

Road to Melbourne:

Successful and Promising Approaches to Meeting the Holistic Needs of Young Children
Born Into Families Affected by HIV and AIDS. Cape Town, December 5th, 2013

Early Interventions

Goals

- To improve the quality of formal ECD services in disadvantaged communities by providing training and on-going support to ECD practitioners.
- To provide capacity building and support through the registration process for individual ECD centres.
- To increase access for children unreached by any formal ECD service, through caregiver-focused interventions.

1. Center-focused Interventions:

- Training
 - Certificate Program in ECD
 - First Aid, Fire Management, Financial Management
- Nutritional Support
- Infrastructure Support
- Play Material
- Compliance workshops and support on government Norms and Standards

2. Caregiver-focused Interventions:

- Caregiver Orientation workshops
- Parent Support Groups
- Referrals

3. Community-based interventions:

- Access to grants through Service Delivery 'Imbizos'



Program Integration

Entry Points:

- OVC Programs
- ECD Centers
- Parenting programs
- Antenatal clinics (new) - complimenting Health services

Integration:

1. Organizational

- HOPE worldwide integrates its ECD caregiver services into its Social Protection program by referring caregivers to government Social services and to Service Delivery Imbizos
- ECD Centres are integrated into HOPE worldwide's Nutrition Program

2. Government

- HOPE worldwide works with a range of government partners to ensure integration of services. Departments include;
 - Department of Social Services
 - Department of Health
 - Department of Home Affairs
 - Department of education
 - Police
 - Municipalities

Challenges	Solutions
Systemic Level:	
Sectoral planning still predominates	Advocate for and promote inter-sectoral planning. (e.g. Norm & Standards Workshops)
Lack of child-focused service providers for children including medical, social and legal at local sites	Promote more effective coordination of existing service providers (e.g. ECD forums, Service Delivery 'Imbizos')
Inadequate number of social workers	Advocate for additional social workers, increase cadre of trained Community workers and Auxiliary Social Workers
Center Level:	
Massive infrastructure challenges	Mobilize corporate partners to support infrastructure projects
Low levels of qualifications, insufficient training, professional support	Motivate government support for training. Mobilize resources for private training.
Challenging and expensive process of getting ECD Centers registered.	Develop registration guidelines, promote by-law amendments and cost reductions
Caregiver Level:	
Lack of enabling documents such as Identification documents and birth certificates prohibit children from receiving services	Promoting linkages to Home Affairs through activities such as Service Delivery Imbizos.
Priority of funding to centre-based programs	Advocate for evidence-based, ECD Parenting programs
Low levels of self-confidence impact knowledge uptake	Address self-esteem issues during training and in support groups