About the contributors

Zarina Adhikari is a director in the Department of Planning. Monitoring and Evaluation. She has worked extensively in government and Parliament over the past 20 years. Her expertise relates to governance both within the state and the legislature. She is also currently completing a PhD in Rhetoric that focuses on the impact of parliamentary rhetoric on social cohesion.

Claudine Bell is a medical doctor at Philani. She works in a clinical capacity in Philani's nutrition clinics, providing support to children who are malnourished, or failing to thrive. She has also been involved in the Catch and Match Project of the Western Cape Department of Health, designing and implementing a mobile health tool for community health workers.

Lizette Berry is a senior researcher at the Children's Institute, University of Cape Town, She holds a Masters in Social Science. specialising in social policy and management. She has 15 years' experience in child policy research and has a background in social work. Lizette has an interest in the care and development of children and recently contributed to a Southern African Development Community education policy framework that promotes learner care and support. She also contributed to the Department of Social Development's White Paper on Families and the National Integrated Early Childhood Development Policy and Programme, and was the lead editor of the South African Child Gauge 2013.

Sanjana Bhardwaj is the chief of health at UNICEF Nigeria with degrees in Medicine (MD) and Public Health (MPH). Prior to this appointment, she was the chief of health and nutrition at UNICEF, South Africa, having worked in Papua New Guinea; the Caribbean region, based in Jamaica: United States and India. Increasingly, her focus is on implementation research and working on translating policy into practice, leading innovative approaches towards ensuring equity and decentralised responses with contextual solutions. Her current areas of work include optimising partnerships with a focus on health systems strengthening and leveraging technology to fast track and accelerate impact for health and development.

Carole Bloch directs the Project for the Study of Alternative Education in South Africa and has a PhD in early literacy in African settings. Focusing on story and meaning-making, she researches and supports young children's biliteracy learning, and facilitates training and storybooks with English and African languages versions. Carole currently serves as a member of the Minister of Education's reading advisory panel, on the International Board for Books on Young People and is a member of the Reading Hall of Fame. She co-initiated the Nal'ibali National Reading for Enjoyment Campaign in 2012, designing the literacy approach and led the campaign until 2015.

Chandré Gould is a senior research fellow of the Justice and Violence Prevention Programme at the Institute for Security Studies. She has a PhD in History. She is primary investigator, together with Catherine Ward, on a three-year project to assess the impact of four evidence-based parenting programmes on the parenting practices in a whole community. She is the convenor of a national dialogue forum that brings together government departments, academics and non-governmental orgainisations in a long-term process aimed at informing the scale-up of evidence-based violence prevention programmes nationally.

Katharine Hall is a senior researcher at the Children's Institute. University of Cape Town (UCT). Her research is mainly in the areas of child poverty, inequality and social policy. She has worked on household form and care arrangements for children, and has a strong interest in housing policy, migration, and processes of urbanisation. She co-ordinates Children Count, a project that monitors the situation of children in South Africa through child-centred analysis of national household surveys. She is a standing committee member of the International Society for Child Indicators and serves on UCT's crossfaculty Poverty and Inequality Planning Group.

David Harrison is the chief executive officer of the DG Murray Trust. a South African foundation with a strong focus on early childhood development, education and leadership for public innovation. He was the founding director of the Health Systems Trust and first editor of the South African Health Review. He headed the HIV-prevention campaign, loveLife, from its inception until he joined the DG Murray Trust. David studied medicine at the University of Cape Town and public policy at the University of California at Berkeley.

Ursula Hoadley is an associate professor at the School of Education at the University of Cape Town. Her work focuses on pedagogy. curriculum and school organisation in primary schooling, and she has published extensively in these areas both locally and internationally. Her most-recent book is Pedagogy in Poverty: Lessons from 20 Years of Curriculum Reform in South Africa, published by Routledge.

Mayke Huijbregts holds the post as chief social policy and chief child protection with UNICEF in South Africa. She has worked with UNICEF over 18 years in Mozambique, Malawi, Zambia, Zimbabwe and fYR Macedonia in the areas of social policy, child protection, management and social protection. She started her career with the European Commission in Brussels, thereafter with Human Rights Watch and OSCE. Mayke holds a LLM in Law from Amsterdam University with a specialisation in international law and human rights.

