



2017

annual report

www.pebblesproject.co.za

2017

Chairperson's Report

It has been my privilege to continue to chair the Board of Trustees of The Pebbles Project in another year of outstanding success. In an economy that is suffering huge pressures, it is most pleasing to continue to receive the tremendous support of two of our largest funders, Laurence Graff's FACET Foundation, which funds our Mobile Learning Centres, and Stichting Clouds Foundation, who fund the Nutrition Programme. Not only have these supporters continued to fund these projects, but have further committed additional long-term funding as we in turn continue to expand and reach further into those communities most in need of our support. To all our other sponsors and donors, many of whom have been with us since the start, we say a mighty THANK YOU!

It is testament to the dedication, loyalty and commitment of our staff, and especially Sophia Warner, the Founder and Managing

Director of The Pebbles Project that we are able to expand these wonderful relationships. Our operations are now reaching communities in Rawsonville, Ceres, Hemel-en-Aarde, Wellington as well as our existing long-term projects in and around Stellenbosch. We currently care for almost 1 500 children in 48 facilities. A notable success this year has been the start-up of the Hemel-en-Aarde project, thanks to the generous sponsorship of the Cape Wine Auction Trust.

In closing, I also wish to thank my fellow Trustees for the expertise and guidance that they have given in ensuring that Pebbles can continue to deliver the excellent service that it provides to the children, their families and communities.

Stephen Digby – Chairman

Director's Report

travel ['trav(e)l] *verb*

1. make a journey, typically of some length.
2. (of an object or radiation) move, typically in a constant or predictable way.

2016 – 2017 was a year of travel, both for Pebbles and some of its staff. For the organisation, it was moving forward in a constant and predictable way as we grew the number of beneficiaries that we support and the number of donors who support us. Word of our organisation travelled far and we welcomed new donors from the UK, Europe, USA and Canada, many of whom came to visit us in South Africa. It was also the start of a new journey for us as we strengthened our team with talented new staff, exciting new programmes and working in new areas.

For the staff, 2016 – 17 brought some changes, some challenges and some great rewards. Marileze and I were both given the opportunity to take extended unpaid leave to travel the world and come back refreshed and ready to take Pebbles to the next level. I want to take this opportunity to thank our amazing Board of Trustees, the management team and all of the staff of Pebbles for making this possible, and to our loyal donors who shared our excitement for travel and encouraged us to follow our dreams. Thank you.

Sophia Warner – Founder and Director

Pebbles Project Trustees 2016 – 2017

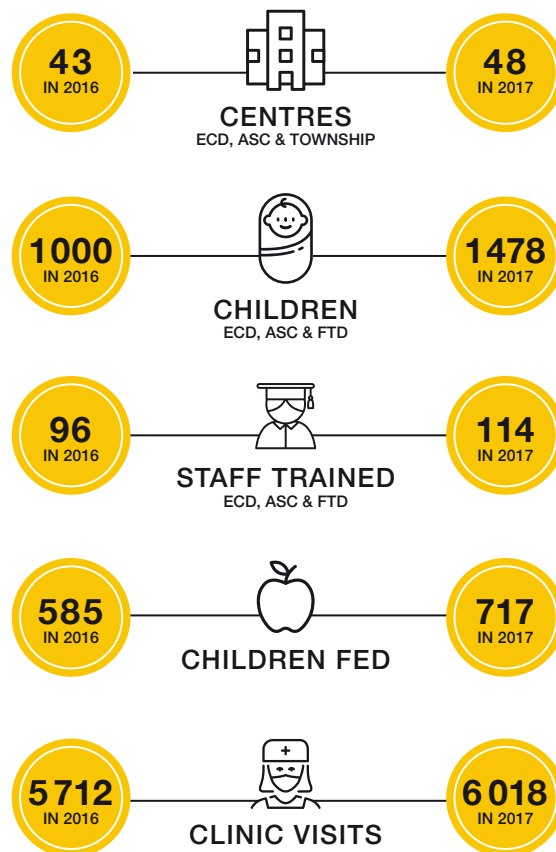
Stephen Digby, Zanele Njapha, Peter Blaine, Lucy Warner, Matome Mbatha, Sophia Warner

