



2025

Annual Report

*A tribute to your support,
with sincere gratitude,
thank you!*

FOUNDATION FOR
 **children with
HEARING LOSS**
IN SOUTHERN AFRICA

Non-Profit Organisation: 030-787NPO

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Zian de Klerk (8)

Thanks to the gift of hearing and a school bursary, Zian can fully enjoy learning beyond the classroom, exploring Eduplex School's interactive gardens with his friends.

2025

*a Year of Progress
and Promise*



Hubela Moila (8)

Cochlear implant recipient and Eduplex bursary student, Hubela, is thriving thanks to generous donors, exploring, learning, and growing joyfully in a supportive environment.

From the Chairman

As we reflect on 2025,

Dear Supporters and Friends,

Thank you for your continued commitment to supporting the work we do. Through your help, lives have been changed forever, and new opportunities have been created for deaf children and adults who now have access to the life-changing gift of hearing.

This enables them to communicate in all aspects of life and encourages independence, privacy, and choice, allowing them to participate fully in society. Every contribution helps us break down barriers and create lasting change - an investment in the lives of deaf individuals and their families for years to come.

On behalf of the Board, I extend our sincere appreciation for your trust and partnership during 2025.

Together, we are building a future where everyone has the opportunity to hear, connect, and thrive. We thank you.

Warm regards,

Jan Grobbelaar
Chairman

Testimony

”As we reach the end of our Eduplex Pre-School journey, we look back with full hearts on three years of love, care, unwavering dedication from the staff, the audiology team, the Foundation for Children with Hearing Loss, the donors, and everyone who has played a role in nurturing Izabella. Because of you, she has grown into a confident, well-rounded little girl who is now ready to step into Grade 1.

We are deeply grateful to all who continue to support us in ensuring that Izabella reaches her full potential, just as God intended.

May you continue to change lives in ways far greater than you may ever realise.”

- Richard and Denise



I can hear, thanks to  you!

Izabella Ristow (7)
Eduplex bursary student, received bilateral cochlear implants at one year old.



Our Vision & Mission

Over the years,

Founded in 1997 with a God-given vision to make a difference in deaf education, the Foundation has grown into a beacon of **hope for deaf children and adults**. Over the years, our mission has expanded beyond education to also provide critical support for cochlear implants, hearing aids, and school fees, ensuring that financial barriers never stand in the way of a **child’s potential**.

Through the Foundation, the Eduplex School was established - an inclusive mainstream school where deaf children learn alongside their hearing peers, fostering a truly inclusive learning environment without the use of sign language. The school’s bursary programme enables underprivileged deaf children to access **high-quality education at Eduplex**, which serves as an international model for inclusive education.

At the heart of everything we do is a belief in possibility and dreams...



Foundation Operations

Non-Profit

Inclusive Education	Active Fundraising
Eduplex Schools 	Cochlear Implants 
Parent Guidance & Cochlear Implant Support 	Eduplex School Bursaries 

“If you can dream it, you can do it.”

Walt Disney



For nearly **three decades**, your support has allowed us to make a real difference in the lives of deaf children.



