

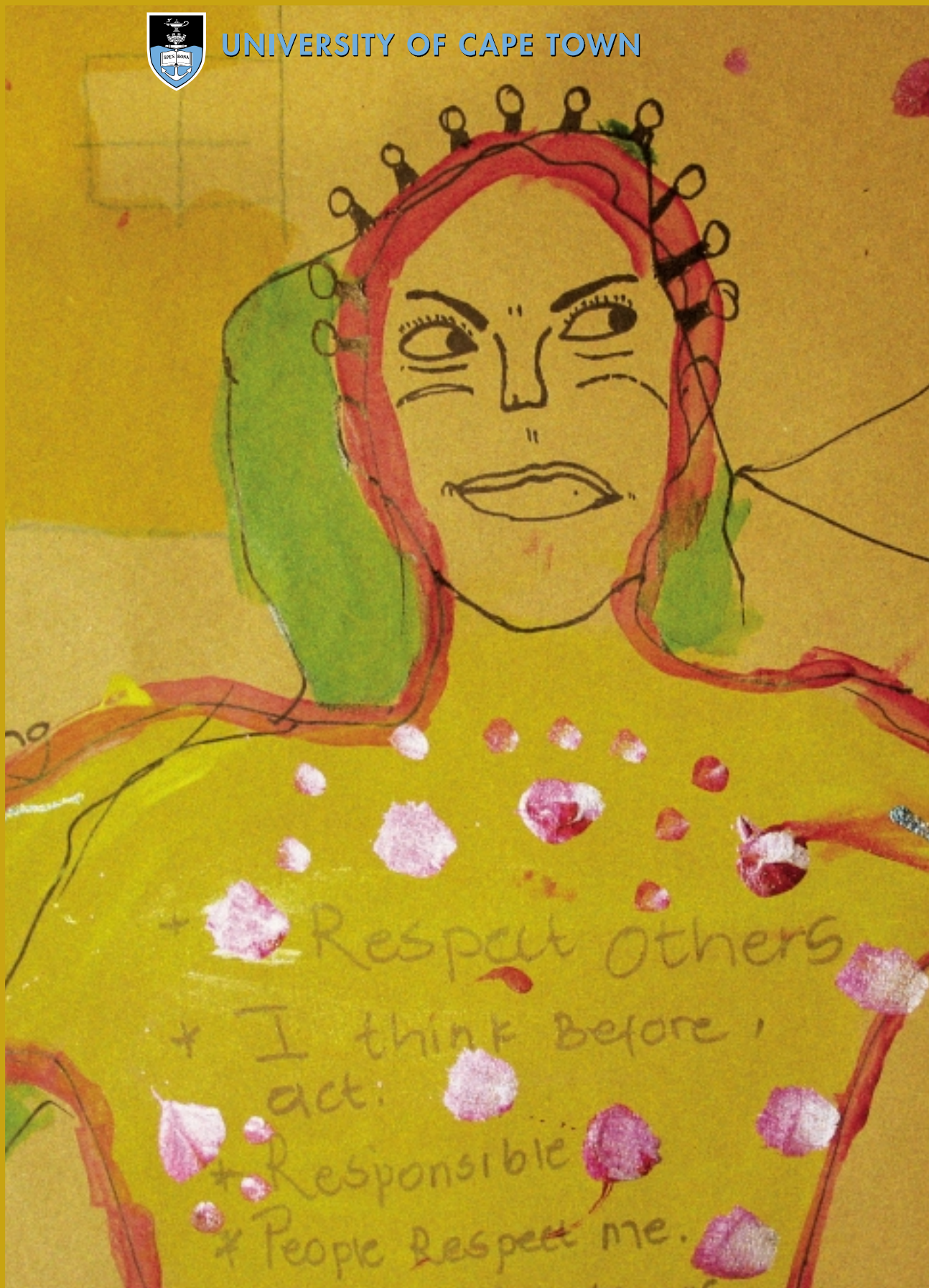
children's
institute

Annual
Report
2003/2004



UNIVERSITY OF CAPE TOWN

child rights in focus



+ Respect others
+ I think before I act.
+ Responsible
+ People Respect me.

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Contact details

Children's Institute, University of Cape Town
46 Sawkins Road, Rondebosch, Cape Town, 7700
Tel: +27 21 689 5404
Fax: +27 21 689 8330
E-mail: ci@rmh.uct.ac.za
Web: <http://web.uct.ac.za/depts/ci>

Acknowledgment

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About the Children's Institute

The Children's Institute, established at the University of Cape Town in 2001, was founded on the recognition that:

- Children, who form almost half of the South African population, are the most vulnerable sector of South African society.
- In acknowledging the rights and needs of children, South Africa has made a number of commitments to address children's vulnerability and promote their well-being through a range of laws, policies, and programmes.
- The development of effective child-friendly and culturally appropriate policies is a major challenge to Government and civil society.
- Interventions for children are not always based on evidence generated from research.

- As a civil society duty-bearer, the University has an important role to play in generating evidence for action, given its established track record in the field of child-related academic endeavours in different faculties and departments.
- The harnessing and co-ordination of such endeavours could result in a larger academic critical mass, with a potential larger impact on the promotion of child well-being.

The mission of the Children's Institute is therefore to contribute to policies which promote equity and well-being and which fulfil the rights of all children in South Africa, by combining academic excellence with social responsibility.

The Institute pays special attention to children rendered vulnerable by a range of difficult circumstances.



About the Children's Institute

The objectives of the Institute are to:

- characterise the major challenges confronting children in South Africa
- conduct policy research, analysis and commentary
- provide evidence-based information and technical assistance to all relevant role players 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 to all interested, involved and affected role players.

The Institute in all its work strives to achieve excellence, promote an inter-disciplinary research focus, develop indigenous models of policy and intervention, and respect diversity. The work of the Institute operates at national, provincial and local levels and focuses on all phases of policy development and implementation. The Institute collaborates with interested role players including academics, policy-makers and practitioners in governmental, non-governmental and community-based organisations.

The functions of the Institute are:

- **Research**
 - defining research questions in specific child policy areas
 - conducting high quality policy research and clarification
 - stimulating inter-disciplinary research
 - collating and analysing secondary research and data sets
- **Teaching**
 - conducting policy research training for graduate students from different disciplines
 - contributing child policy modules to existing programmes
 - delivering short courses or 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
- information dissemination
- participating in and supporting social movements that prioritise and promote children's well-being
- increasing the cadre of practitioners, scholars and researchers versed in evidence-based approaches to child-focused policies and practices

The main research programmes in the Institute have been carefully selected, based on priorities areas for children. Current programmes are:

- Child health services
- Child poverty
- Child rights
- HIV/AIDS

The research projects in the Children's Institute are located both within programmes and across programmes. Cross-cutting support areas include general and financial administration, human resources, communication and knowledge management.

Management and Governance

The Institute is administered through the Faculty of Health Sciences, University of Cape Town. A director and deputy director lead its activities, and are supported by a university-wide management team directly accountable to the Vice-Chancellor. The Institute is guided and advised by a Board of Advisors:

Mrs. Graça Simbine Machel, Chairperson

Mrs. Machel serves as the President of the Organisation of Mozambican Children, Foundation for Community Development in Mozambique and is the Chancellor of the University of Cape Town.

Prof. Harold Richman, Deputy Chairperson

Prof. Richman is the Hermon Dunlap Smith Professor Emeritus and the founding Director of the Chapin Hall Centre for Children at the University of Chicago.

Dr. J. Lawrence Aber

Dr. Aber is a recognised expert in child development and social policy, and is currently Professor of Applied Psychology and Public Policy at the Steinhardt School of Education, University of New York.

Ms. Nazeema Ahmed

Ms. Ahmed was formerly the research manager of the South African Parliamentary Research Unit and is now the Managing Director of the Paraffin Safety Association of South Africa. She has a special interest in children and families, social safety nets and poverty alleviation, energy and under-development, reproductive health rights and gender justice.

Prof. Cheryl de la Rey

Prof. De la Rey is a Deputy Vice-Chancellor at the University of Cape Town and the newest addition to the Board of Advisors.

Prof. Jonathan Jansen

Prof. Jansen has been the Dean of Education at the University of Pretoria since 2000. He is both editor and editorial board member for numerous accredited journals published locally and internationally.

Dr. John R. Pinkerton

Dr. Pinkerton is the Head of the School of Social Work, Queen's University, Belfast, Northern Ireland. He has a special interest in the application of research to policy and was seconded to the Irish government to help develop the Irish National Children's Strategy.

Dr. Jon E. Rohde

Dr. 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 in health and nutrition to Mr. James P. Grant. He now works as an international consultant in Africa and Asia, while teaching and writing from his home in South Africa.

