

Celebrating CREATE's 10th Anniversary: 2001-2011



CREATE

CBR Education and Training for Empowerment

Tel: +27 (0) 33 345 5088 • Fax +27 (0) 33 342 2702

P O Box 100275, Scottsville, KwaZulu-Natal 3209, South Africa

www.create-cbr.co.za • e-mail: create3@telkomsa.net



ANNUAL REPORT 2011/12



CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Barbara Watt

One of the highlights of this year has been our 10th anniversary. This was an exciting milestone for everyone. We celebrated this on 21 May 2011, with a photographic exhibition of the rights of people with disabilities. The photographs were done by four people with disabilities who had been trained by John Robinson funded by the Foundation for Human Rights. Each person also received a high quality camera.

The pictures were enlarged and printed on banners which were displayed on large free standing banners which were placed around our anniversary event for everyone to see. We held this event in the outdoors at the grounds of a local church. It was well attended and the finger lunch after the event was well received. Many people gave us a positive response. Pietermaritzburg's local newspaper, *The Witness*, published an article the day before our anniversary event.

Considering the world economic downturn, we are very thankful for our stable funding which has enabled

us to achieve our project objectives for this year. These objectives have included advocacy for the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD), the youth training and the Disability/HIV projects.

I would like to close this report by thanking not only the staff of CREATE for all their dedicated work but also the Board. Thanks go to the Board for attending Board meetings and responding to emails. By being selflessly available, they have contributed to the direction and operation of CREATE. Thank you for your support.



Barbara Watt sharing CREATE's newspaper article at the 10th anniversary



MANAGING DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Sarah Rule

CREATE marked its 10th anniversary with a wonderful celebration in Pietermaritzburg in May 2011. We had an exhibition of photos celebrating the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities as well as speeches and musical items from people who have been associated with CREATE over the past 10 years. People with disabilities, parents of disabled children, community leaders, officials from the Office of the Premier, friends and family all joined in to make this a memorable occasion.

CREATE has many organisations and people to thank for its continuing existence into the second decade. In the past year we have been very fortunate to have had funding from Irish Aid, the Embassy of Finland, Kindernothilfe eV., the Foundation for Human Rights, Netherlands Leprosy Relief and the Fulton Trust. A new partnership with Oxfam Australia is just beginning. We have also benefitted from working partnerships with Enablement in the Netherlands, Jive Media, the Legal Resources Centre in Durban and the Office of the Premier amongst others. I would also like to thank all the staff of CREATE over the past years for making it possible to address the rights and needs of people with disabilities in KwaZulu-Natal. At the end of 2011 we were sad to say goodbye to Nergeshree Pillay and Buhle Mdlolo who resigned. Thanks to Nicola Rule and Nathi Ngubane who helped us out temporarily until a new admin officer could be appointed.

CREATE and its programmes are never static and there have been new developments in the past financial year. CREATE has worked with Enablement



Sarah Rule and Huib Cornielje with the Vice Chancellor and senior management at the University of Jos, Nigeria

from the Netherlands on a project to assist the University of Jos in Plateau State, Nigeria to develop a curriculum for a new CBR diploma course. We were also delighted that the national Department of Social Development was so impressed with our comic on the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities that they chose to translate it into the languages of the country and print 110 000 copies for distribution to

children and youth in all nine provinces. CREATE is also starting to work with Oxfam Australia to assist five of its partners to become disability-inclusive in their work.

To all CREATE's partners, friends and funders, we thank you for journeying with us over the last 10 years and we hope to work with you in the future!



HIV and AIDS Project Report

This project started in 2009 and was funded by Irish Aid through the CINDI Network. Workshops have been conducted in seven sub-districts of Umgungundlovu. We ran five workshops in each sub-district: three workshops for youth with intellectual or physical

impairment and two for parents of children with disabilities. The aim of the project is firstly to work towards reducing the HIV and AIDS infection rate and secondly, to help youth with disabilities to develop a positive self image and to know their rights. We hope that the high rate of rape experienced by people with disabilities will decrease through this programme.

During 2011/2012 CREATE continued with disability, sexuality and HIV and AIDS training. We did training in other districts like Ugu (Umziwabantu Local Municipality), where we trained parents of children/youth with disabilities. We received positive feedback from the district through one of the district community services managers, who was part of the training. As a result, they have asked CREATE

to expand the training to other local municipalities, but due to a lack of funds we have not been able to do so. In the uThukela district (Imbabazane Municipality), CREATE trained parents and youth with intellectual disability.