Pebbles Project UK Directors 2016 – 2017

Ray Abercromby, Sophia Warner, Elizabeth Clifton, Keith Prothero, David Wainwright

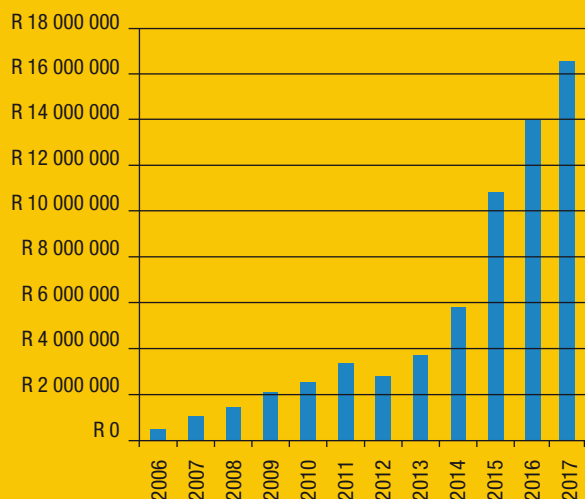
Our Year in Numbers

	2016	2017
Total Number of Centres (ECD, ASC & Township)	43	48
Total Number of Children (ECD, ASC & FTD)	1 000	1 478
Total Number of Staff Trained (ECD, ASC & FTD)	96	114
Children fed per month	585	717
Clinic visits per year	5 712	6 018

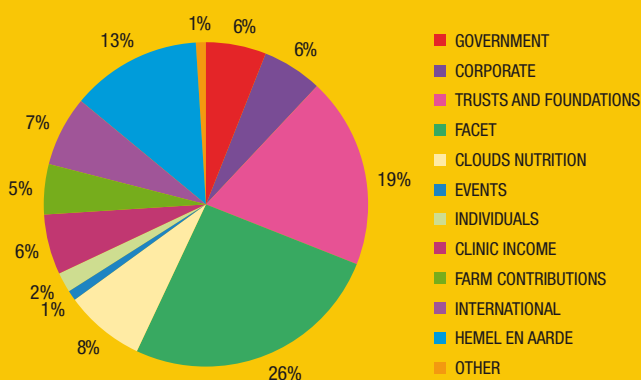


A snapshot of our finances 2016 - 2017

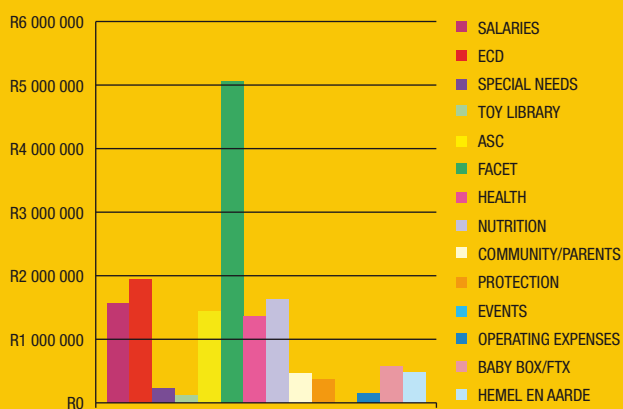
SA and UK Income 2006 - 2017



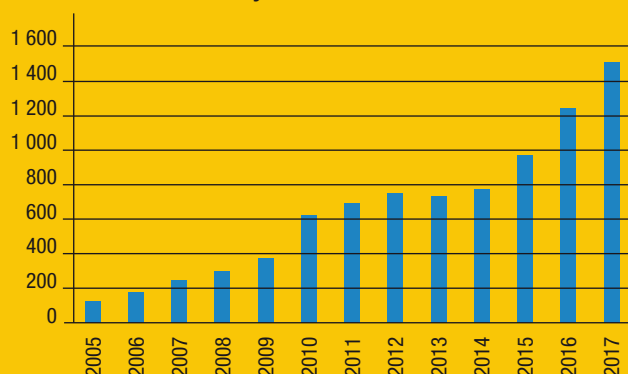
Income Sources 2016 - 2017



Expenditure 2016 - 2017



Beneficiary Numbers 2005 - 2017



Some Donor Stats:

32% of our donors have supported Pebbles for more than 3 years.

