

2024

IMPACT REPORT



hearX
foundation

ECHOES OF IMPACT



BREAKING THE SILENCE

Maggie's journey to hearing and connection

In the Paarl Valley, a little girl spent much of her time on the sidelines. At school, she struggled to keep up. At home, conversations felt like distant echoes. She longed to belong, to understand, to connect – but without the ability to hear clearly, the world around her felt just out of reach.

Her foster mother saw the silent frustration in her child's eyes. "She was confused and always stood apart because she couldn't communicate," she recalls. "It made life difficult, and I felt helpless."

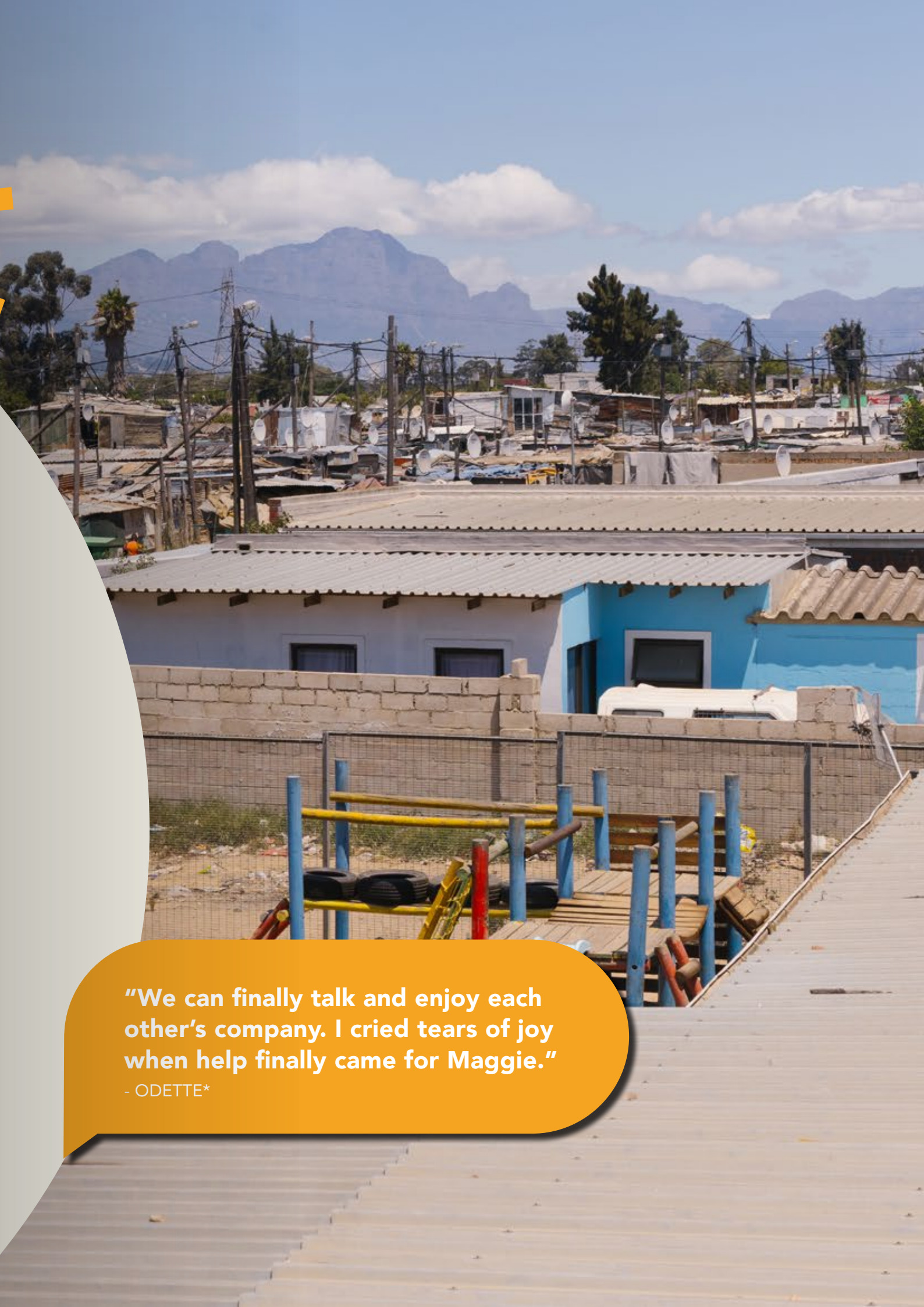
But hope arrived when Maggie's hearing was screened. hearX Foundation provided routine screening services at a partner organisation that connects vulnerable children with the support they need. Maggie's results showed that she required further intervention. In April 2024, she attended an audiology appointment and