Adv. Tseliso Thipanyane

Adv. Thipanyane was formerly the head of the research and documentation department of the South African Human Rights Commission. He is a legal advisor and Head of Corporate Affairs to the newly established Commission for the Promotion and Protection for the Rights of Cultural, Religious and Linguistic Communities.





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The Year in Review

The past year has been witness to many advances for children's rights in South Africa.

The incremental increase of the age at which children become eligible for social welfare support has resulted in greater coverage of those in need, and bodes well for the progressive realisation of Government's intention to ensure appropriate social security access for poor children. Significant progress has also been made in the drafting of the Children's Bill and the promotion of civil society input into this law-making process. The role of children's participation in commentary on the Bill was especially an important step in focusing on the crucial contribution of children to matters that will affect their own lives, and on the importance of taking their opinions seriously by those who have the power to make decisions about them.

Yet there remains much to be done to improve the lives of our children. An unacceptably large number of children still die at a young age from preventable conditions, children's access to essential health care remains inequitable, and those with chronic, long-term conditions have limited options for intervention. While the numbers of children infected with HIV, and affected by HIV/AIDS, have increased, much more attention should be paid to providing support for these children both during their caregivers' illness and after these caregivers have died. The responsibilities of, and support to, those who take over the role of caregivers in this situation need much further analysis to support the development of innovative, locally-responsive strategies to address this endemic problem.

The gains made in the Children's Bill were not matched in respect of the recently implemented National Health Act, and strong calls for a children's perspective in the latter had limited impact and outcome. The definition of 'basic services' in relation to children's right to socio-economic security remains elusive in the broader legislative framework provided by the Constitution. This presents a challenge to those who advocate for children's rights, as well as for those who bear the duty to respond to the constitutional requirements.

Our mission and activities

In this context, the Children's Institute in the past year continued to make important contributions to children's policy development and reform through research, education, technical support to child-oriented agencies and institutions, and advocacy. By keeping our focus on a few specific areas, viz. children's health services, children affected by HIV/AIDS, child poverty, and the rights of children and laws governing their lives, the Institute undertakes primary research, collates and analyses evidence, convenes child policy roundtable discussions and advocates for children through communication outputs and a variety of other channels.

While our mission remains unchanged, the demands of the external environment, along with the requirements of a growing Institution, have precipitated a review of our strategy and operations. Some of the many organisational challenges that we face are long-term financial security, sustainability, moving the Institute closer to mainstream University activities, and positioning ourselves in a national milieu of academic endeavour related to children. An organisational development process is currently under way and is aimed at strengthening the institutional infrastructure and relationships, and revitalising our strategic directions. In a process designed to involve the whole Institute, a careful, detailed situation analysis will provide a foundation for future strategies and action.

A further challenge for the Institute lies in promoting an architecture which encourages a focus on specific policy areas - currently organised in programmes - while optimising cross-linkages between these areas through new projects and a reconfiguration of staff skills. Some projects which have facilitated such cross-activities are the *ChildInfo Project*, the *Child Participation Project*, several law reform projects and a variety of activities promoting access to socio-economic rights for children. These activities are described in more detail in the programme sections in this report.

Staffing and governance

The number of staff in the Institute has been very stable in the past year and in August 2004 stood at 20 full-time and two part-time staff members. In the period under review, which is July 2003 to June 2004, eight staff members completed their contracts or moved on to other interests, while two full-time and two part-time staff members were appointed in the same period.

The support of the Board of Advisors remains as strong and committed as always, with five board members having visited the Institute for five days during February 2004. The Deputy Vice-Chancellor for Research in the University, Prof. Cheryl de la Rey, recently joined the board as its newest member and her experience and expertise are greatly welcomed and appreciated.

Collaboration and networking

Our efforts to mainstream the Institute's academic profile and activities have pivoted on two axes – research collaboration with individuals and departments within the University, and teaching. In both of these areas our major collaborators are the Departments of Anthropology, Child and Adolescent Health, Economics, Education, Public Law and Public Health, as well as the Centres for Socio-Legal Studies and Social Sciences Research.

We also have maintained excellent linkages with our government, civil society, academic and research institute partners, and have developed new connections and collaborations in the past year. The relationship with Government mainly includes the national Departments of Social Development and Health. Related activities during the past year have focused on the Institute's contributions to law reform, namely the Children's Bill and the recently implemented National Health and Social Assistance Acts. In addition, policy monitoring and evaluation activities concentrated on the phased-in extension of the Child Support Grant by examining its administration, take-up rates and budget allocation through various means.

Engagement with civil society was largely concerned with the promotion of law reform contributions and the harnessing of children's voices within this process. The Children's Bill Working Group's activities are described in the Child Rights Programme section of this report and the

Dikwankwetla – Children in Action group's activities are described in greater detail in the HIV/AIDS Programme section. Work in this area will continue to be an important focus for the Institute. Furthermore, our concern regarding children's political rights extends beyond advocacy for child participation into defining and acknowledging their right to be appropriately represented – and heard – in the media.

The Institute also played a leading role in facilitating networking between civil society and institutions on important issues such as parental responsibilities where adult parents or caregivers are absent, as is increasingly the situation in the context of the HIV/AIDS pandemic.

Linkages with our research and academic colleagues have been forged around projects in all the programmes of the Institute. Each project in the Institute has academic representation on a reference group, and in some cases there has been direct collaboration with such academic representatives and their institutions. These links have further been nurtured by convening regular seminars on topics in child policy and research, and these events are attracting increasing interest. During the past year we have been privileged to host speakers from the Centre for Socio-Legal Studies and the Department of Public Law (both in the University of Cape Town), the Human Sciences Research Council and Queen's University, Northern Ireland.

Finances

The Children's Institute finances are in a healthy state, and a breakdown of funding received during the year under review appears later in this report. However, the maintenance of a strong resource base is demanding and requires continuous fundraising. An important contribution during the last year was the award of a substantial closing grant from our core funder, Atlantic Philanthropies, whose funding priorities in South Africa have moved away from children's policy. This grant marks the last funding cycle from this donor, whose interest and concern for children has been highly valued, and whose generosity has been much appreciated.

We are also grateful to our other donors, whose funding of projects in the Institute allows us to continue to work on exciting and interesting projects in creative ways, and with a number of partners. Without them we would not be in a position to

execute our roles as duty-bearers, working in the best interest of our children. All programme and project donors are individually acknowledged in the programme sections in this report.

Our finances continue to be managed superbly by an Institute team, whose capacity has been bolstered by support from a newly established financial hub in the School of Child and Adolescent Health. This will strengthen our ability to respond to the different financial and reporting requirements of the University and of our large pool of donors, and will also improve our access to information on new financial policies and funding opportunities.

Future plans

The future of the Children's Institute is bright. We have a strong foundation of work in the field of children's policy, which is widely acknowledged by the academic, civil society, government and news media sectors. Our outputs and communication products are used extensively in the South African children's sector, and we are gaining a good reputation in Africa, as well as globally. The Institute furthermore has a pool of donors who believe in our mission and who continuously invest in our work. Finally, we have staff who are highly competent, who represent a vast collective experience, and who are all passionate advocates for children and the realisation of children's rights. This combination of resources continues to make it possible for us to contribute to alleviating the plight of South Africa's children by advancing policies and strategies that are in their best interest. It is a privilege to be part of this commitment to children.



Child Health Services Programme

Improving child health and child health status remains one of South Africa's biggest challenges.

While the last ten years saw substantial policy and law reform, the key lies in translating political and programme imperatives into sustainable, good quality health services for children.

The principle guiding the work of the Child Health Services Programme is that of ensuring children's "right to the highest level of health possible", as stated in Article 24 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, and their "right to basic health care services", as set out in Section 28(c) in the Constitution. The Programme engages in research, technical support and training to inform child health service development, and in this way contributes to the improvement of child health in South Africa.

During the period under review, the Programme concentrated on developing its strategic direction as it sought to identify a key focus, explore cross-cutting activities with other Children's Institute programmes, and identify collaborative opportunities with partners at the University of Cape Town and elsewhere. An external reference group consisting of health service providers, health managers and researchers has been set up to assist the Programme with its strategic direction and future planning.

Funding was received from the following commissioning agencies in the past year:

- national Department of Health
- Save the Children Sweden
- Health Systems Trust
- Institute for Democracy in South Africa (IDASA)

A major focus of the Programme for the coming year will be to solicit core funding to sustain activities for at least a three-year cycle.

Key projects for 2003/4

Child Death Review Project

In keeping with the spirit of the End of Decade Review, the Child Health Services Programme undertook to conduct a comprehensive review of child deaths in South Africa. The aim of this review is to develop a comprehensive understanding of the causes, extent and information systems related to child deaths in South Africa by conducting a ten-year (1994-2003) review based on available information.