16% of them have stayed with us for between 5 – 10 years.

Total donated since inception is in excess of R62 million.

73% of our donors are from South Africa, 13% from the UK, the remaining 14% from Europe and the rest of the world. We have key donors and supporters in the Netherlands, Switzerland, Germany, Czech Republic, Japan, Hong Kong and America, and we celebrate becoming internationally recognised.



Where we work:

We work in the Western Cape, Winelands Region, South Africa, supporting children and their families in farming communities.

Vision: A world of opportunities for empowered communities.

Mission: The work and mission of The Pebbles Project consists of 5 main pillars: education, health, nutrition, community and protection.

Values: Compassion, Commitment, Courage and Integrity.



Our Programmes. What did we get up to in 2016-2017?

Baby Box Programme

HOW DOES IT WORK

The initiative aims to reduce harm done to developing fetuses and babies by preventing the use of alcohol during pregnancy and infancy. Mothers-to-be are also educated on pregnancy, potential neonatal dangers, the birthing process as well as infant development during the first 1000 days. Should mothers refrain from drinking alcohol during pregnancy and attend a series of antenatal workshops at the Owethu Clinic, they will receive a baby box that contains all items needed during the first few weeks of the baby's life.

ACHIEVEMENTS

The idea of the baby box programme was conceived during 2015 and the pilot project kicked into full gear during 2016. We successfully handed out 16 boxes during 2016 with another 40 mothers-to-be on the programme.

INTERESTING FACT

Only one set of twins was born.

First Thousand Days (FTD) Programme

HOW DOES IT WORK

The FTD programme is designed to stimulate children between the ages of 3 months to 3 years through monthly training with FTD practitioners and a programme developed by Occupational Therapists and teachers.

ACHIEVEMENTS

Pebbles appointed the programme's first support teacher in October 2016. The support teacher visits all the FTD centres to ensure the programme is properly implemented, conducts assessments as well as provides onsite training to the staff.

INTERESTING FACT

50 Hours and 990 cups of coffee at training for teachers.

Early Childhood Development (ECD) Programme

HOW DOES IT WORK

The ECD programme provides holistic support to children between the ages of 3 and 5 years and the practitioners through monthly training and onsite support services.

ACHIEVEMENTS

The Pebbles ECD academic programme was rewritten in 2016 in order to align with the new National Curriculum Framework Document. ECD practitioners were also offered computer lessons as part of their skills and professional development as well as practical training sessions where they learned how to make their own teaching resources. Practitioners also took part in a life skills programme and quarterly wellness days to uplift and enhance their overall well-being. Children are continually assessed throughout the year by Pebbles professional staff as well as the ECD practitioners.

- School Pack – 211 backpacks filled with school uniform and stationery were handed out to the Grade R learners
- Mobile Toy Library – Offers educational toys, games and DVDs
- Mobile Computer Lab – Two vehicles equipped with laptops and tablets for teacher training

INTERESTING FACT

55 Hours spent training the staff.



After School Club (ASC) Programme

HOW DOES IT WORK

The ASC programme provides the education support to school-going children between the ages of 7 and 18 years. This programme focuses on the holistic development of the child through homework supervision, curriculum support as well as extra-mural activities.

