



ANNUAL REPORT



ABOUT US

Introduction

ChangeAbility's purpose is to pioneer programmes that change communities by improving the lives of people with disabilities (PWDs). Our logo is inspired by mandalas. A mandala is a circular design that houses a ripple effect, which ties in with our desire to affect change and touch lives.

By changing mindsets and offering people the right support, we can create ripples in communities that have a lasting impact. During the past year, we created new ripples in our communities and this report will summarise our programmes and activities that have made an impact.



We passionately believe that we remained true to ourselves and our beneficiaries, both in what and how we did things!

Vision

We envision a world where everyone sees the ability in others, and recognise the potential in themselves.

Mission

Our mission is to reach out to communities, and act as a catalyst for real change.

A WORD FROM THE CHAIRPERSON

My personal mission is: 'I create inclusive communities by empowering people with disabilities.'

ChangeAbility is the embodiment of this and once again the organisation has excelled in this.

This year reminded me that persistence can achieve profound change. At ChangeAbility, that change comes from the steady work of many hands; our staff, volunteers, donors, partners, and the people we serve. As Chairperson, it has been a privilege to witness how these contributions, large and small, combine to create lasting impact.

The Management Committee remained focused on strong governance, financial oversight, and ensuring that our strategic goals remained aligned with our mission of building inclusive communities. We continued to review policies, monitor compliance and support the organisation in navigating challenges, ensuring that ChangeAbility remains resilient and responsive in an ever-changing environment.

Equally important has been our commitment to building and sustaining partnerships. Through municipal collaborations, networks, and advocacy platforms, we have amplified the voices of people with disabilities and strengthened our influence on local decision-making. These relationships are vital in shaping a more inclusive Cape Winelands and ensuring accessibility is a priority in all spheres of community life.

To our donors, your support is more than financial; it is a statement of trust in our mission. To our partners, your collaboration broadens our reach and amplifies our voice. And to our beneficiaries, your resilience, honesty and hope inspire us to work harder each year. Thank you all for enabling ChangeAbility to keep shaking the world, gently but powerfully, in the service of inclusion.

Looking ahead, despite the many challenges faced during this past year, our steadfast belief in ChangeAbility's mission has carried us through. We have not only weathered the storm but have begun taking decisive steps to turn the ship around. The period following this financial year has marked a time of strategic repositioning that is strengthening our sustainability, expanding our impact and ensuring that ChangeAbility is better placed than ever to meet the evolving needs of the communities we serve.



Jeremy Hazell

A WORD FROM THE CEO

“The smallest deed is better than the grandest intention.”
John Burroughs

At ChangeAbility, we believe that change happens through consistent, tangible action. This past year, our community workers, peer supporters, and volunteers have turned good intentions into daily acts of care, inclusion and empowerment, reaching hundreds of people with disabilities in the Cape Winelands.

A beneficiary from Klapmuts captured the impact best:

“Before joining the exercise group, I stayed at home most days and felt isolated. Now I’m stronger, I’ve made friends, and I’m part of something that makes me look forward to each week.”

In 2025, our work focused on three key areas:

- **Driving Inclusive Service Delivery:** We concluded year three of our Universal Access training tender with Stellenbosch Municipality. Staff from all directorates completed training and disability inclusion champions continued to embed accessibility into public service delivery.
- **Building Local Leadership:** We launched our peer supporter training programme, equipping more people with disabilities to lead and provide direct support in their communities.
- **Strengthening Collaboration:** Our forums continued to create space for community members, service providers and stakeholders to share knowledge, identify challenges and plan together for a more inclusive future.

These achievements were made possible by our generous donors, committed volunteers and the determination of our beneficiaries. Together we have shown that small, consistent acts of caring can transform lives and we remain dedicated to making inclusion a reality for all. This shared commitment has also given us the resilience to persevere through a difficult year and the confidence to embrace a period of renewal. As the Chair has highlighted, we are already taking significant steps to reposition ChangeAbility for greater sustainability and impact. With the continued support of our partners and communities we are turning challenges into opportunities and shaping a stronger, more inclusive future.



