



EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT

The Early Childhood Development (ECD) Conditional Grant was introduced in 2017/18 to assist the department in funding facilities for the programme targeting the foundation phase. To date 230 898 children accessed services in registered ECD centres and 99 751 children were fully subsidised. Five ECD mobile trucks were procured to provide services in farming areas. One hundred and seven ECD centres have been built through partnerships with

the Mining House(s), the National Lotteries Commission, municipalities and private sector companies and 87 ECD centres have been upgraded to date towards improved compliance with norms and standards.

There are 19 child and youth care centres in the province where children in need of care are placed. Of these, 13 sites are managed and funded by non-profit organisations (NPOs) and five are managed by the Department of Social Development. To date 6 600 children in conflict with the law accessed diversion programmes for rehabilitation, 65 168 victims of crime and violence accessed services from 78 funded Victim Empowerment Programme service centres, 1 382 125 children and adults have been reached through substance abuse prevention programmes.

NATION BUILDING

Social cohesion is a prerequisite to the developmental path of the province because it serves as a tool to galvanise society towards common and shared objectives. This is especially important not only given the history of South Africa, but also pivotal in the face of multi-cultures and diversity, which characterises the Limpopo Province and the region as a whole. Social cohesion and nation building through, inter alia, the promotion of cultural tourism by staging cultural tourism promotion events, have been the cornerstones of the diversity programmes in the province.