ACHIEVEMENTS

Our additional academic programme, Naskool Assessment Policy Statement (NAPS), together with quarterly assessments indicated improvement and progress in learning areas like English and Mathematics. A positive reward system called P-Bucks was implemented in the ASC centres whereby learners can earn tokens for good behaviour, reaching personal goals and scholastic performance. These P-Bucks can then be exchanged for educational experiences, outings or items. The Literacy Programme offers two reading programmes according to age group and school phases. The facilitators continue to assist those learners with reading difficulties and two reading level tests are conducted bi-annually. The Mathematics Programme Coordinator has succeeded in inspiring a renewed interest amongst learners. Some of the extra-mural activities included art, music, drama, dance, various sport activities, weekend activities and school holiday programmes.

- School Pack – 41 backpacks filled with school uniform and stationery were handed out to the Grade 8 and Grade 12 learners
- Mobile Book Library – Opportunity for learners and parents to loan books and DVDs on a bi-monthly basis
- Mobile Computer Labs – Two vehicles equipped with laptops and tablets for learners and teachers
- Mobile Classroom – Two teachers have the ability to offer the Pebbles Support Programme, including study methods, life skills and awareness of community service to learners
- Sports Activities – horse-riding, surfing, netball, rope-skipping and swimming

INTERESTING FACT

The average mark in the Foundation Phase for Mathematics was 78% which is what the schools call a Level 6. The previous financial year, the same phase (Grade 1 to 3 learners) only achieved a 42% average which is a level 3. Our Mathematics Tutor has dedicated so much of her time to ensure the success of the learners.

School Leavers Programme

HOW DOES IT WORK

Mid-teen years are a tricky period in any child's life. School subject and career choices, application processes and further education opportunities can be overwhelming. We work with our children to help them make informed, self-aware educational and career choices.

ACHIEVEMENTS

During the 2016 -17 financial year, the school leavers programme assisted 95 learners and students in total. This support included psychometric assessments (17 students), college enrolments (8 students), job placements and internships as well as monthly support meetings with tertiary students to provide them with academic and emotional support. Highlights included our first student to complete her tertiary education at Boland College. Prior to the programme's inception, very few learners completed Grade 12.



Another proud moment was when Tashwell Bartman, a previous Pebbles beneficiary, became an award-winning Firefighter. As a child, Tashwell was always passionate about firefighting. In 2010 Pebbles purchased a bicycle to support him in his volunteer efforts at the Stellenbosch Fire Station. He volunteered for 3 years before he was employed full time and during 2016 he came second in his age group for the Toughest Firefighter Alive Competition.

INTERESTING FACT

11 School Leavers return each year to Pebbles to assist at the Children's Year End Party.





Special Needs Programme

HOW DOES IT WORK

Our Special Needs Programme addresses barriers to development and learning caused by speech and language difficulties. It also addresses problems with visual perception processing, delayed motor development and physical disability. We support our children through a range of interventions, which include early identification and screening, assessment and referrals.

ACHIEVEMENTS

The ECD Special Needs Programme delivers appropriate support to children from 4 months to 6 years of age through intervention programmes that are developed by an Occupational Therapist. 83 ECD children benefited from the programme during 2016-17. The programme includes regular, scheduled assessments, partnering with local schools as well as referrals to specialised services (Optometrists and Psychological Services).

The ASC Special Needs Programme supported 95 learners between the ages of 6 to 18 years during 2016-17. Some of the programmes included assessments and individual learning programmes as well as specialised services such as Optometry, Psychological services and practical learner placements for those learners who struggle in mainstream schools.

INTERESTING FACT

A child that is identified to have special needs may receive from 2 to 5 times more support and input than any of the other children at any given time. This support includes direct and indirect intervention.

Health Programme

HOW DOES IT WORK

A state-of-the-art modular health clinic provides free health care for the beneficiary children and low cost health care for their families. Services include: health care, dental care and wellness screenings. Patients also have access to a volunteer Psychologist and Dentist on a monthly basis.