Lori Lake is a communications and education specialist at the Children's Institute (CI) University of Cape Town. She specialises in making complex ideas accessible to a wider audience of policymakers, practitioners and children, and plays a central role in the production of the annual South African Child Gauge. Lori convenes the CI's child rights courses for health and allied professionals, and is currently completing her Masters in Higher Education.

Ingrid Le Roux is the founder and medical director of the Philani Maternal, Child Health and Nutrition Project that provides communitybased services in the Western and Eastern Cape. She studied medicine at the Karolinska Institute in Sweden and has a Masters in Public Policy from Princeton University.

Heidi Loening-Voysey started her career as a social worker in child protection. She later moved into academia in the School of Social Work at the University of the Witwatersrand (Wits University). She left this position to study a Masters in Public and Development Management. She returned to Wits University to manage a community-university partnerships office. Her study on models of care for orphans and other vulnerable children provided the background to her move to UNICEF South Africa, where she worked in child protection for 10 years. She is currently employed by the UNICEF Office of Research in Italy, focusing on effectiveness of parenting programmes for adolescents.

Lucy Jamieson is a senior researcher at the Children's Institute, University of Cape Town. She has two roles: on the one hand she leads and contributes to a variety of Children's Institute's research projects; on the other she works to ensure that the research findings contribute to the development of laws, policies and practices that affect children. She is currently working on an international project to develop indicators for children's participation in child protection systems, and leading an action-research pilot to improve intersectoral coordination in the South African child protection system through multi-disciplinary case management.

Anjuli Leila Maistry is an attorney at the Centre for Child Law. University of Pretoria (UP), focusing on access to education, as well as migrant's and undocumented children's rights. Prior to this she was an attorney at Lawyers for Human Rights where she specialised in refugee law. She has a Bachalors in Arts LLB from the University of Cape Town and is currently studying towards an LLM at the UP.

Elmarie Malek is the clinical head of general paediatric and neonatal specialist services at Tygerberg Hospital and Cape Town Metro East, and a senior lecturer in the Department of Paediatrics and Child Health, Faculty of Health Care Sciences, Stellenbosch University, She is the chairperson of the Provincial Strategic Goal 3 (PSG3) Parent, Infant and Child Wellness Working Group that advises innovations for the PSG3 Western Cape's 1st 1,000 Days Initiative. Her interests include maternal and child health and nutrition, parent–infant attachment and perinatal mental health, family and child wellness, integrated mother and child health-care services, intersectoral collaboration, partnership development, participatory learning and community engagement.

Cathy Mather-Pike is the director and founder of Siyakwazi, a community-based non-profit organisation, based in the Ugu district of KwaZulu-Natal, that supports children with a range of disabilities and barriers to their learning. She was trained as a special needs teacher at Stellenbosch University and taught in the United Kingdom in special and mainstream schools. She has an Honours degree in Early Childhood Development and is currently pursuing a Masters in Education and Development with a special focus on participatory ways of enhancing development within school readiness. She has a special interest in supporting all children in rural settings through early intervention and prevention. She envisions this model of inclusion spreading to other areas of KwaZulu-Natal.

Shanaaz Mathews is the director of the Children's Institute. University of Cape Town, and has a PhD in Public Health. Prior to this appointment she was a specialist scientist for the Gender and Health Research Unit of the Medical Research Council for 11 years. Her research interests include violence against women and children, as well as pathways to violent masculinities, using both qualitative and quantitative approaches. Her current research projects have a focus on programme evaluation and strengthening child protection systems, and she is a lead investigator with the DST-NRF Centre of Excellence on Human Development, University of the Witwatersrand. Nonkwanele Mbewu is a senior programme manager at Philani Maternal, Child Health and Nutrition Project . She holds a Masters in Social Welfare from the University at Albany, New York; a Bachelor's degree in Education and Higher Diploma in Education, both from the University of the Western Cape; and a Certificate in Project Management, Cape Peninsula University of Technology. Nonkwanele appreciates that she can contribute to the health and well-being of the most marginalised and vulnerable groups in the society. She views Philani is a home away from home for all women and children of South Africa and embraces the cultural diversity and the connections that she makes with individuals at Philani.