The project provides opportunities for multi-sectoral collaborations across institutions and government departments to develop interventions to reduce child deaths. This review feeds into the Programme's *Critical Care Project* (discussed below) by characterising the numbers and types of child health cases that require critical health care intervention.

Critical Care Project

Child mortality and morbidity rates in South Africa are very high. Many deaths and complications from serious diseases are imminently preventable. Health services have a crucial role to play in the prevention of child deaths and complications from serious diseases. Critical care health services for children therefore are deserving of attention to ensure that such services can cope with the numbers and types of critical illnesses that children experience. This is especially necessary in the face of the HIV pandemic, as thousands of children infected with HIV experience multiple episodes of serious illnesses that may require critical care. Currently this is a neglected area with very little information available on the quantity, quality and functioning of critical care health services for children.

This project thus aims to investigate the state of current service provision at all levels of care, investigate potential models of best practice and make policy and service recommendations on how to improve critical care service provisions to children.

The project is in the protocol development stage and is scheduled to commence early in 2005.

Analysing health provisions in the Children's Bill

Given the paucity of child-specific clauses in the newly implemented National Health Act, it is imperative that the Children's Bill legislate for child health issues. The Child Health Services Programme is driving the analyses and input on the health-specific provisions in the Children's Bill in conjunction with service delivery, academic and research agencies within the health sector.

Analysing regulations in the National Health Act

The Child Health Services Programme submitted substantive commentary on the draft National Health Bill to the Department of Health in 2002, and the following year made written and oral submissions on the Bill to Parliament. Given this engagement with the development of the Act, the Programme will continue to make input into the development of regulations to the National Health Act.

Policy framework for chronic diseases in children

The Child Health Services Programme Manager for the past four years served on a task team that made input into the development of a national service policy on chronic health conditions in children.

This policy has been officially accepted by the national Department of Health in July 2004. The policy will be launched upon completion of a set of implementation guidelines that are being developed in partnership by the Children's Institute and the School of Child and Adolescent Health, University of Cape Town.

Antiretroviral treatment: Where do children feature?

Save the Children Sweden recently commissioned the Children's Institute to analyse *if* and *how* children are catered for in Government's plan for the "comprehensive care and treatment for HIV and AIDS".

The discussion paper examines the health requirements of children with HIV in the context of children's comprehensive health needs, which necessitates a comprehensive service response. The paper is due for completion and release in the latter half of 2004.

Child Health Services Programme

The Children's Budget Book Project

The Children's Institute was contracted in 2003 by IDASA to write the chapter on 'Children's Right to Health' for the 2003/2004 *Children's Budget Book*. The chapter explores Government's follow-through on its commitment to children's right to health by examining a key health programme, its implementation and budgetary allocation.

The book was released in May 2004.

Cross-programme collaborations

Defining basic health care for children

The Child Health Services Programme, in collaboration with the Child Rights Programme, will define the constitutional provision of children's right to basic health care services. This is aimed at equipping citizens with a working understanding of what basic health care they are entitled to, and at increasing government officials' understanding of which basic health care services they are obliged to provide. This project is part of the Child Rights Programme's comprehensive *Project 28*, which seeks legal clarity on children's socio-economic rights.

The Child Health Services Programme input will concentrate on analysing all existing health policies, laws and programmes for children, and thereafter propose a set of basic health care services in consultation with experts from across the country.

Training

The Child Health Services Programme is responsible for convening a ten-week *Organisation and Management* module in the MPhil in the Maternal and Child Health Programme, delivered by the Child Health Unit at the University of Cape Town.

The Programme further received several requests in the past year from health service providers to deliver its three-day short course in child health policy. This course has been offered by the Institute since 1998 and had two runs in the past year. It was conducted for

the Western Cape Provincial Department of Health, as well as for the Free State Provincial Department of Health. A total of 28 health service providers, health programme managers and policy researchers participated in the training.

The Programme was also involved in the delivery of a short course in health advocacy and policy development at the winter school of the Public Health Programme, University of the Western Cape.

Other activities and collaborations

The Child Health Services Programme is collaborating with the *ChildInfo Project* in the Children's Institute to identify a core set of child health indicators that will be used to measure Government's progress towards meeting national goals for child health.

The Programme furthermore works with a number of University of Cape Town collaborators, which includes:

- service providers at Red Cross Children's Hospital and in the School of Paediatrics and Child Health, and
- the Department of Primary Health Care in the School of Public Health.

The Programme also works in conjunction with the following collaborators outside the University:

- the Child Accident Prevention Foundation of South Africa
- the national Department of Health's Maternal, Child and Women's Health Programme and selected provincial equivalents
- the Departments of Paediatrics and Child Health at the University of the Witwatersrand
- the Health Systems Trust
- the Medical Research Council's Burden of Disease Unit and the National Injuries and Mortality Surveillance Project
- the Nelson Mandela School of Medicine at the University of KwaZulu-Natal

Child Poverty Programme

Too many children in South Africa live in households that struggle to provide for their basic needs.

Estimates of poverty levels differ widely but even the more conservative estimates from the national Department of Social Development indicate that 59% of children aged 0-17 years are income poor. This amounts to nearly 13 million children.

Apartheid policies of discrimination, dispossession and under-development have rendered many families unable to provide children with the basic rights guaranteed by the Constitution, namely adequate food, shelter, water and electricity, education and health care.

The promise of the new South Africa is both political and economic. However, the end of the first decade of democracy has seen increased levels of unemployment and poverty, and a deepening of poverty amongst those most marginalised. Not only is poverty widespread but inequality is also stark and marked by differences in race, education and location. Inequality is high between and within provinces, with African families, families headed by women, and families in rural areas being the most impoverished.

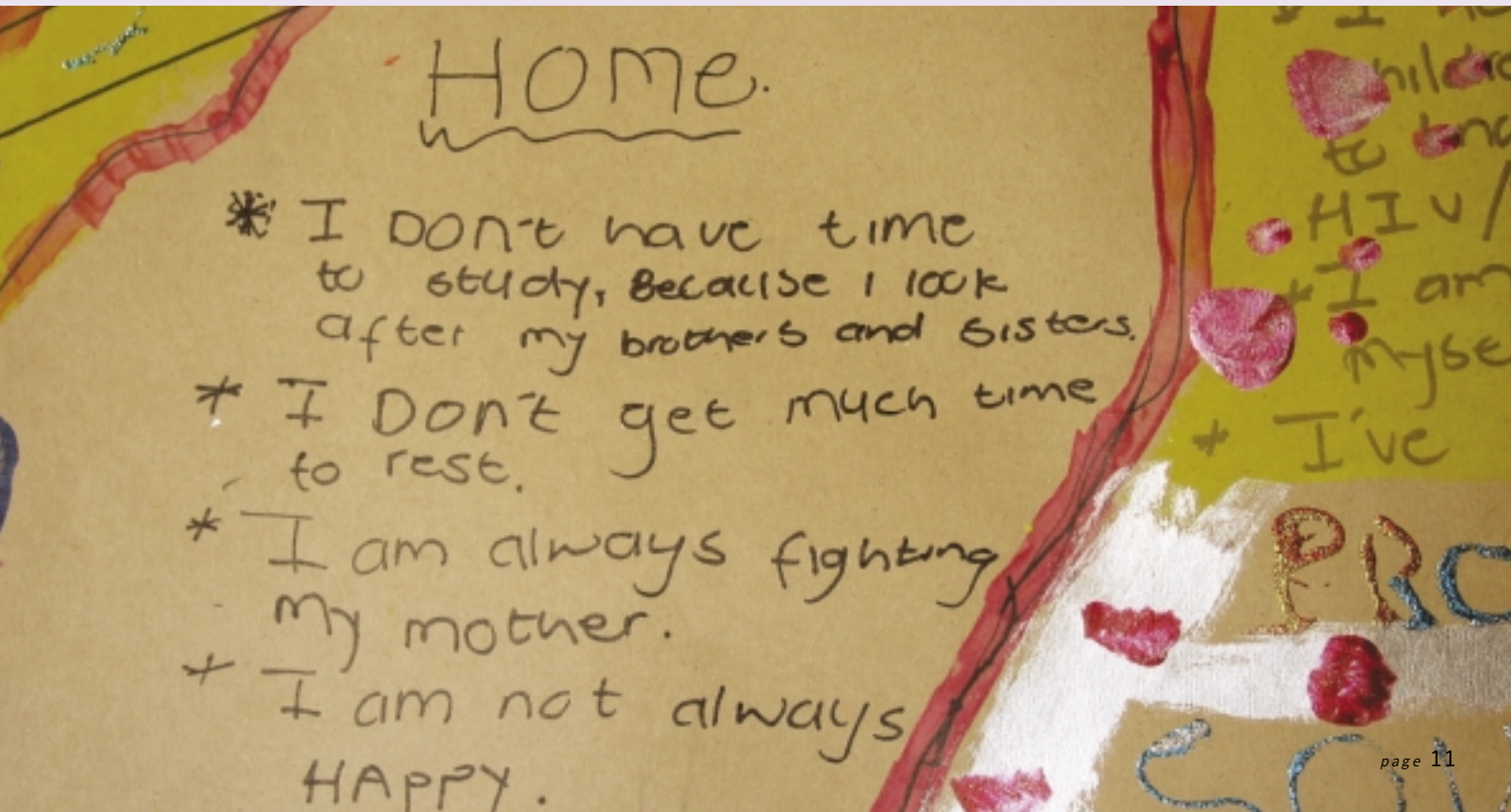
Poverty and inequality are also exacerbated by the

burden of HIV/AIDS. Poor households experience illness, their members lose jobs due to poor health, and they are required to divert scarce resources to health care and funerals.

