

APRIL 2026

Monthly Newsletter



Child Welfare Tshwane
NPO Reg No 001-612

CHILD WELFARE TSHWANE

Building Hope, Strengthening Communities, Changing Lives Together

Welcome to our monthly newsletter.

As we reflect on the past month, I would like to extend my sincere appreciation to every donor, volunteer, partner, and supporter who continues to stand with us. Your generosity and commitment form the foundation of our work—enabling us to deliver services consistently, strengthen our programmes, and respond to the needs of individuals and families in our community with dignity and care.

In this edition, you will find highlights of our recent achievements, stories that demonstrate the impact of your support, and an update on the initiatives and events planned for the weeks ahead.

We remain committed to accountability, good stewardship, and measurable outcomes, and we are encouraged by what becomes possible when people come together around a shared purpose.

If you are considering supporting our work, there are many meaningful ways to get involved—through a once-off or monthly donation, volunteering your time or expertise, or connecting us with organisations and individuals who share our vision. Every contribution, large or small, helps us extend our reach and deepen our impact.

Thank you for walking this journey with us. We hope you enjoy this month's newsletter, and we invite you to stay connected as we continue building lasting change in the lives of children, families, and communities.

We are pleased to confirm that both our CWT-CYCC and CWT-CPO Service Level Agreements have been received and signed following engagements with the Department of Social Development in March and April 2026.

The CWT-CYCC SLA was received on 10 April 2026 at a DSD event addressed by the MEC, and the CWT-CPO SLA was received on 13 April 2026. All required documentation has been duly submitted.

We are currently awaiting confirmation and the release of funding. In the interim, we continue to provide essential care and protection services to children in our programmes, with ongoing reliance on external support to sustain operations and ensure the wellbeing of both children and staff.

We remain deeply grateful to our partners, donors, and stakeholders whose continued support enables us to uphold our services during this period.

“Real change begins when commitment meets compassion in action.”



NINA DE CAIRES
DIRECTOR
CHILD WELFARE TSHWANE

STORIES OF IMPACT

The **Sunnyside team** accompanied two children to Mpumalanga (Bethal) following a case of abandonment. The children had been left in the care of a landlord by their mother, and the matter was reported on 19 March 2026.

Through dedicated tracing efforts, the team successfully located the family in Mpumalanga. The children have since been placed with their maternal aunt, who has been caring for their three siblings after they were also previously abandoned by the mother.

The children are now safe and receiving care within the extended family, with additional support from a household helper.

The Sunnyside team further assisted the family by facilitating referrals to local social services in Bethal, as well as to SASSA to ensure access to the necessary support for the children's well-being.

This intervention reflects the team's ongoing commitment to safeguarding children and strengthening family-based care solutions.

LIFE SKILLS PROGRAMME - MAMELODI

In the heart of Mamelodi, the office came alive with the sound of young voices and quiet moments of reflection as the **Life Skills Programme** unfolded—each session carefully designed to meet children exactly where they are in life.

That day, the participants were gently divided into three age groups, each stepping into a different space of learning, discovery, and growth.

The youngest group, ages 5 to 9, gathered first. Their session was rooted in innocence but guided with purpose. Through simple conversations and engaging activities, they explored the theme of children's rights and responsibilities. It was here that small voices began to understand big truths—that they have the right to be safe, to be heard, and to be cared for. They learned, too, that with rights come responsibilities: to respect others, to speak up when something feels wrong, and to recognise when a child may be neglected or harmed. In these moments, awareness began to bloom—helping them make sense of their world and understand who they can turn to for help.

In another room, the middle group, ages 10 to 13, leaned into a different kind of conversation—one about their future.

The topic, "I know my goals," opened a door to imagination and possibility. Here, children began connecting their interests to potential careers, discovering that what they enjoy today could shape who they become tomorrow. Laughter mixed with curiosity as they spoke about dreams, strengths, and the many paths life could offer. It was a space of guidance, where confidence slowly took root and ambition was given room to grow. The oldest group, ages 14 to 18, gathered with a more serious tone. Their session focused on self-inventory and behaviour reflection, gently guiding them through the realities of substance abuse and its impact. Honest conversations highlighted the dangers of smoking and the troubling trends affecting young people, including risky behaviours like inhalant misuse. But the session was not only about warning—it was about empowerment. The youth were encouraged to look inward, to understand their choices, and to commit to behaviour that protects their future. It was a moment of truth, responsibility, and quiet determination. As the day drew to a close, the three groups left with different lessons—but one shared outcome: awareness, growth, and a deeper understanding of themselves and the world around them. The Life Skills Programme in Mamelodi was not just a session; it was a step forward in shaping informed, confident, and resilient young lives.