Making a difference every day

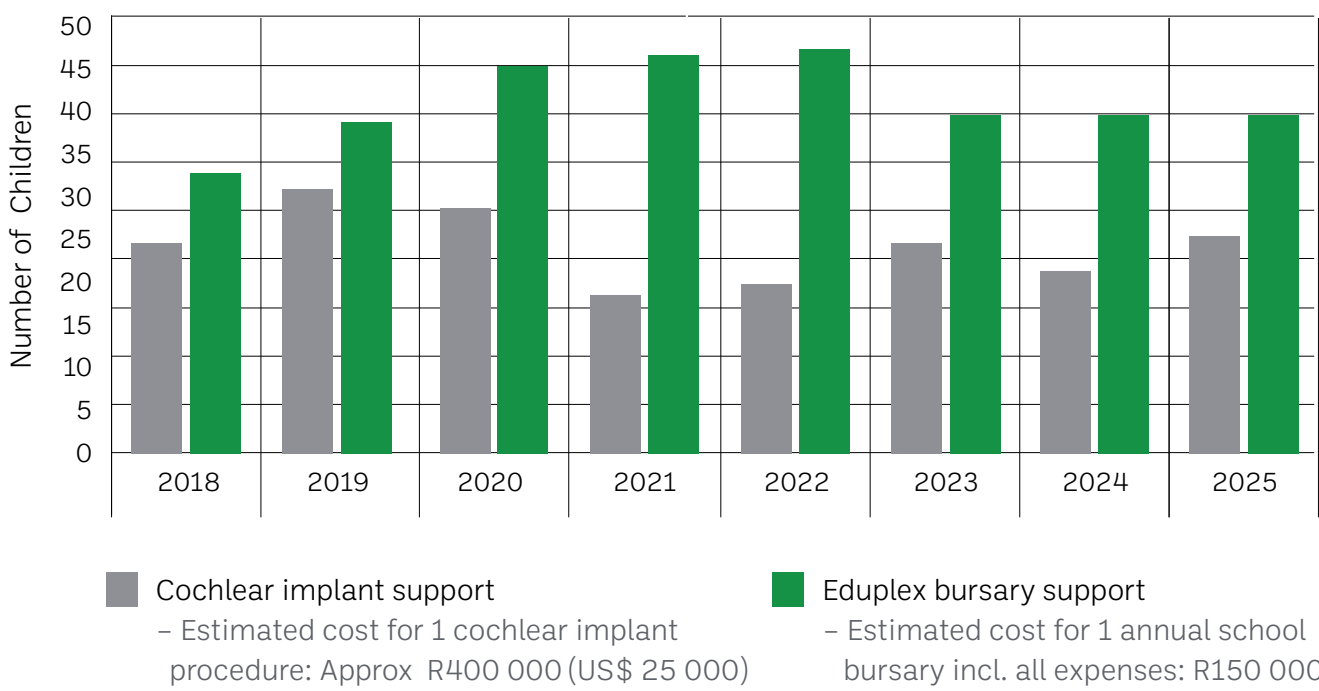
Through cochlear implants and hearing aids, children and adults who once struggled to connect with the world **can now hear, communicate, and engage with confidence**. The gift of hearing truly changes lives at every age - giving a voice, independence, and a true sense of belonging.

Your contributions also help provide bursaries, covering Eduplex school fees, including two meals a day, school uniform, school outings and audiological management (hearing tests, hearing aids, cochlear implants, Roger communication systems, speech therapy, parent guidance, ENT visits, etc).

Because of your generosity, more than a 1'000 deaf children's lives have been changed to date.

The number of deaf children supported by bursaries has remained stable over the past three years, while financial support for hearing aids and cochlear implants has increased; **however, demand for both continues to far exceed available donor funding**.

Our impact since 2018



FOUNDATION

I can hear, thanks to you!



Unathi Chule (4)

Unathi's face lights up with wonder as she hears sound for the very first time through her bilateral cochlear implants.



Your support during 2025

- made it all possible!

Beneficiaries



Adults

Christine Botha | Jessica Gribb | Linda Nkalanga | Lynette Steyn

Children

Abigail vd Merwe
Charl Erasmus
Chulumanco Mama
Divan Kotze (hearing aids)
Emily Grace Jelly
Ethan van Zyl
Gomolemo Masombuka
Hilma Chibvongodze
Kgethego Machabaphala

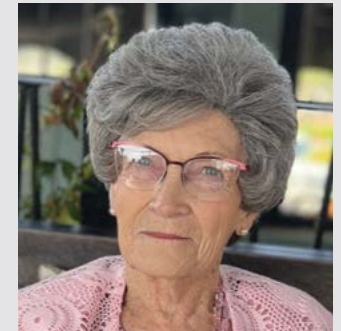
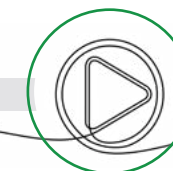
Mcebo Ncube
Olerato Rathete
Pebetsi Mabelane
Regoratile Monamodi
Thoriso Moshesh
Tristan Mok-Otto
Unathi Chule
Vutivi Bilankulu
Zuan Brummer

25 cochlear implants, including support for hearing aids, processor upgrades, and repairs - all thanks to you!