There is an increasing need for direct policies and programmes to realise the socio-economic rights of all South Africans, including children, given South Africa's failure to stimulate economic growth and job creation. The first ten years of democratic governance have resulted in huge priority changes and a stated political commitment to provide services and opportunities for the poor. Government seems committed in its policies and its budgeting priorities to provide free basic services, accessible education, public health care, and a range of social security provisions, particularly for children. These programmes are vital to the future of children but face huge challenges of implementation and expansion.

The Child Poverty Programme in this context aims to address and mitigate the impact of the high levels of poverty, in all its dimensions, on children in South Africa. This is done by:

- monitoring the government's poverty alleviation programmes and social security for children,
- conducting research and engaging in advocacy that informs appropriate legislative, policy and programme development and implementation.



Key projects 2003/4

Monitoring the administration and reach of the Child Support Grant and other cash benefits targeted at children

The Child Support Grant (CSG) is Government's single biggest poverty alleviation measure targeted at children. The Children's Institute over the last few years has been playing an important role in monitoring the implementation of this grant, which was extended in April 2004 to poor children under 11 years as the second phase of an extension to poor children under 14 years by 2005.

This project is one component of a core activity envisioned for the Institute in exercising its policy monitoring and evaluation function, and examines the administration, take-up rates and budget allocation related to social security benefits for children and their families. Regular reports have been produced for use by the government, academic institutions and other civil society organisations and alliances. Two working papers, which analyse the extension of the CSG by examining the uptake of the grant and comparing its reach to rates of child poverty at national and provincial levels, have also been produced and distributed widely in the past year.

This project is funded by core support from Atlantic Philanthropies.

Establishing a database of indicators of child well-being

Attempts to monitor the impact of poverty on children highlighted a lack of specific indicators in the routine information system. To establish a baseline data set against which to track the impact of social security interventions on children, the predecessor of the Child Poverty Programme – the Social Security Programme – in 2002 undertook to collect and collate data regarding the well-being of children in South Africa. The *ChildInfo* software package, developed and provided by UNICEF, was used for this purpose.

This project was the forerunner for mainstreaming the development of indicators to guide impact assessment for all child-oriented policies and programmes, a process which is still ongoing in the Institute. This project, now titled the *ChildInfo Project*, was relocated to the Communication and Knowledge Management division of the Institute in early 2004. This allowed the *ChildInfo Project* to serve as an internal resource

to all the programmes in the Children's Institute, and to be utilised as a key advocacy tool in monitoring the situation of children in South Africa.

The project was funded by UNICEF South Africa.

Rapid assessment of the situation of children in South Africa

In using the data on child well-being collected by the *ChildInfo Project*, the Child Poverty Programme undertook a rapid assessment of the situation of children in South Africa with the support of Save the Children Sweden. This report was very well received and 2 500 copies have been distributed to government departments, academic institutions and civil society organisations and networks since its publication in November 2003.

Cross-programme collaborations

Poverty is central to all the concerns of the Children's Institute. The realisation of children's rights, access to health care and vulnerability in relation to HIV/AIDS are all affected by household poverty. This concern has prompted the Child Poverty Programme to partner with projects in other Children's Institute programmes to add a deepened poverty perspective and tools analysis to their work. Two pieces of work that emerged from this collaboration are discussed here.

The Means to Live: A project to evaluate policies and administrative instruments for targeting poverty alleviation and basic services provision to poor children and their families

From an initial concern with the inappropriate means test for the CSG and concerns about cost recovery mechanisms for the basic service provision of water, electricity and other municipal services, it has become apparent that there is room for increased attention to the basic needs and living environments of poor children in South Africa. This has prompted the Child Rights and Child Poverty Programmes to initiate a joint project on the socio-economic rights of children, specifically looking at targeting mechanisms for poverty alleviation programmes for poor families and their children.

Launched towards the end of the period under

review, the project will take place in two phases over the next two years. The first phase will be a policy analysis of poverty alleviation programmes in the housing, education, and health sectors, as well as social security and free water and basic sanitation programmes. The second phase will involve primary research aimed at understanding issues around cost, accessibility, administrative justice and cross-subsidisation of poverty alleviation programmes that have an impact on children's lives.

This project will be funded by Save the Children Sweden and the Swedish International Development Agency. Other donors are currently also considering funding proposals for this project.

Technical support to the Early Childhood Development (ECD) sector in response to the Children's Bill

The Child Poverty Programme in 2004 undertook to assist the *Law Reform and Research Project* in the Child Rights Programme in providing advocacy and policy support to the ECD sector in South Africa. This took the form of an ECD policy review and the hosting of a national symposium to assist ECD providers and their representative bodies to effectively give input at the Children's Bill public hearings. Such input will be aimed at representing the concerns of ECD facilities in informal settlements with regards to norms and standards, registration of facilities and subsidisation by the Departments of Social Development and Education.

Training

The Child Poverty Programme is involved in training on social security provisions for children in a range of forums. In this regard the Programme Manager presents lectures every two months on children's rights and social security for children to fifth-year medical students at the University of Cape Town. Furthermore, the Programme has also presented its research on the administration and uptake of the CSG at a budget training workshop for non-governmental organisations hosted by the Institute for Democracy in South Africa.

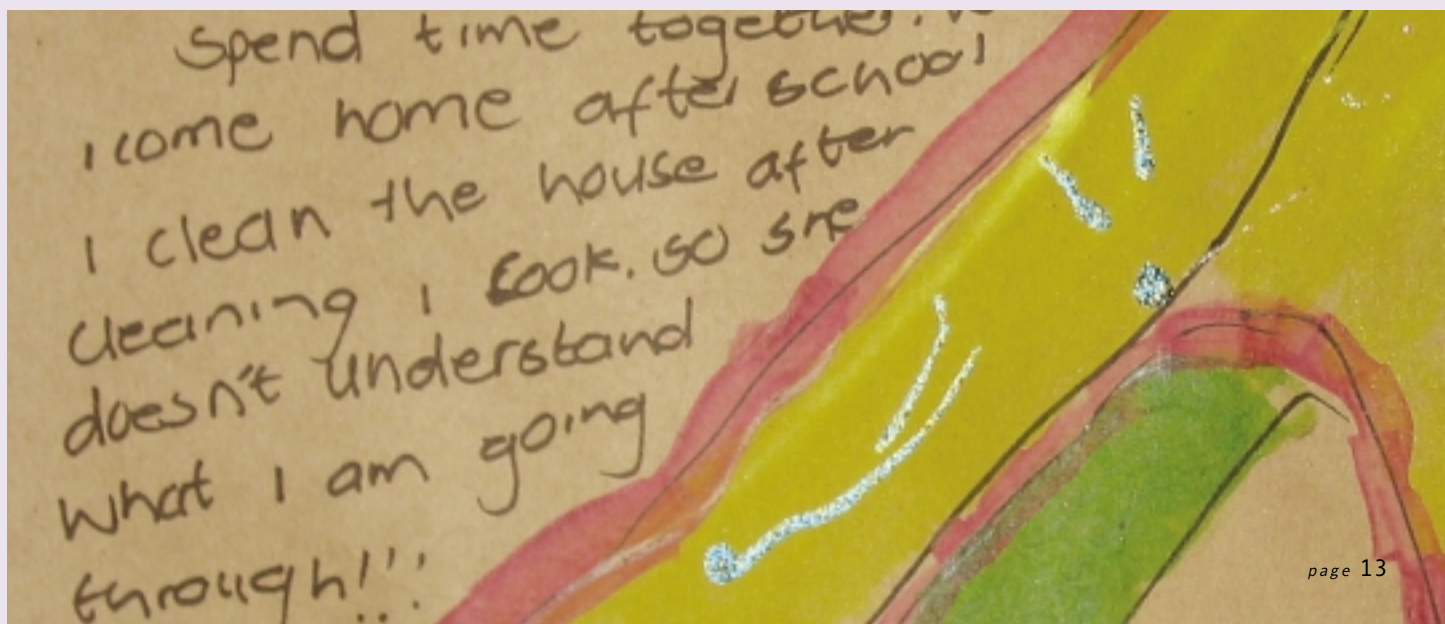
Other key activities and collaborations

Over the last year, much time has been spent networking on children's issues with appropriate researchers, poverty research groups, pro-poor advocacy groups and international networks in an effort to develop the direction and projects of the Child Poverty Programme.