ACHIEVEMENTS

Pebbles recognises the importance of women in our community and in partnership with Cloetesville Clinic, we supported a women's wellness clinic; offering cervical screening, breast examinations, HIV counselling and testing, health talks on domestic violence as well as a self-defense demonstration. New services were added to the clinic's package of care, including TB testing, cervical cancer screening, HIV screening and testing and the administration of deworming medicine and Vitamin A. The brushing of teeth and screening programme continued and the children's toothbrushes are replaced quarterly.

- 6 018 visits to the clinic during 2016-17 financial year with 2 149 being under the age of 18
- 103 elderly patients received reading glasses with cases that were knitted by the children in the ASC centres
- 3 Nursing students from the Netherlands conducted a survey to evaluate service delivery
- 1 442 visits to the Oral Hygienist
- 2 Volunteer Dentists consulted 154 patients



INTERESTING FACT

We exercise 36 muscles when we smile. Be happy like all the staff at the Pebbles Owethu clinic!



Nutrition Programme

HOW DOES IT WORK

The Pebbles Nutrition Programme ensures all beneficiary children receive the nutrients they need in order for optimal learning to take place. The programme feeds ECD learners a cooked breakfast, lunch and two snacks daily and the ASC learners receive a cooked lunch and snack each day before tackling their homework and recreational activities.

ACHIEVEMENTS

Since 2015 the nutrition programme has grown from feeding 200 children to over 700 children during 2016-17. The programme distributed 86 958 meals during the last financial year and it expanded to the Citrusdal area where a new staff member was employed to run the logistics in that area.

INTERESTING FACT

150 kg of yoghurt and 14 520 eggs eaten per year
7 392 litres of milk consumed
54 000 km driven per year by the nutrition driver



Protection Programme

HOW DOES IT WORK

The Pebbles social workers support farming communities through difficult times and ensure that children and adults are safe guarded from harm. The needs that are addressed include neglect, abuse, family relationships, behavioural problems and substance abuse. Support is provided in order to help promote social change, development, cohesion and empowerment.

ACHIEVEMENTS

Therapy and intervention support was provided to 32 families, 80 children and 35 adults. Teenage support groups were formed to talk about topics relevant to their development phase. 3 families were assisted emotionally and financially due to the loss of one of their children.

INTERESTING FACT

The social workers drive approximately 650 km per month to visit their clients on the respective farms.

Community Programme

HOW DOES IT WORK

This programme seeks to build safe, clean and well-functioning physical environments to maximise the stimulation of the children through outdoor play areas and the sustainability of their communities through community engagement, parent workshops and training.

ACHIEVEMENTS

Outdoor playgrounds – 3 additional outdoor play areas were built during 2016-17 and additional funds were received for the landscaping of the Lwandle play area. Pebbles' goal is to eventually provide each centre with a sensory outdoor play area, which will include pathways to explore, hills to climb and roll down, water features, sandpits, scented plants and rocks to climb.

Building renovations - It was decided to use this year's renovation budget on one renovation project, ensuring that this centre has a complete make over. Villiera ECD was chosen for this, as it is our most visited centre. This centre is now the benchmark we strive towards for all our ECDs.

Parent Workshops - 83 parent workshops were held on 5 farms. Both the parents and children from the age of 10 years and above attended these workshops to promote and work towards healthy families. Topics included punishment vs. teaching, clear messages, consequences, effective praise, preventive teaching, clear expectations, staying calm and corrective teaching. 53 families were reached through the programme.

Volunteers – This programme utilised an array of volunteers with specialised skills. The Applied Psychology intern researched and formulated a strategy for developing a coaching/mentoring programme for the FTD staff. A volunteer in the Nutrition Programme developed an analysis for prospectively growing the programme. The Human Resources intern assessed our HR processes and provided recommendations. The Health Care (Nursing) interns completed a full assessment and analysis of our Owethu Clinic's service delivery.

INTERESTING FACT

An additional 498 hours (62,25 days) overtime was worked between 5 staff members in order to achieve success in the parent workshops.

