barry, and *Child Gauge* launch (p. 26) by Inam Mbombo.

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