Main collaborators have been:

- the Centre for Social Sciences Research, University of Cape Town
- the Institute for Democracy in South Africa
- the Child, Youth and Family Development Programme, Human Sciences Research Council
- the United Nations Children's Fund

A senior researcher was also appointed to the Programme towards the end of the year under review.



Child Rights Programme



Over the past few years, two new draft laws that will have a major impact on child rights reached the final stages of the law-making process, while another one was tabled to begin a two-year process through Parliament.

These developments prompted the Children's Institute to prioritise law reform research and advocacy activities in response.

The National Health and the Social Assistance Bills were debated by Parliament in the second half of 2003 and passed in early 2004. The Children's Institute has, through collaborative initiatives with civil society organisations and government departments, to a certain extent ensured that children's rights are promoted through the two new laws. Where core principles were not included in the actual laws, the Institute will be working at infusing such principles into the regulations and the implementation of the laws.

The third law, the Children's Bill, was tabled in Parliament at the end of 2003 for debate and passage, but it is still a long way from completion. For this reason the Children's Institute and the South African Society for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (SASPCAN), which serves as the secretariat of the Children's Bill Working Group, continue to

mobilise around public input into this draft legislation.

Overall, the Child Rights Programme aims to promote policy and law reform that is infused with the principles of children's rights as embodied in the Bill of Rights in the Constitution, and international human rights instruments, such as the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child.

However, advocating for the legislation of children's socio-economic rights often proves difficult due to the lack of clarity on how these rights should be interpreted. While the Constitution contains clear socio-economic rights for children¹, there is a lack of certainty as to *how* these rights should be interpreted, what the *extent* and *nature* of Government's obligations in relation to these rights are, and *how* this can be translated into practical delivery. Without this clarity, it has proven to be rather difficult to persuade government decision-makers on why and how socio-economic laws should adopt child-specific clauses.

This has prompted the Institute to recognise the need to create *Project 28* to seek clarity on the meaning of children's constitutional socio-economic rights, particularly regarding the nature and extent of Government's obligations to children.

During the period under review, projects in the Child Rights Programme were financially supported by the Open Society Foundation of South Africa and the Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust.

Key projects 2003/4

Law Reform Research and Advocacy Project

This project is aimed at promoting law reform debate and decision-making that is informed by analyses of children's rights and the main challenges facing South African children, the use of evidence, consultation with the children's sector, and innovation.

The second half of 2003 was an extremely busy and challenging time for the Child Rights Programme, as both the National Health and the Social Assistance Bills were finalised in Parliament. At the same time, a diluted and severely compromised Children's Bill was on the verge of being fast-tracked through Parliament before the 2004 elections.

Written and oral submissions on all three Bills were preceded and followed by communication and

¹ Section 28(1)(c) of the Bill of Rights

advocacy strategies for each Bill to promote the Institute's recommendations to government decision-makers. These strategies were conducted with key civil society alliances, namely the Alliance for Children's Entitlement to Social Security (ACCESS), and the Children's Bill Working Group.

The following section provides some of this project's highlights for the year.

Monitoring the extension of the Child Support Grant (CSG) to children under 14 years

Since the extension of the CSG to children under 14 years was announced, Government has hinted at an intention to extend the grant to children under 18 years in the near future. However, a successful roll-out to children under 14 would be crucial to encourage a further extension. For this reason the Child Rights Programme initiated a joint project with ACCESS to monitor the CSG extension to make recommendations for improvements in the roll-out phases. Monitoring information was compiled in monthly *Case Alerts*, which were distributed to government decision-makers, service providers, civil society and the media.

A consolidated report on the monitoring of the first year of the roll-out was produced in April 2004 in time to inform the second phase of the roll-out of the CSG. The monitoring results and recommendations for improvements were also discussed with the national CSG Project Co-ordinator in the Department of Social Development.

Advocating for the best possible Children's Bill

The Children's Bill Working Group successfully prevented the fast-tracking of the Bill before the 2004 elections by co-ordinating a national children's sector campaign to highlight the need to improve the Bill before it became law. The Children's Bill media advocacy strategy was in particular very successful in generating media interest in the potential of an improved Bill. The working group's relationship with the drafters of the Bill has been well established and support to, and negotiations with, the drafters continue as the Bill goes through the next phases of the law-making process.

The working group has also successfully mobilised the children's sector to engage with the law reform process from an informed and empowered position. Organisations from rural areas, community-based

organisations and sub-sectors that tend to be marginalised in law reform alliances were purposively recruited to participate in the process.

The Institute further hosted four workshops in the past year to explore how the Children's Bill can be improved to make it more accessible and beneficial to the majority of families and children. The workshops were also aimed at testing whether the proposals in the Bill will adequately provide for the real challenges faced by the majority of children. The parental rights and responsibilities workshop in particular highlighted gaps in the proposed law and recommendations for reform were included into the written and oral submissions to Parliament. The workshop on social assistance for child-headed households, and the resulted communication products, helped the children's sector to reach a stance on this issue that could be carried forward into the Children's Bill process.

Project 28

Project 28 is aimed at seeking legal clarity on the meaning of children's socio-economic rights and promotes the adoption of child-focused interpretation by the courts. It in particular concentrates on developing the legal interpretation of children's rights to health care, food, water, housing, social services, protection against abuse and the right to be free from all forms of violence, social security, education, name and nationality, and family care or appropriate alternative care.

The project will culminate in several communication outputs, such as a publication of legal analyses of each socio-economic right and a national children's rights conference. Phase one of the project, a series of literature reviews and annotated bibliographies, started in April 2004 with the appointment of a dedicated researcher and will be completed by the end of the year. The literature reviews collate child-focused domestic and international legal writings that rarely appear in the mainstream debates with regards to socio-economic rights.

Where necessary, the project will promote the development of jurisprudence on children's socio-economic rights by encouraging networking between public interest litigation lawyers, and initiating and supporting precedent setting litigation. For this purpose a workshop was jointly hosted in 2004 with the Child Litigation Project, University of Pretoria,

and the AIDS Law Project, University of the Witwatersrand, to discuss current litigation and areas in need of litigation. Nutrition, health, social services and education emerged as such areas. Four network member organisations now have undertaken to host seminars where child rights non-governmental organisations, researchers and service providers could brief litigators on the priority challenges facing children in these four areas.

Cross-programme projects

A new project is born: Means to Live

Many poor children whose caregivers do not pass the means test have no access to the CSG. The means test does not take into account the number of people living on the grant, or extra vulnerabilities faced by a family, such as HIV/AIDS. Furthermore, the means test threshold has not been increased since 1998 despite increases in the cost of living and inflation. All government poverty alleviation programmes have a targeting mechanism similar to the CSG means test, and preliminary research by the Children's Institute shows that these mechanisms do not necessarily ensure that children have access to basic services such as education, water and sanitation, and housing. In fact, such targeting mechanisms in many instances act as barriers to poor children and families' access to poverty alleviation programmes.

This has prompted the Child Rights and Child Poverty Programmes to initiate a two-year project, *Means to Live*, to investigate the targeting mechanism of the government's key programmes aimed at providing for children and families. It is envisaged that the research recommendations will be fed into various policy, law and programme reform processes, including the regulations to the Social Assistance Act, National Health Act, and the Children's Bill.

Promoting children's participation in the Children's Bill

The Child Rights Programme provided legal and advocacy support and training to the *Dikwankwetla – Children in Action* group to enable them to participate in the civil society input on the Children's Bill. The Programme worked closely with the HIV/AIDS

Programme, which initiated this child participation project, to host several workshops where the children interacted with the draft Bill to identify shortcomings in relation to their own circumstances. The project is discussed in more detail in the HIV/AIDS Programme section in this report.

Training

The Child Rights Programme in early 2004 participated in training on children's socio-economic rights to fifth-year medical students at the University of Cape Town.

In July 2004 it conducted an internal advocacy training workshop for staff members in collaboration with the Communication and Knowledge Management division in the Institute.

The Programme also trains members of the Children's Bill Working Group and other civil society organisations on law reform research and advocacy.