Cochlear Implant Video

-Sounds of joy with the gift of hearing
Scan the QR code:



Christine Botha



Jessica Gribb



Linda Nkalanga



Lynette Steyn

YOUR generosity has helped these little ones hear the world:

In some cases, beneficiaries received two cochlear implants
- effectively doubling the already high cost of a single implant. We worked to secure funding for both procedures and are deeply grateful to our donors for making this possible.



Abigail vd Merwe



Charl Erasmus



Chulumanco Mama



Divan Kotze



Emily Grace Jelly



Ethan van Zyl



Gomolemo Masombuka



Hilma Chibvongodze



Kgethego Machabaphala



Mcebo Ncube



Olerato Rathete



Pebetsi Mabelane



Regoratile Monamodi



Thoriso Moshesh



Tristan Mok-Otto



Unathi Chule



Vutivi Bilankulu



Zuan Brummer

We currently have
**many children
on our waiting
list**

These children urgently need funding for hearing-related support, ranging from cochlear implants to processor upgrades, personal communication systems, and essential repairs.

Most of these children do not have medical insurance **to fund the above**, making your support vital in helping them access the hearing care they deserve.

The Gift of Hearing extends far beyond the ability to perceive sound.

It empowers each child with greater independence, personal privacy*, and the freedom to pursue a career of their choice after completing school. It also brings meaningful positive change to family dynamics, fostering stronger connections and improved communication within the home.

*No need for a sign language interpreter when visiting the doctor or bank etc.

Testimony:

“Our son and his cochlear implant is already inseparable. The way his face lights up when he listens to the world around him is beautiful to witness. We will forever be grateful for the life changing donations made possible by the unsung heroes behind the Foundation for Children with Hearing Loss in Southern Africa.”

Armand & Esmarie van Zyl (Parents of Ethan van Zyl - a cochlear implant beneficiary in the photo below).

The Gift of Hearing



Ethan van Zyl (2)

During the activation of his cochlear implant, Ethan heard the voices of his family for the very first time.



2025 Highlights & Achievements

Celebrating a Year of Life-Changing Moments

1.

A generous donation celebrated

with pride and purpose, Mr and Miss Wilgie 2025, handed over a donation to our organisation on behalf of their school, Die Wilgers, to help a deaf child in need. Miss South Africa 2025, Mia le Roux, shared her inspiring journey with hearing loss and the Dischem Foundation generously contributed **R30,000** to one of our children.



2.

Good morning TV Show Interview

Mandy Strydom shared her daughter Leah's inspiring story on national TV. Leah received a cochlear implant that was generously sponsored by donors - enabling her to experience the wonderful world of sound.



4.

Bikers Rally Together for Baby Leah!

On 5 April, the Sons of Old School MC did something truly extraordinary! Together with the Foundation for Children with Hearing Loss in SA, they hosted a powerful fundraiser to support baby Leah Strydom's hearing journey, and raised more than R85'160!



3.

Jou Mense My Mense:

Abigail & Zuan on GROOTfm 90.5

The GROOTfm 90.5 radio station helped bring many angels together to help give Abby and Zuan the gift of hearing.



More Highlights

I can hear, thanks to you!



Gomolemo Masombuka (5)

From silence to sound – Gomolemo experienced her first glimpse of the world through hearing, despite being blind.

Gomolemo Masombuka (5)

The unforgettable moment when 4-year-old Gomolemo Pearl Masombuka - born both deaf and blind - hears sound for the very first time through her cochlear implant.

A life-changing gift made possible by the kindness of strangers and the power of giving.

5.



6.

From Beneficiary to Inspiration

At just 14, Stephan Heyneke - one of our past beneficiaries - took on the aQuellé Midmar Mile one-mile swim to raise funds for our Foundation. Despite being profoundly deaf and living with an eye condition, Stephan's courage and determination prove that with the right support, anything is possible.



Stephan Heyneke

7.

Die Groot Ontbyt Interview

As part of World Hearing Day, we joined "Die Groot Ontbyt" (the big breakfast) TV talk show to inform viewers about the profound impact hearing loss has on children, and the life-changing difference a hearing aid or cochlear implant can make.



