







# Partnerships in Action: Insights from the 'Caregiver Learning through Play' Consortium in South Africa on Scaling ECD Interventions.













## The Consortium



The Learning through Play consortium members are:



**Prime Partner**: Experience in curriculum-based ECD Parenting and Play programmes and NGO training in 7 provinces



**Lead Partner in M&E and Advocacy:** Experience in integrated ECD programming across 5 provinces, M&E & Advocacy



**ECD Network and Implementing Partner**: Network of 21 ECD organisations. Over 40 years experience in curriculum development, programming & networking in 7 provinces



**Implementing Partner**: Experience in evidence-based Curriculum development, Parenting and Play programmes in 2 provinces

# The four outcomes of the programme:





Caregivers are empowered in their role as educators and gain knowledge and skills to engage in and actively incorporate Learning through Play (LtP) in their daily interactions with their children.

2

#### **Practitioners**

(including community healthcare workers, social workers, ECD practitioners, etc.) understand their role in facilitating playful interactions between caregivers and children and are capacitated to engage with caregivers to facilitate LTP in the home.

3

LtP.

Practitioner
training
providers include
the active engagement
and support of
caregivers as a core
component in their
training programmes,
with an emphasis on



administrators
and policy
makers understand
and integrate homebased LtP into
programmatic
implementation,
training, and quality
assurance.

Beneficiaries, Partners and Stakeholders in the

**Project** 

Applying a Whole of Society Approach

The Lego Foundation

Local Government
Provincial Government
National Government
Business Sector

Community Stakeholders and Community Based Organisations

Consortium Partners who implement the programme



**Children and Caregivers** 

Funded by the Lego Foundation

Department of Basic Education,
Department of Social Development,
Department of Health, Further and Higher
Education Institutions, Business Sector as
Nutrition Partners

Local community structures and grassroots community based organisations as partners

Four implementation partners in 7 provinces of South Africa

Target caregivers and ECD practitioners of 600000 children under 6 years of age





### Partnerships and Collaboration are vital but challenging

Requires utilizing and amalgamating different structures, cultures, and operational systems

Service delivery in a dynamic environment

#### **Internal factors**

Both internal and external factors affect strategy implementation

Leadership and management styles, building transparency and trust, power imbalances, competency of employees, fidelity to model design, adequate financial resources and IP operating costs, Reach, the costs of model refinements and staff turnover and well-being

#### **External factors**

Socio-political factors, engaging in systems-wide advocacy, Covid, increased cost of living, community dynamics

## Stakeholder Interview Feedback





Systems

Clarify roles and responsibilities

Clear accountability

Focus on existing points of consensus

Link work to national focus

Joint decision making







Build Trust

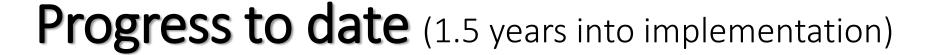
- Ensuring we had the right leadership structure
- Setting the right pace for rhythms and processes and spending more time on partnership relationships in the inception phase

- Establishment of a Steering committees
- Thematic Task Teams

Monthly partner check ins to review challenges, progress and budgeted

- Bi-annual partner meetings
- Defining roles and responsibilities

Transparency on funding





Indicator	Reach
Community Level	
Caregivers reached	123 849
Practitioners reached	2 985

## **Systems Level**

Integration of aspects of CLTP into DBE's National Parenting Program (NPP)

Support to DBE's NPP roll out

4 provinces

# Impact Progress (Caregiver Level)















# Thank You

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