Other key activities and collaborations

There is strength in unity, and without our partner organisations most of the projects would not achieve success. Key partners during the past year include all the organisations on the Children's Bill Working Group, especially Childline, SASPCAN, Resources Aimed at the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect, Johannesburg Child Welfare and the Disabled Children's Action Group.

Furthermore, all the member organisations of ACCESS need to be acknowledged, and in particular the ACCESS staff. Basic Income Grant Coalition member organisations have also been key partners during the last year, especially the Black Sash, the Congress of South African Trade Unions, the South African Council of Churches and the Southern African Catholic Bishops' Conference.

In the area of developing children's rights jurisprudence, key partners were ACCESS, the Legal Resources Centre, the Child Litigation Project at the University of Pretoria, and the Centre for Applied Legal Studies at the University of the Witwatersrand.



The realisation of children's rights in South Africa is severely threatened by the multi-faceted impact of HIV/AIDS on all sectors of society.

Extensive research and consultation by the Children's Institute between 2000 and 2003^{1, 2} have documented the impact of AIDS-related morbidity and mortality on:

- household form and care arrangements,
- the ability of caregivers to meet the basic needs of their dependents,
- types and level of responsibility that children assume for domestic chores and care giving,
- children's access to basic services,
- school drop-out and attendance rates,
- a range of service providers, including educators.

The research indicated that it is not simply those children who are directly affected by illness and death who feel the impact of the AIDS pandemic. Increasing household-level dependency ratios, neighbourhood poverty levels and demands for health and social services render all children in AIDS-affected communities potentially vulnerable.

The HIV/AIDS Programme therefore aims to promote and facilitate an appropriate policy, programme and funding response to children in the

context of HIV/AIDS in South Africa through research, advocacy and the provision of technical support to key target groups. The research and advocacy priorities of the Programme over the past year were informed by its earlier work, with activities focusing primarily on the mitigation of the social impact of HIV/AIDS on children.

Key projects 2003/2004

Promoting recommendations for health and social services to meet the needs of children in the context of HIV/AIDS in South Africa

In 2001, the Children's Institute was commissioned by the national Department of Health to develop a set of recommendations to inform appropriate health and social services (including education) for children in the context of HIV/AIDS in South Africa. The research report and a set of recommendations were submitted to the department in January 2003. The report has not yet been officially released by the department and the Children's Institute has therefore been unable to print and distribute the final product.

The full report is a lengthy document, which makes it inaccessible to certain key target audiences. The project therefore aims to develop and distribute a set of targeted outputs based on the recommendations

1. *Health and social services to address the needs of orphans and other vulnerable children in the context of HIV/AIDS – Research report and recommendations (2003)* Giese S, Meintjes H, Croke R, Chamberlain R. Children's Institute and national Department of Health, Pretoria.

2. *The National Children's Forum on HIV/AIDS (2002)* Giese S, Meintjes H, Proudlock P. Children's Institute, Cape Town.

in the research report, and a materials development specialist will be employed for this purpose.

This project is funded by the Rockefeller Brothers Fund.

Research and development of a capacity-building programme to facilitate an improved school-based response to children's vulnerability in the context of the HIV/AIDS pandemic

A key recommendation that emerged from the Children's Institute research mentioned earlier, was the need to think 'out of the box' in terms of service provision, and maximise opportunities within existing services to provide care and support to vulnerable children and their families. The education system in particular has an important role to play in this regard, as schools are ideally placed to act as *nodes of care and support*, providing school-based services where possible, and assisting children to access support outside the school.

This project in collaboration with the South African Democratic Teachers' Union (SADTU) therefore aims to explore one mechanism for translating the concept of schools as nodes of care and support into action that would support both learners and educators.

The project will develop and pilot a school-based capacity-building programme through a participatory research process involving partner schools and non-governmental organisations over a period of two years. The capacity-building programme will be designed to assist schools to respond appropriately to learner vulnerability within the context of multi-sectoral safety nets. The project is designed to strengthen and supplement existing government initiatives towards an expanded role for schools in the support of vulnerable learners.

This project is funded by IBIS, the Rockefeller Brothers Fund and the SADTU.

Children 'in need of care' or in need of cash? Critiquing the use of the Foster Child Grant as a response to the poverty-related needs of orphans

This collaborative project between the Children's Institute and the Centre for Actuarial Research, University of Cape Town, explores which social security provisions will best support children in the context of the AIDS pandemic in South Africa. It in particular questions whether children who have been

orphaned should be eligible for cash grants different to those provided to other poor children. It therefore closely examines current social security provisions for South African children, as well as those proposed by the drafters of the Children's Bill.

The working paper draws on primary research conducted during 2002-2003, as well as updated demographic projections of orphan numbers in South Africa. The Institute hosted a seminar in April 2004 to discuss the working paper recommendations, while the paper has been distributed extensively to academic and government role players.

The Children's Bill: Meeting the needs of children in the context of HIV/AIDS

Child participation in the Children's Bill

South Africa's new Children's Act will be a comprehensive law, addressing the needs of all children in the country and replacing the Child Care Act of 1983. In line with its guiding principle to promote child participation, the Children's Institute in October 2003 established a working group of children to participate in the debates and deliberations informing the Children's Bill.

The children were selected through partner organisations located in Limpopo, Western Cape, North West and KwaZulu-Natal Provinces. Naming themselves *Dikwankwetla – Children in Action*, the group engaged with the Bill through a series of participatory learning and capacity-building workshops hosted by the Institute. These events enabled the group to reflect on the appropriateness of the Children's Bill provisions given their own circumstances, and those of their siblings and peers. Each of the provincial groups has also been involved in local campaigns related to child rights and the Children's Bill in their communities.

The HIV/AIDS Programme worked in close collaboration with the Child Rights Programme on this project to ensure that the children's group received legal and advocacy training to express themselves sufficiently at the various Parliamentary hearings on the Bill.

HIV/AIDS sector working group

The HIV/AIDS Programme is responsible for the co-ordination of the HIV/AIDS sector's participation in the Children's Bill and for representing the views of

the sector in its oral and written submissions on the Bill to Government. An important component of this role is consensus-building around key issues: a challenging task within a large and dispersed sector.

This project is funded by IBIS.

Critiquing media representations of children affected by HIV/AIDS

There is a danger that the dominant rhetoric regarding the impact of HIV/AIDS on children (and of the experiences of the popularly labelled 'AIDS orphans' in particular) could fuel inappropriate responses by agencies providing support to such children. The uncritical reproduction of such rhetoric serves to further increase children's vulnerability through marginalisation and a poor understanding of their lives and needs.

This project in partnership with the Centre for Social Science Research, University of Cape Town, studies the extent to which South African print media representations of children affected by HIV/AIDS appropriately reflect the experiences of those children whose lives are depicted.

The project aims to encourage sensitive and accurate reporting about children affected by HIV/AIDS by the print (and other) media. Its overall purpose is to contribute to public awareness and appropriate responses to children in the context of the HIV/AIDS pandemic. The project will also contribute to the development of a training module for journalists as part of a training course on the representation of children in the media, which is being developed by the Media Monitoring Project.

The project is funded by the Bernard van Leer Foundation.

Growing up in the time of AIDS: A children's documentary radio diary project

This collaborative project between the Children's Institute, Health-e News and Zisize Educational Trust is designed to contribute to developing public awareness and appropriate responses to children in the context of HIV/AIDS by involving children themselves in depicting their lives for a broader audience.

The project provides an opportunity for 10 children living in a neighbourhood heavily affected by HIV/AIDS to articulate their experiences of growing up

in the time of the AIDS pandemic in the form of radio diaries for broadcasting on national, provincial, and/or community radio.

This project has promising synergies with a collaborative child participatory media project led by the *Ten Million Memories Project* (also based at the University of Cape Town) to develop an anthology of children's 'hero stories'.

The project is funded by IBIS and the Open Society Foundation.

Other key activities and collaborations

The HIV/AIDS Programme staff members are involved in extensive networking, consultation and advocacy and development activities, primarily within the non-governmental sector.

The Programme continues to support the activities of the Children's HIV/AIDS Network of the Western Cape by serving on the network's advisory board. It is also increasingly assisting and informing the work of local and international donors and development agencies and has assisted numerous organisations with strategic planning regarding appropriate and sustainable interventions.

Key collaborators at the University during the past year were:

- the Centre for Actuarial Research
- the Centre for Social Science Research
- the Department of Education
- the Department of Psychology
- the Ten Million Memories Project

Other collaborators included:

- the Children's Alliance for Entitlement to Social Security
- the Children's Rights Centre
- Health-e News
- the national Departments of Education, Health and Social Development
- OIL Reach Out, Western Cape
- the Media Monitoring Project
- Naledi Life Skills, North West Province
- the Samaritans Centre, Limpopo Province
- the South African Democratic Teachers' Union
- the Zisize Educational Trust

Communication and Knowledge Management

The Communication and Knowledge Management (CKM) division provides essential support services to the Institute and its programmes.