Testimony:

“Above all, we want to express our heartfelt gratitude to the Foundation, the donors, the doctors, and every person behind the scenes who made the Gift of Hearing possible and successful. And most importantly, we give praise to the Lord Almighty for His blessings and for guiding every procedure and process. Thank you, a million times over.”

Ncube Family



Mcebo Ncube (4)
Received bilateral cochlear implants.

EDUPLEX

Eduplex (2002), brings deaf and hearing children together in a mainstream school, creating a truly inclusive learning environment.

1.

Eduplex’s 23rd Birthday

It was a fun and meaningful celebration as we reflected on the incredible journey we’ve shared and the lives of more than 300 deaf children that have been forever changed along the way.



2.

On World Hearing Day, the celebration at Eduplex included visits from:

- Mia le Roux, Miss South Africa 2025, who was born deaf and received a cochlear implant.
- Mrs. Mashatile, wife of the Deputy President of South Africa, who was so inspired that she extended her stay from one hour to three. Their presence reaffirms the role Eduplex is playing in inclusive deaf education internationally.



3.

A Milestone of Success

Four deaf bursary students graduated in 2024, all accepted into tertiary institutions of their choice. Their success stands as a testament to your support, and to Eduplex’s vision to make a difference in deaf education.





Vutomi Mahlaola (12)

Eduplex bursary student, actively engaged through innovative learning technology, with his cochlear implant helping him connect, hear, and participate in the classroom.

Testimonies

Eduplex - making a difference

Many of our bursary deaf children come from disadvantaged homes and are often raised by single parents or grandparents. By giving them access to world-class education and the chance to develop spoken language, we're transforming not just their lives, but their families - truly turning tragedy into triumph, as Mr. Mandela said at the Eduplex's opening in 2002.

Testimony: "Leano and other hearing-impaired kids we got to know, are testament to God's greatness and faithfulness. As a family we thank God for directing us to the Ear Institute and then to Eduplex. We will always be grateful for the unwavering support of the teachers and audiologists from all three schools. This is a journey that took us 15 years. Every step we took is a testimony to the love and grace of God. The journey has ended at Eduplex and we will miss it."

- Leano's parents

Testimony: "Thank you for taking Aphiwe (and us) under your wing and ensuring that, together, we've laid such a solid foundation for her future. She's blossoming into a remarkable young woman with so much potential ahead of her. The grounding she received at Eduplex is something I, and my loved ones, will always cherish. Aphiwe's foundation was made strong by the kindness of Eduplex and its donors."

- Aphiwe's Mother

EDUPLEX 2024 bursary graduate students



Leano



Siphokazi



Aphiwe



Shadé



Jordan Williams (11)
Pure joy! The moment shortly after Jordan heard the world for the first time through his cochlear implant on switch-on day.

Appreciation

A Year of Progress – *thanks to you!*

What an incredible year it’s been—once again!! **Thanks to your ongoing support**, deaf children are hearing, learning, and dreaming bigger than ever. We couldn’t do this without you, and we’re so grateful for everything you make possible.

Your impact is clear in every story we share, every life changed, and every step a beneficiary takes into the hearing world. We’re so thankful to have you with us on this journey, and we can’t wait to **continue transforming lives with the gift of hearing in 2026.**

Erika Basson
Manager

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Governance

Board of Directors

- Mr J Grobbelaar** (Chairperson)
- Mr D Mbokane**
- Mr N van der Merwe Jnr**
- Mr P van Deventer**
- Mr N van der Merwe Snr** (Founder)

Association incorporated under Section 21:
1997/010956/08

Non-profit Organisation:
030-787NPO

Public Benefit Organisation:
930005868

Tax Clearance Status:
Compliant, Good Standing. (PIN on request)

B-BBEE Status: **LEVEL 1**, Procurement Recognition 135%, 75% Black beneficiaries.

- On Request
- **Governance certificates**
 - **Audited financial statements**
 - **Section 18 A tax certificate**
 - **Proof of bank details**
 - **Tax compliance pin & verification**

Changing Lives with the gift of **hearing**

Leah Strydom (3)

Ongoing donor support helps Leah thrive and make remarkable progress on her hearing journey.

Thank you!



This brochure was sponsored by the H.A.S.S. Group