CREATE THROUGH THE YEARS: 2001–2011

2001

With the help of attorney Julian von Klemperer and Cedric Hedgecock, CBR Education and Training for Empowerment or CREATE finally became an independent, registered organisation. As well as providing Community Based Rehabilitation (CBR) training, CREATE was involved in the pilot test of inclusive education in Estcourt, KwaZulu-Natal. Hundreds of parents of learners from mainstream schools attended our workshops to learn about inclusive education, even braving the snow in the Drakensberg in July. Excited learners from several of the pilot schools joined us at a sports field in Wembezi to play sport and learn about disability.



2003

CREATE staff grew by 50%! Sarah Roberts joined CREATE for the first time on a contract post and it was wonderful to have increased capacity to take on other activities. We also enjoyed having students from Gauteng and Namibia on the CBR course which helped us to learn more about the experiences of disability in Namibia. In 2003 CREATE started a long period of working together with the Disability Action Research Team (DART). We assisted DART to conduct disability situation analyses in the eThekweni (Durban) and uMkhanyakude districts.



2002

CREATE continued with its core activity to train community rehabilitation facilitators. It was great to have two students from a disabled people's organisation in Kokstad, both of whom had direct personal experience of disability. In 2002 CREATE also worked with TEBA to develop a training programme for their facilitators who would work with miners who had become disabled due to mining accidents. These disabled miners were sent home to rural areas in the Eastern Cape and KwaZulu-Natal where a TEBA facilitator would work with them.

2004

Paul Chappell and Christa Johannsmeier joined the staff of CREATE in 2004 and we were able to embark on new projects. Paul took responsibility for developing a programme of continuing education for community rehabilitation facilitators and workers who were working in five provinces of South Africa as well as Namibia, Swaziland and Botswana. The first of our newsletters was also produced in 2004. Fortunately Bongzi's previous experience of working in uMzinga helped her negotiate the difficulties of community work with a CBR student in an area troubled by long-standing feuds.



2005

A national field test of inclusive education was started by the Sisonke Consortium in 2005. Sarah Rule was the KwaZulu-Natal provincial co-ordinator for the consortium, drawing in staff from the University of KwaZulu-Natal, private consultants and CREATE staff. One of the situations we came across during this time was a school with about four empty classrooms because parents of non-disabled children withdrew their children from the school, fearing that their children might 'catch' a disability or the standards at the school would drop because children with disabilities were included.

2006

CREATE was very sad to be working with the final group of community based rehabilitation students in 2006. The Health Professions Council of South Africa (HPCSA) ordered CREATE to close its training because they no longer supported multi-skilled rehabilitation workers. The new direction was to have profession-specific mid-level workers. In spite of a meeting with about 60 representatives of community leaders, people with disabilities and government departments, we were unable to change the decision of the HPCSA.

2007

The Dutch Coalition on Disability and Development (DCDD) invited CREATE to participate in an international lobby venture on the rights of people with disabilities. We joined organisations from Nicaragua, Uganda, Cambodia and Kenya, as well as DCDD in this venture, learning about the new United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD). We produced a document to lobby our countries to ratify the CRPD and a CD was produced with resource documents. CREATE was very excited in November 2007 when South Africa ratified the CRPD.

2008

Several changes took place in CREATE's work from 2008. After we had to close down the CBR course, Christa and Bonggi conducted a situation analysis of the employment situation of people with disabilities in the seven local municipalities of uMgungundlovu district. This led to us developing a new course to gear youth with disabilities to accessing work and to income generation activities. 2008 also saw CREATE develop a working partnership with the National Association of Child and Youth Care Workers. Initially we ran disability awareness workshops for child and youth care workers in 25 sites around the country, from Tzaneen to Saldanha Bay.



2009

CREATE received funding from Irish Aid to undertake a project that taught youth and children with disabilities about HIV and AIDS. Lungi Radebe and Buhle Mdlolo joined Paul to spearhead our HIV and disability project, which also saw parents of disabled children and HIV counselors trained on HIV and disability. Paul represented the interests of people with disabilities on the Local and Provincial AIDS Councils. We also developed and ran a three-month course for child and youth care workers on disability in children. The child and youth care workers from around the country were wonderful singers and they made up new songs about disability rights.