It has a two-pronged mission to:

- guide the Institute and programmes on the use of appropriate communication and knowledge management strategies, tools and systems, and
- ensure effective internal communication between programmes and maximising the use of knowledge management tools, such as different internal databases.

Consisting of a team of five full-time and two part-time staff members, the team – under the guidance of the Communication Manager and in consultation with programme staff members – aims to develop the Institute's image and market its work through communication products and the media. The Knowledge Management Manager on the other hand guides the team on the development of appropriate CKM systems by using appropriate technology to enhance information management, information communication and information dissemination.

Due to having a dedicated team to support the Institute's CKM activities, the communication outputs increased rapidly during the period under review. At the same time comprehensive communication and knowledge management systems and tools have been set up.

Projects

ChildInfo Project

The *ChildInfo Project* was until the end of 2003 located within the Child Poverty Programme, where it mainly concentrated on the establishment, maintenance and updating of a clearing house of data sets that inform the situation of children in South Africa. The project was supported by UNICEF South Africa, which provided the *ChildInfo* software, and the following outcomes were achieved during this period:

- Setting up and maintaining a database of close to 100 indicators of child well-being within a range of sectors, including health, demography, protection, education, and social security.

- Providing UNICEF with briefing reports on trends in selected indicators.
- Hosting a training workshop for potential users and administrators of a *ChildInfo* database.
- Preparing a collection of graphical presentations that analyse selected child well-being indicators.

The project in beginning 2004 joined the CKM division, where it has repositioned itself beyond a database orientation and now serves to monitor progress of, and advocate for, the realisation of children's socio-economic rights in South Africa, based on reliable, appropriate indicators. Seed funding to get the new direction of the project underway has been received from Save the Children Sweden.

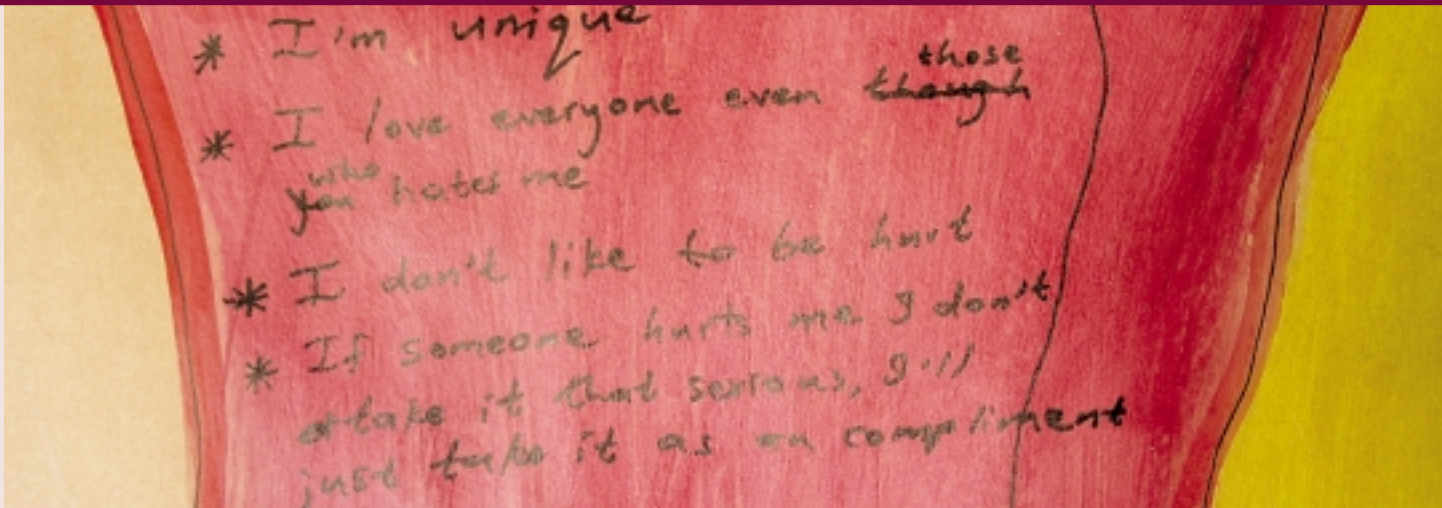
A socio-economic rights framework and core child socio-economic rights indicators are being developed in collaboration with the Institute's programmes. The Child Health Services Programme has been particularly involved in identifying a preliminary set of core child health indicators.

Once conceptually sound and reliable child socio-economic rights indicators have been established, the project will regularly produce a variety of communication outputs that reflect the socio-economic status of children in South Africa. Such outputs will be strategically distributed to relevant government decision-makers, other academic institutions, civil society and the media.

CKM Forum

This forum was established in mid-2003 to discuss and workshop CKM initiatives, systems, policies and procedures with staff members. It takes place on a quarterly basis and in the last year focused respectively on:

- introducing the CKM team, roles and responsibilities;
- discussing an appropriate institutional and graphic identity that reflects the Institute's mission and values;
- introducing the *ChildInfo Project* and its future development in the CKM division; and
- thrashing out appropriate referencing styles for the various disciplines in the Institute, as well as discuss issues related to the use of children's images in Children's Institute publications.



Communication database

The communication database is used to collect and maintain contact details of individuals who has or might have an interest in the Institute's work and its related communication outputs. The database has undergone extensive restructuring, development and updating during the last year to enable programme staff members to identify and target contact persons according to specific sectors, or according to fields of interest. This is mainly aimed at ensuring that communication products are distributed to relevant persons in an appropriate format.

Intranet

Since its introduction towards the end of 2003, the intranet has become an indispensable tool to facilitate internal communication and knowledge management, and is used extensively by staff members for various purposes and applications. It has become an integrated workspace that makes provision for an electronic forum where information is disseminated, accessed and managed. The intranet has grown rapidly during the past year as more knowledge management resources and communication tools have been made available to staff.

Due to this rapid growth and in an effort to gauge the effectiveness of the intranet within the Institute, the CKM team will be implementing a study to monitor and evaluate its usefulness to inform further development and greater user-friendliness.

Knowledge centre and knowledge centre database

The knowledge centre houses a collection of resource material used by staff members, ranging from publi-

cations such as books, conference and workshop proceedings to policy law submissions and research reviews. As researchers require immediate access to their own resource collections, some materials are kept in their workspace, while others are housed in a centralised knowledge centre. These locations are reflected in the knowledge centre database, which contains a collection of over 3 500 entries of resource materials. A part-time Library Assistant has been employed to maintain and update this valuable resource.

Product distribution

The CKM team in the past year developed and introduced a centralised product distribution system to assist programmes in the prompt packaging and distribution of communication products. The system is based on using the communication database for the identification of appropriate persons to target for a specific publication, and accommodates the production of address labels and distribution records at the click of a button, as well as electronic publication alerts that are distributed via e-mail.

Product mainstreaming

The Communication Manager has been driving a product mainstreaming process, which started towards the end of 2003. This was aimed at standardising the 'look' and 'feel' of the Institute's publications. The process involved an evaluation of the Institute's perceived image among other key child rights organisations and institutions, consultation with the Communication and Development Department in the University, and hosting a discussion forum with staff members and a graphic designer, who thereafter

has been instrumental in the development of a graphic identity.

A very specific graphic identity, including a new logo, has now been established and has been fed into all our publications and other communication outputs. The challenge however lies in maintaining and strengthening this brand identity while leaving scope for repositioning according to institutional development and growth. In this regard the newly developed protocols manual (discussed below) plays a pivotal role in guiding the Institute around style and graphic identity matters.

Protocols manual

In May 2004, the CKM team initiated a process to record policies and procedures within the division to guide staff members on how specific activities are conducted. This initiative was rolled out to include the compilation of policies and procedures related to general and financial administration, human resources and research. This work has now been collated into a protocols manual that has been made available to staff members on the intranet. The manual can be used by new staff members to familiarise themselves with institutional policies and procedures, while serving as a protocols reference to the Institute in general.

Media monitoring

The Information Officer is responsible for monitoring the news media for any reports related to children's rights, as well as news items that refers to the Institute. While the media monitoring is restricted to a small number of regional and national newspapers, as well as online news media sites, the results are instrumental in informing staff members of breaking public debates related to children's rights.

The media monitoring results often provide the Institute with the opportunity to respond to breaking public debates by issuing media releases, strategically placing opinion-editorials in newspapers, participating in radio or television interviews, or publishing a letter to the editor. Results of news coverage that mentions the Children's Institute also serve as reliable records of media coverage received, particularly during media advocacy campaigns.