Judith McKenzie is the head of the disability studies division of the Department of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences, University of Cape Town. She convenes the postgraduate diploma in disability studies and supervises masters and doctoral students. She has had a long engagement with inclusive education as an activist, teacher and researcher. Currently she is heading a teacher education project, Teacher Empowerment for Disability Inclusion, which is a partnership with the Christoffel Blinden Mission (an international disability non-governmental organisation) and housed within the division of disability studies. The project explores teacher development to promote inclusive practice in schools.

Mary Metcalfe is the director of education change at the Programme to Improve Learning Outcomes, and is a senior research associate at the University of Johannesburg. She started teaching (as an unqualified teacher) in 1974 and has held various positions in education including head of the School of Education at the University of the Witwatersrand, member of the executive council for education (Gauteng), and director general of higher education. She is currently working with a team piloting-at-scale a model for education system improvement in 6,500 schools in KwaZulu-Natal (part of the National Education Collaboration Trust).

Benyam Dawit Mezmur is an associate professor of law at the Dullah Omar Institute for Constitutional Law, Governance and Human Rights at the Faculty of Law, University of the Western Cape. He is a member, and former chairperson, of the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child, and current chairperson of the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child of the African Union.

Nompumelelo Mohohlwane is a deputy director in the research coordination, monitoring and evaluation directorate of the Department of Basic Education. She holds a Masters (with distinction) in Education from the University of the Witwatersrand. Her research focused on substantiating the contribution of randomised control trials to evaluating early grade reading acquisition using literature analysis and empirical data analysis of large sample data. She is currently a PhD candidate at Stellenbosch University. Her studies focus on African languages and education policy. She is a reviewer for the South African Journal of Childhood Education.

Nadine Nannan is a senior researcher with the burden of disease research unit at the South African Medical Research Council. She holds Masters degrees in Molecular Biology and Medical Demography. Her interests are in child mortality, inequalities in child health and the burden of disease.

Donald Nghonyama holds a B-Tech degree in Child and Youth Development from the University of South Africa, a Diploma in Education from Johannesburg College of Education, and is currently enrolled for a Masters in Organisational leadership at Eastern University, United States. Donald is a former national chairperson of the National Association of Child Care Workers in South Africa and currently the NACCW deputy director. He serves on various civil society structures and is vice president of the South African Council for Social Service Professions.

Christina Nomdo serves as a National Planning Commissioner, bringing to the table her passion for the realisation of children's rights. She is a PhD candidate in the law faculty at University of Cape Town and her thesis focuses on children's autonomy rights. She was the executive director of Resources Aimed at the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (RAPCAN) for eight years.

Sue Philpott is a post-doctoral candidate in the College of Education at the University of KwaZulu-Natal. Her PhD was in Law and focused on the right of children with disabilities to early childhood development (ECD). She has worked in the disability research field for 25 years with a particular interest in action research, and is a founding member of the Disability Action Research Team (DART). Sue has been involved with a wide range of disability research and advocacy endeavours, including pilot projects for inclusion in education and in ECD, working in partnership with parent organisations, nongovernmental organisations and various government departments.

Paula Proudlock is a senior legal researcher at the Children's Institute, University of Cape Town. She has an LLM in Constitutional and Administrative Law and specialises in research, advocacy and education on children's socio-economic rights. Paula has served in leadership positions for several civil society networks on law reform processes including the campaigns to extend the Child Support Grant to 18 (2001 – 2010) and the campaign to promote an evidence-based and participatory approach in the making of the Children's Bill (2002 – 2008). She is currently leading a law reform project aimed at addressing the crisis in the foster care system.

Jeff Radebe is Minister in the Presidency for Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation and chairperson of the National Planning Commission. He heads the policy unit of the African National Congress and is a member of both its national executive committee as well as its national working committee, and is the longest standing Cabinet minister. He is also a member of the central committee of the South African Communist Party. Minister Radebe is a member of the Stewardship Board of the World Economic Forum System Initiative on the Future of Education, Gender and Work, and was appointed as an ambassador for Global Citizen – a movement committed to tackling the world's biggest challenges and ending extreme poverty.

