

PHELANG DISABILITY SCHOOL



PROJECT PROFILE

Name of the CSO: Phelang Disability School

NPO registration number: NPO 170-373

Established: 2016

District: Mangaung Metropolitan Municipality

Contact: Ms Motlalepule Motlolometsi, 083 497 0005

NDA Grant funding: R84 897, 95

Number of jobs created: 6 (three caregivers, Administrator, Cook and Matron)

Population sector: Children with Cerebral Palsy



Phelang Disability School (PDS) was established when a group of parents struggled to find a place of safety and learning within their community to cater for the needs of their children with Cerebral Palsy. Today, PDS cares for 15 children on weekdays and provides holistic stimulation and therapy programmes monitored by the Department of Education. The children are prepared and assisted with skills that make them eligible for occupation in Special Schools, in accordance with their abilities.

The National Development Agency (NDA) grant funding assisted with upgrading the children's development and stimulation programme by purchasing relevant equipment for therapy and stimulation. These included a therapy table, standing and walking frames, mats, rollers, bean bags, pool and exercise balls.

The success of PDS is underpinned by strategic associations established and a partnership with the Department of Physiotherapy Faculty of Health Sciences at University of Free State makes provision that qualifying students render physiotherapy services to the children once a month as part of their studies. The local Pelindaba Clinic also provides occupational care services and routine health checks for the children at the school.

A flourishing student exchange and feeder partnership exists with Tswelang Public Disability School and Pholoho Special School that ensures correct placement and allocation of children towards appropriate care. Children who graduate from PDS are placed at these schools for continuation of their learning careers, some due to the severity of their illness stay at PDS for continuous therapy and stimulation.

Intakes are through word of mouth as well as referrals from Pelindaba Clinic. The School operates on school fees paid, mostly with money from South African Social Security Agency (SASSA) grants and Department of Social Development subsidies.

Current needs

To grow, PDS needs scholar transport for the children as well a bigger space to better cater for the children. There is also a need for formal training and qualification for the Caregivers.