2010

In 2010 CREATE was contracted to conduct an evaluation of the CBR programme of Disabled People South Africa in Mpumalanga province. This was a good opportunity to work with Paul again, who had moved to Pretoria. Amidst all the excitement of the football World Cup in South Africa, CREATE chose to develop a comic about disability rights with a sports theme that would appeal to children from about 9 to 14 years of age. The comic is in English and isiZulu and we were amazed with what Jive Media produced for us with a relatively small budget from KNH.

2011

2011 saw CREATE move to new premises. We are delighted to have more space and a garden that provides us with beautiful flowers, vegetables and lemons. We were fortunate to have funding from the Foundation for Human Rights to have a photojournalist train three people with disabilities and one parent of a child with a disability to become photographers. We celebrated our 10th anniversary in style, with an exhibition of photographs that illustrated the CRPD from the four photographers. CREATE even made it to a full centre page article in *The Witness* newspaper.

Working with youth and children with disabilities

In 2011 CREATE received funding from KNH to run work-related life skills training for disabled youth. 48 disabled youth were interviewed and 16 of the disabled youth were invited to participate in the four-week training programme.

The disabled youth not included in the training programme for 2011 will be included in the 2012 programme. The four week training was divided into two sessions. After each two week training session, support visits were arranged and conducted to assist the disabled youth to apply what they had learned during the training. As a result of the training, four disabled youth are currently enrolled in learnerships, one disabled youth has joined a self help group, one has chosen self employment as an avenue and one has taken up a part-time work option. Also as a result of the training, three disabled youth decided to return to school to complete their secondary education. One of the main outcomes of the training was the development of the youths' own goals for their futures.

Contact with organisations has been ongoing in terms of seeking career opportunities for disabled youth. We have established partnerships with SLOT (School Leaver Opportunity Training), the Msunduzi Municipality and Training Force (a training service provider).

In addition to the work related skills training, the KNH project has focussed

on providing workshops on the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD). A puppet show was designed for children under the age of eight and was run for fifty disabled children and their caregivers in the community. In addition, workshops were run in the community for disabled youth. Further to this, a workshop was developed for conducting advocacy around the UNCRPD in special schools or schools with disabled children and was generally well received, as the content aligned closely to the content being taught in the curriculum at the schools. The schools where workshops were conducted were Amahlube High School, Arthur Blaxall School and



Advocacy

CREATE has been very fortunate to have funding from the Foundation for Human Rights and the Finnish Embassy during 2011/2012 to promote the rights of people with disabilities throughout KwaZulu-Natal. In this financial year, the project has focused on training approximately 180 human rights activists from human rights forums in nine districts in the

province. The training content has covered the South African Constitution, the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, the Millennium Development Goals and the Promotion of Equality and Prevention of Unfair Discrimination Act (PEPUDA).

CREATE has worked with the Office of the Premier, Chief Directorate: Human Rights and Legal Resources Centre (LRC) to put together the training manuals

KwaZamokuhle School. What seemed to have particular impact was that these workshops were presented by disabled people, and they could be seen as role models for the disabled learners at these special schools. In all of these workshops the comic strips developed by CREATE were well received.

In addition to the KNH work, CREATE has been involved in certain KNH funded schools and organisations, running workshops on community based rehabilitation and the UNCRPD. CREATE has also continued to support the CRF in Mooi River, where she received some training on early childhood education from a practitioner in Bergville. In Estcourt, the group has been linked up with the Department of Agriculture, which is offering some training for the group.

CREATE's Staff Members

Sarah Rule

Bongi Zuma

Sarah Roberts

Nergeshree Pillay

Lungi Radebe

Buhle Mdlolo

Nathi Ngubane

Directors as at 31 March 2012

Barbara Watt (chairperson)

Mncedisi Mdunyelwa

Sue Philpott

Peta Diack

Sipho Mdletshe

Sphiwo Mngomezulu

Bridget Campbell

CREATE's Donors

Kindernothilfe e.V.

Embassy of Finland Local Co-operation Fund

Foundation for Human Rights

Irish Aid

Fulton Trust

Netherlands Leprosy Relief



CREATE's Mission Statement

CREATE strives to promote Community Based Rehabilitation and disability rights in southern Africa and to train people in rehabilitation and disability issues in a way that empowers them and their communities.