Louis Reynolds is a retired paediatrician. As a health and human rights activist he champions the Comprehensive Primary Health Care approach embodied in the Declaration of Alma Ata. He is a member of the People's Health Movement, serving as chair in 2014. From 1987 to 1994 he served on the national executive committee of the National Progressive Primary Health Care Network. His hobby is photography.

Linda Richter (PhD) is a distinguished professor and the director of the Department of Science and Technology (DST) – National Research Foundation (NRF) Centre of Excellence in Human Development at the University of the Witwatersrand. She is a research associate in the Department of Psychiatry at the University of Oxford; a faculty affiliate of the World Policy Centre at the University of California, Los Angeles; and an advisor on early child development to the World Health Organisation in Geneva. Her research interests in child, youth and family development are applied to health, education, welfare and social development.

Stefanie Röhrs holds a Doctorate in Law from the University of Würzburg (Germany) and a Masters in Public Health from the University of Cape Town (UCT). Born and raised in Germany, Stefanie first came to South Africa and UCT in 2006 to conduct research on violence against women and access to health and justice services. She returned to Germany in 2012, but came back to South Africa in 2015 and now works as a senior researcher at the Children's Institute. University of Cape Town. She is interested in women's and children's rights with a focus on violence, sexual offences, and sexual and reproductive rights.

Winnie Sambu is a researcher at the Children's Institute, University of Cape Town. She holds a Masters in Economics (Development Studies) from the University of the Western Cape and a Masters in Arts in Development Management from Ruhr-Universität Bochum/ University of the Western Cape. Winnie's research interests include food security and nutrition, poverty and household living conditions. At the Children's Institute, Winnie works on Children Count, a monitoring project that provides statistics on the situation of children in South Africa. She has also been involved in other projects that have focused on early childhood development and child protection.

David Sanders, an emeritus professor and founding director of the School of Public Health at the University of the Western Cape, is a paediatrician qualified also in public health. He has over 35 years' experience of health policy and programme development, research and teaching in Zimbabwe and South Africa, having advised governments and United Nations (UN) agencies and published extensively on primary health care (PHC), child health and nutrition. He is an honorary professor in paediatrics and child health, University of Cape Town. He has received an honorary doctorate from UCT for his

contribution to the global PHC policy, received the Nutrition Society of South Africa award in 2002, and the Public Health Innovation and Lifetime Achievement Award of the Public Health Association of South Africa in 2014. He served on the UN Standing Committee on Nutrition, and the Knowledge Network on Globalisation of the World Health Organisation Commission on Social Determinants of Health. He is cochair of the Global Steering Council of People's Health Movement, and a founding board member of Tekano, Health Equity South Africa. Makhosi Shusha was the first Siyakwazi employee in 2011, where she is now a manager. She has a teaching diploma and is currently converting this into a degree at North-West University. She has been involved in all three services that Siyakwazi offers, namely early childhood development, non-centre based; and schools, to all children under seven and is now a mentor to the 15 Siyasizas in her care, supporting them in implementing quality programmes and services to the community of KwaNzimakwe in KwaZulu-Natal. She is passionate about parent involvement and community awareness.

Nic Spaull is currently a senior research fellow at the Research on Socio-Economic Policy (ReSEP) group at Stellenbosch University. He has spent time as a research fellow at both the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development in Paris and Stanford University in the United States. Nic has a PhD in Economics and has published numerous journal articles on assessment, accountability, literacy and education policy in South Africa. He is currently working on the Funda Wande project which is developing a certificate for foundation phase teachers on how to teach early grade reading in African languages.

Stephen Taylor is the director of research, coordination, monitoring and evaluation in the Department of Basic Education. The unit is responsible for system monitoring, supporting performance information management, research and evaluation of education interventions. He is a principal investigator on the Early Grade Reading Study. His academic work focuses on impact evaluation of education interventions, measuring educational performance and equity in educational outcomes. He completed a PhD in Economics at Stellenbosch University, analysing the role of education in South Africa's economic development. He is also a research associate of the Department of Economics, Stellenbosch University.