Newsletter

The Children's Institute launched its first external newsletter in May 2004. Titled *Child Rights in Focus*, the newsletter reports on a mix of news on completed research projects, new projects, upcoming events and new publications. It is a bi-annual title in English and is distributed to a broad audience – other academic institutions, national and provincial government decision-makers and service providers, civil society and partner organisations, and donors.

Training

The CKM team hosted several group and individual training sessions for staff members during the past year on:

- using the knowledge centre and communication databases, and
- using the *Endnotes* software to collate and maintain bibliographies in a particular referencing style.

The team has also implemented standardised induction procedures for new staff members on using the intranet, the knowledge centre and its database, the communication database, web-based mail, electronic distribution lists and shared networks.

The Communication Manager further contributed a module on using the media for advocacy at an advocacy training workshop for staff members, which was initiated by the Child Rights Programme.

The web site (<http://web.uct.ac.za/depts/ci/>)

The CKM team now has a dedicated Web site and Database Administrator and the Children's Institute web site is being tended to on a regular basis. This has enabled the Institute to overhaul and update the whole web site at the beginning of 2004 to bring it in line with the newly developed graphic identity, and to make it more user-friendly.

The web site has proven to be a valuable resource to inform stakeholders of research projects and advocacy campaigns. The *Policy and Law Reform* pages, co-ordinated by the Child Rights Programme, in particular served as a helpful medium to make background information related to the Children's Bill, the Social Assistance Bill and the South African Social Security Agency Bill available to civil society partners.

Grants and Finances

At the inception of the Institute, Atlantic Philanthropies awarded a grant of 2,3 million Euros for the establishment and operations of the Children's Institute over a five-year period (2001-2005). During the year under review, an amount of R3,841,940.40 was received as part payment against this award. In addition, the following new grants were received for specific projects:

PROJECT	AMOUNT in RANDS	GRANT PERIOD	FUNDER
Strengthening schools as nodes of care and support for vulnerable children	360,000.00	1 March 2004 – 31 April 2006	South African Democratic Teachers' Union
Strengthening schools as nodes of care and support for vulnerable children	467,275.00	1 April 2004 – 1 April 2005	Rockefeller Brothers Fund
Strengthening schools as nodes of care and support for vulnerable children. Children's participation in the Children's Bill	500,000.00	1 May – 31 December 2003	IBIS Regional Civil Society Programme
Disseminating and facilitating implementation of recommendations for health and social services for children affected and infected by HIV/AIDS	294,059.10	21 July 2003 – 1 July 2004	Rockefeller Brothers Fund
Childhood in the contexts of AIDS	214,237.44	Three months	Bernard van Leer Foundation
Health chapter in IDASA Children's Budget Book	57,200.00	March 2003 – August 2003	Institute for Democracy in South Africa
Analysis of antiretroviral treatment of children	73,359.00	1 April – 30 June 2004	Save the Children Sweden
ChildInfo database	332,000.00	31 March – 30 November 2003	United Nation Children's Fund
Rapid analysis of children's situation in South Africa	68,970.00	17 March – 30 April 2003	Save the Children Sweden
OSF 2003: Law reform, Project 28 and case study series	1,165,230.00	1 January 2003 – 31 December 2003	Open Society Foundation of South Africa
OSF 2004: Law reform, Project 28 and case study series	1,184,700.00	1 January 2004 – 31 December 2004	Open Society Foundation of South Africa
Total amount received in core, existing and new grants for the period	8,558,970.94		

Lat
 My mother is not working. She is HIV positive and she can't work because she is sickening. So we have nothing, no money, no clothes and even a house of our own we are forced to live with my grand parent inside of ~~our~~ four roomed. Our live is too hard, no privacy and no freedom we are slaves inside it.

Recognition of Our Supporters

The Children's Institute gratefully acknowledges the support of:

- our donors, without whose generosity our work would not have been possible;
- the executive of the University of Cape Town;
- the Faculty of Health Sciences and its administrative and support staff; and
- the Child Health Unit in the School of Child and Adolescent Health for providing accommodation.

Our international Board of Advisors have guided us greatly and remain committed to advise on our progress and mobilise external support for our work.

The Institute would not have been viable without the collaborative relationships we share with our many networking partners in the policy field, in Government, and in civil society organisations and alliances. We acknowledge in particular the children whose voices and circumstances have informed our work, and who give us the inspiration to continue.

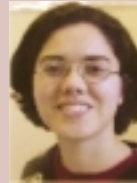
We also thank our own children, our families and partners for their uncompromising understanding and support for us and for the work that we do.



Staff



- ANTHEA ARENDSE Information Officer: CKM*
LIZETTE BERRY *ChildInfo Project* Co-ordinator: CKM*
THOZAMA BICI Part-time Library Assistant: CKM*
ISABELL COOPER Grants Administrator
DENISE BROWN Secretary to the Director/Human Resources Manager
MIRA DUTSCKE Researcher: Child Rights Programme
KEVIN ERNSTZEN Manager: Information Technology, CKM*
SONJA GIESE Manager: HIV/AIDS Programme
KATHARINE HALL Senior Researcher: Child Poverty Programme
MARIAN JACOBS Director
KASHIFA LAGERDIEN Researcher: Child Health Services Programme
ANNIE LEATT Manager: Child Poverty Programme
DINO MASLAMONEY Part-time Information Technology Officer: CKM*
HELEN MEINTJES Senior Researcher: HIV/AIDS Programme
NAMHLA MNIKI Researcher: HIV/AIDS Programme
ELIZABETH MYBURGH Projects Administrator: Child Rights Programme
NOBONKE NTLOKWANA Secretary
PAULA PROUDLOCK Manager: Child Rights Programme
SOLANGE ROSA Senior Researcher: Child Rights Programme
CHARMAINE SMITH Manager: Communication, CKM*
MAYLENE SHUNG-KING Deputy Director/Manager: Child Health Services Programme
ROBYN VAN DER POEL Web site and Database Administrator: CKM*



VISITING STAFF

EDWARD WILL GRANDIN Tufts Medical School, Boston
Intern: Child Health Services Programme

STAFF WHO LEFT DURING 2003/4

LEILA DAVIDS Researcher: *ChildInfo Project*, CKM*
CHRIS ERNSTZEN Part-time Data Capturer: *ChildInfo Project*, CKM*
LYNN JOHNSON Part-time Library Assistant: CKM*
THOKE KAIME Senior Researcher: Child Rights Programme
LORI MICHELSON Researcher: Child Health Services Programme
ZAHEERA MOHAMED Researcher: Child Rights Programme
MOTSHEDISI MOSTIESA Researcher: HIV/AIDS Programme
CONNIE MPOKOTO Paralegal Officer: Child Rights Programme

* *Communication and Knowledge Management*



Communication Products 2003-4

CHAPTERS IN BOOKS

Children's right to health

Shung-King M, Michelson L, Kaime T, Proudlock P, Vennekens-Poane A, Ndlovu N 2004

In: Coetzee E & Streak J (eds) *Monitoring child socio-economic rights in South Africa: Achievements and challenges*. Published by the Institute for Democracy in South Africa, Cape Town

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The children's rights chapter of the draft Children's Bill
Proudlock P October 2003

Access to social assistance for children without adult primary caregivers
Rosa S August 2003

Provisions of the draft Children's Bill for children made vulnerable in the context of HIV/AIDS
Children's Institute August 2003

Discussion paper to inform Children's Bill deliberations and submissions

The role of schools in addressing the needs of children made vulnerable in the context of HIV/AIDS
Giese S, Meintjes H, Croke R, Chamberlain R
Discussion paper for Children's Institute-hosted education policy roundtable, 28-29 July 2003

MEDIA RELEASES

ANC election manifesto marginalises over 3 million children
Rosa S, Mpokoto C

On behalf of the Alliance for Children's Entitlement to Social Security (ACCESS), 16 January 2004

National Children's Day 2003: rethink how we tackle children's rights in draft legislation
Jacobs M, Leatt A, Meintjes H, Proudlock P, Rosa S, Smith C, 3 November 2003

Children's Bill to be fast-tracked through Parliament
Van Niekerk J, Proudlock P, Loffel J, Rosa S
On behalf of the Children's Bill Working Group, 22 October 2003

Civil society calls for extended dialogue on Children's Bill
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Lagerdien K
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CONTACT DETAILS

Children's Institute, University of Cape Town • 46 Sawkins Road, Rondebosch, Cape Town, 7700
Tel: +27 21 689 5404 Fax: +21 689 8330 • E-mail: ci@rmh.uct.ac.za • Web: <http://web.uct.ac.za/depts./ci>

child rights in focus