Cindy Wiggett-Barnard

HIGHLIGHTS



Programme Highlights

Our projects are designed to recognise the potential of people with disabilities and the vital role they play in their own communities. As Albert Pine said, “What we do for ourselves dies with us. What we do for others and the world remains and is immortal.” Over the past year, our beneficiaries have continued to harness their strengths to inspire each other and their communities, taking positive actions that create meaningful, lasting change.

In 2025, we provided direct support to people with disabilities across five communities: Cloetesville, Kayamandi, Klapmuts, Groendal in the Stellenbosch municipal area, and Macassar in the Helderberg region. Our programmes focus on health, awareness, skills development, and community engagement, reaching a total of 488 beneficiaries over the year. The following sections report on activities that took place from September 2024 to August 2025.

Health & Awareness

The aim of this programme is to promote better long term, holistic health for every person with a disability in every community we serve.

Community & Skills

The aim of this programme is for every PWD to feel acknowledged, informed and supported, and to have an opportunity to participate and influence change in each community that we serve.

HIGHLIGHTS: HEALTH



Our community-based exercise groups remain at the heart of our health-promotion efforts, bringing people together to move, learn, and support one another.

We continued our strong partnership with Stellenbosch University's Sport Science Department, with student volunteers actively guiding and motivating our groups. Twice a year, the students conduct health assessments to monitor physical well-being, celebrate improvements, and identify areas for further support, helping each participant make measurable progress toward better health and wellness.

In the past year, we had 250 people with disabilities participating in 128 exercise group sessions.

We had active exercise groups in Macassar (58 attending), Cloetesville (48 attending), Groendal (49 attending), Kayamandi (50 attending) and Klapmuts (52 attending).

Our biggest growth was in the Klapmuts group, with 14 more attendees than the previous year. They had a total of 25 sessions.

Our weekly exercise groups continue to draw beneficiaries with the benefits of healthy living and peer support in a welcoming environment.



HIGHLIGHTS: AWARENESS



This year, our awareness-raising activities focused on creating impact in both organisational and community settings. ChangeAbility continued to lead the Stellenbosch and Helderberg Disability Networks, promoting disability inclusion and fostering collaboration.

There were three network meetings this past year, where organisational leaders, alongside members of the public and other stakeholders, shared knowledge, addressed challenges, and explored solutions. Strong participation reflected a collective commitment to advancing inclusion.

We hosted two additional Stellenbosch disability events this past year. On 31 August 2024, in collaboration with Stellenbosch Municipality and Stellenbosch University's Sport Science Department, we held the third annual Sports Day for adults with disabilities. A total of 90 people with disabilities attended and enjoyed a full day of sporting activities, fun, and social interaction.

The very popular Walk with Disability also took place in November 2024, drawing 389 participants who celebrated and raised awareness about disability in Stellenbosch. Both events were successful in bringing communities together and highlighting the abilities and achievements of people with disabilities.

Awareness-raising talks continued to be a core part of our work. Over the year, 13 sessions reached 214 people, helping to educate communities, organisations, and stakeholders on disability rights, inclusion, and support services.

Our four Community Disability Forums remained active, meeting 12 times throughout the year. A total of 168 people with disabilities attended the forums. These forums provided a platform for participants to discuss their needs, share experiences, and collaborate on plans for improved disability inclusion in their communities.

HIGHLIGHTS: COMMUNITY



Over the past year, our community development work focused on individual visits and support groups, delivered by two social workers, one social auxiliary worker, and five peer supporters working within their own communities.

The social workers conducted assessments for 17 beneficiaries and provided home support to 78 beneficiaries across 166 visits, while peer supporters reached 216 beneficiaries through 295 home visits, offering guidance, encouragement, and practical advice to their peers with disabilities.