Community News

On 27 March 2026, the Sunnyside Office, in collaboration with key stakeholders, partnered with the PEN Organisation for a community awareness campaign. The initiative aimed to promote a culture of cleanliness and strengthen community engagement, while addressing both environmental and socio-economic challenges.

The campaign also aligned with TB Awareness Month, providing an opportunity to educate the community on tuberculosis prevention and care. In addition, community members were informed about the wide range of services offered by Child Welfare Tshwane. Through vibrant banners and the distribution of informative pamphlets, our presence was highly visible and engaging. The response from the Sunnyside community was both positive and encouraging, making the engagement truly heartwarming. Our message was well received, reinforcing the importance of continued collaboration and outreach within the community.

COMMUNITY MATTERS -ALONE, WE CAN DO SO LITTLE; TOGETHER, WE CAN DO SO MUCH." — HELEN KELLER

Easter brought a sense of joy, hope, and togetherness to the children and families of Child Welfare Tshwane, children were able to enjoy special treats, Moments like these make a meaningful difference, bringing light and happiness to those who need it most.



HELENA RODIGUES NINA DE CAIRES CHRISTINA ROSA

Volunteer Spotlight

Volunteer Spotlight: **Bramley Helping Hands**
 Child Welfare Tshwane proudly shines a spotlight on Bramley Helping Hands, a dedicated group of volunteers who continue to make a meaningful difference at our Child and Youth Care Centre (CYCC) in Bramley. Through their consistent support, compassion, and willingness to serve,

Their commitment reminds us that even the smallest acts of kindness can have a lasting impact.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to Bramley Helping Hands for their continued partnership and generosity. Your efforts do not go unnoticed – you are truly helping us build brighter futures.

To learn more about how you can get involved, visit www.childwelfare.co.za

Driana Zandberg

Bramley Child and Youth Care Centre: Manager

GRATITUDE

“GRATITUDE IS NOT ONLY THE GREATEST OF VIRTUES, BUT THE PARENT OF ALL OTHERS.” – CICERO



Message from the Manager: Child and Youth Care Centre (CYCC) Bramley
At our Child and Youth Care Centre in Bramley, we remain committed to creating a safe, nurturing, and stable environment for every child in our care. Each day, our team works with dedication to not only meet the basic needs of the children, but also to support their emotional well-being and personal development. Many of the children in our care come from challenging circumstances, and it is therefore essential for us to provide them with hope, structure, and opportunities that enable them to reach their full potential. Our approach focuses on holistic care – from education and health to emotional support and skills development. We would also like to extend our sincere appreciation to our partners and supporters, including **Die Kinderfonds**, whose generous contributions make a tangible difference in the daily lives of the children.

Without this support, many of our programmes and services would not be possible. On behalf of the team, I would like to thank every staff member, partner, and supporter for their continued commitment and care. Together, we are building a future where every child has the opportunity to thrive.



Child Welfare Tshwane extends heartfelt thanks to **The Medicine Shop** for their generous support and for hosting a successful Charity Golf Day in aid of our work.

We are deeply grateful for the commitment shown in supporting vulnerable children and families within our communities. Events such as these not only raise vital resources, but also strengthen awareness of the ongoing need for care, protection, and support services for children in need. Your kindness, time, and dedication truly make a difference. We value this meaningful partnership and thank everyone involved for standing alongside us in making a positive impact. Together, we continue to bring hope and change to the lives of children.

We would like to extend our sincere gratitude to the **ESS Golf Day initiative** for their generous and ongoing support of Child Welfare Tshwane.

Your commitment is truly appreciated and continues to make a meaningful difference in sustaining our programmes and supporting the children in our care, particularly at our Bramley CYCC. Beyond the contribution itself, your initiative has helped raise important awareness about our work and the needs of vulnerable children in our community. It is through partnerships like yours that we are able to continue providing care, protection, and hope.

Thank you for walking this journey with us and for investing in a brighter future for the children we serve.



APRIL OFFICE VISITS

During April, our Chairperson, Célest van Niekerk, together with Nina De Caires, Director of Child Welfare Tshwane, conducted office visits over two days across our various service points.

These visits provided a valuable opportunity to engage directly with staff, gain insight into daily operations, and witness firsthand the dedication and passion driving our services. It was encouraging to see the strong commitment to child protection, community support, and compliance with organisational and statutory requirements.

The visits also created space for meaningful discussions, shared learning, and alignment on strategic priorities, while acknowledging the important work being done on the ground.

We extend our appreciation to all teams for their warm welcome, professionalism, and continued commitment to making a difference in the lives of vulnerable children and families.



CONNECTION, INSIGHT, AND
INSPIRATION ✨



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Thank you for reading!