93 Volunteers and Interns assisted Pebbles during 2016-17 financial year.

Enable a child.
Enrich a community.



New Projects - Hemel-en-Aarde

The Pebbles Hemel-en-Aarde Education Project (HEAEP) began in early 2017 and continues to offer development in the farming communities of the Western Cape. Based in Hermanus, Western Cape, the Hemel-en-Aarde Project's goal is to ensure that the children and families in the valley have access to a high standard of education, health, social and recreational services; particularly focusing on the disadvantaged communities.

The start of this project is thanks to the generous sponsorship from The Cape Wine Auction Trust.

Pebbles Staff

- 50 Internal staff members
- 13 External staff members
- 27 Staff members attended 23 training courses
- 4 Staff team building days
- 12 Staff meetings
- 10 Staff members have been with Pebbles for more than 3 years
- 6 Staff members have been with Pebbles for more than 5 years



Not available at time of photograph

Thank you to our loyal donors, sponsors, contributors and supporters:

(in no particular order) Ian and Sandra Burgess, The Wine Team - Sweden, Feast of the Grape, Hans Hessler, Cathy van Zyl, Gold Medal Plates, Evergreen, Alcohol Breathalysers, Shiraz SA, Somerset West Rotary, JF Hillebrand, AM Lloyd, Wine.co.za, CPUT – Zoe Mostert, Goedgedacht Trust, Gordon Fraser, Ralf Schenkelaar, Brampton, Cederberg Winery, Woolworths, KWV, Marcus Reppel, Off Piste Wines, EMBA, CDS Vintec, My School, Creation Wines, Edeka, Cumnor House School, Brandhouse, Merrypak, FACET Foundation, Cape Wine Auction Trust, Beare Foundation, HCI Foundation, Warwick, Narollah Trust, Uthando Trust, Paul Loewenstein / Investec, Amobia, Kelfords Ford, Claremont Rotary, We Luv Wine, University of Stellenbosch, Adrian Gilde, Vineyard Connection, Propalux 7, House of Wine, Lanzerac Hotel & Spa, Masuda / Dornier, ABSA Bank, PWC, Villiera, Meerlust, Delheim, Delvera, Standard Bank, The Foschini Group, Ramsay Media, Stichting Clouds Foundation, DHL, Diageo, Burgiss Group, Porex RX, Lush Cosmetics SA, Classic Escapes Travel, Ikhyaya Wines, MEA Global, Capitec Bank, Jurie Schuurman, Grootbos Foundation, Herman Pretorius, Ford Hermanus, Kaap Agri, Pep Stores, KFC, Relate Trust, Childwick Trust / Jim Joel Fund, Oppenheimer Trust, Department of Social Development: Children and Families, Marks and Spencer, WOSA, PNA Cape Gate, Dischem Foundation, Haumann Smal Design Studio, First National Bank, Anna Lusty, Uwe and Gisela Wolter, Kleine Zalze, African Pride Fighting Academy, Andre Du Plessis, Bryanston School UK, Carlo and Charlotte van Schalkwyk, Elizabeth and Alan Clifton, Helderberg Technology Holdings, Hoe Bridge School UK, Joe and Regula Eberhard, Mix Telematics, Vintec, Virginia Sweeter, Aurora Library, Albert and Hanna Janse van Rensburg, Mouton Citrus, Old Mutual, Cipla, Eyes on Africa, Colgate, Wright Milners, Johnson & Johnson, Nina Lubbe, Mortimer Adams, Martin Albertus, Angelo August, Dr Engelbrecht, Dr Badenhurst, David Roberts, Angela Fourie, Imperial, Norpharm, Department of Health, Mays Fruit Market, Shiloh Foods, Mac Brothers Catering, Parmalat SA.

Thank you also to all our Sponsor A Child sponsors who contribute every month, to everyone who bought a school pack for our children and for every single donation, however big or small.

We are because you are.

www.pebblesproject.co.za

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