Our team visited 304 individual beneficiaries in total: 46 beneficiaries in Cloeteville, 26 in Groendal, 49 in Kayamandi, 140 in Macassar, 15 in Klapmuts, as well as 30 beneficiaries from other areas.

Our alternative support centered on helping beneficiaries apply for disability grants, secure appropriate assistive devices, and connect with other service providers for specialised services. This practical assistance not only met urgent needs but also helped promote greater independence, dignity, and inclusion.

We also had five support groups, with 130 beneficiaries attending 22 different support groups meetings in the past year. Relevant self-care and social support advice was given and shared under the guidance of our social workers.



HIGHLIGHTS: SKILLS

Over the past year, ChangeAbility has carried out 34 skills development activities, reaching 137 beneficiaries. Among these were knitting and crocheting workshops, which offered participants both creative expression and the chance to produce items for personal use or income generation. Our Gender-Based Violence (GBV) awareness sessions provided crucial knowledge on recognising and responding to abuse, while financial literacy training equipped participants with practical skills for managing budgets and making informed decisions.



From October 2024, ChangeAbility's Peer Support Training Programme provided a structured year of learning, mentorship, and hands-on experience for peer supporters. The curriculum combined classroom-style sessions on topics such as employment readiness, confidentiality, rights awareness, community leadership, disability awareness, and diversity with ongoing "Action and Reflection" workshops to consolidate learning.

Participants engaged in work experience activities within their communities, including needs assessments, resource mapping, barrier identification, group facilitation, and advocacy. By September 2025, trainees will have built practical skills in peer support, strengthened community connections, and celebrated their achievements at a formal farewell and certificate ceremony.



TREASURER'S REPORT

Introduction

This report provides an overview of the key financial and operational aspects of our organisation from 1 April 2024 to 31 March 2025. It highlights our dependency on donor generosity, the labour-intensive nature of our services, and the overall financial health of the organisation.

Statement of Comprehensive Income	
Income	R 1 321 499
Expenses	R (1 871 784)
Loss for the year	R (332 647)

Financial Position and Challenging landscape

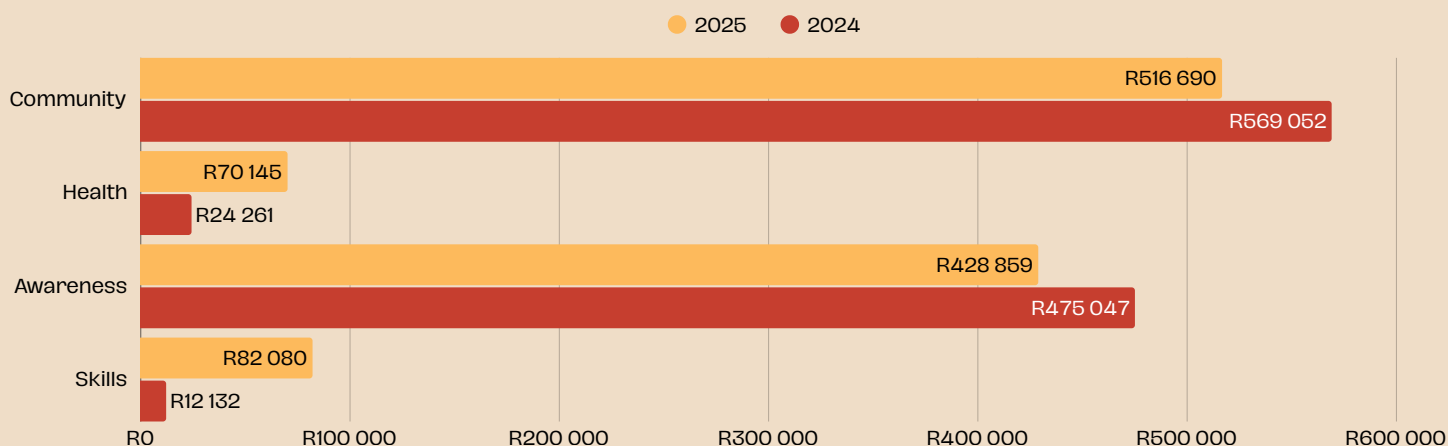
The 2024/25 financial year presented a challenging landscape, with income declining by 24% compared to the previous year. This was primarily due to a reduction in grant funding, which fell from R1.02 million in 2024 to R663 523 in 2025. Donations also decreased slightly, while fundraising and membership income remained stable. Although the organisation remained liquid and solvent, reserves dropped significantly from R478 754 to R152 652.

The budget revision after six months raised concerns about ChangeAbility's ability to continue as a going concern with sufficient resources to meet foreseeable obligations. In response, we not only launched a targeted fundraising campaign in February 2025 to raise R300,000 by 25 June 2025, but also began a process of restructuring. This has included repositioning our programmes to strengthen their impact, revising our fundraising policy to broaden and diversify income streams, and establishing a new Management Committee to lead the organisation into a more sustainable future.

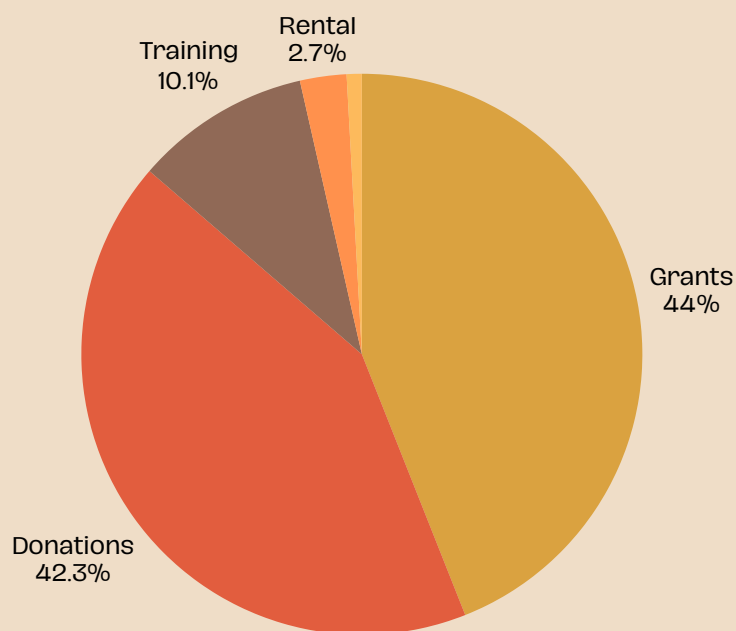
Statement of Financial Position	
Non-Current Assets	R 19 803
Property, plant & equipment	R 19 803
Current Assets	R 349 349
Other Financial Assets	R 157 343
Trade & Other receivables	R 39 354
Cash & cash equivalents	R 152 652
Current liabilities	R 30 768
Trade & other payables	R 29 887
Current Tax Payable	R 881
Net assets	R 338 384

TREASURER'S REPORT

Expenditure per programme (in Rands)



Income Composition (in Percentage)



Jacolene Quinn
Jacolene Quinn

The financial statements were audited by Smith & Associate Incorporated, who issued an unqualified opinion. The audit confirmed compliance with International Financial Reporting Standard for Small and Medium-sized Entities and the requirements of the common law.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF DONORS

ChangeAbility would like to express its utmost gratitude to the following donors for helping us achieve our goals in the past year:

- Department of Social Development: Western Cape;
- DG Murray Trust;
- Tonnesen Trust;
- Wiehahn Foundation;
- Nederduitsch Hervormde Kerk Stellenbosch;
- Stellenbosch Moederkerk;
- Stellenbosch Municipality;
- Smith & Associates;
- Aun T Mandy's Transport services;
- Western Cape Association for Persons with Disabilities;
- All individual donors, big and small!



CONCLUSION



An Invitation

We invite you to continue to join us on this journey into the heart of South African communities and discover something we already know - with the right support, people with disabilities can drive their own change and take their rightful place as valuable and crucial participants in our country's future.



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