everything changed. With the fitting of a hearing aid, Maggie's world opened up. For the first time, she could clearly hear the laughter of classmates, the kindness in her foster mother's words, and the rhythm of daily life. "Now I can hear better," she says with a beaming smile. "Before, I always had to ask, 'What did you say?' But not anymore."

The transformation was immediate. At school, her confidence soared. She began participating in class, engaging with friends, and finding joy in the sounds she had missed for so long. At home, a new connection blossomed between mother and daughter. "We can finally talk and enjoy each other's company," Odette* shares. "I cried tears of joy when help finally came for Maggie."

For Maggie* the silence is over. A world of laughter, learning, and connection awaits.

**Pseudonyms used*



"We can finally talk and enjoy each other's company. I cried tears of joy when help finally came for Maggie."

- ODETTE*



TABLE OF CONTENTS

Message from Leadership	05
Overview: Who We Are	07
Innovative Technology	09
Impact to Date: Transforming Lives Through Hearing Care	12
Programme Highlights: Circles of Care	13
Programme Impact by Geographical Areas	15
National Impact	21
Impact Through Partnerships	24
Echoes of Impact: Stories that Resonate	25
Impact Through Research	28
Impact Through Volunteers	29
Acknowledgements: Voices of Gratitude	32

MESSAGES FROM LEADERSHIP

LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

In a world where over 5% of the global population lives with disabling hearing loss – most without access to the care they desperately need – the hearX Foundation stands at the forefront of bridging this gap. Guided by collaboration, innovation, and compassion, we are dedicated to illuminating the critical importance of hearing health at every stage of life.

As we reflect on 2024, we are proud to share that, since our inception, we have reached over 77,000 individuals with life-changing hearing care at the grassroots level.

Our commitment to breaking down barriers has led to significant progress. We expanded our footprint with a new branch in Gauteng, launched a child-friendly hearing awareness programme to create consistent and context-specific messaging, and forged partnerships in the Eastern Cape to train community health workers, establish community-based programmes, and provide mentorship for implementation.

On a global scale, we strengthened our position as a community-based research and implementation partner, contributing to new WHO guidelines and sharing our learnings through publications and international conferences. Additionally,

we proudly supported Clinton Health Access Initiative's South African office with their programme funded by the LEGO Foundation, further amplifying our impact.

In this impact report, you'll witness how access to hearing care is transforming lives. From children hearing clearly for the first time to older adults reconnecting with loved ones, these stories remind us why we do what we do.

None of this would be possible without the dedication of our incredible team, the unwavering support of our partners, and the generosity of our funders. Thank you for joining us on this journey. Together, we are creating 'echoes of impact'.

With gratitude,

TERSIA DE KOCK
Executive Director, hearX Foundation



LETTER FROM THE BOARD

At the hearX Foundation, we believe hearing health is a right, not a privilege. Yet, for millions, access to even basic hearing care remains out of reach. Hearing loss isn't just about missing sounds – it's about missed opportunities.

That's why we're taking action – training local health workers, equipping communities with digital tools, and expanding access to life-changing hearing care. Over the past year, we've deepened our impact, strengthened partnerships, and built sustainable models of care. Every number in this report represents a life transformed.

None of this would be possible without the dedication of the hearX Foundation team

and our valued partners. Their passion and relentless drive turn vision into reality. I am deeply grateful to each and every one of them. But there's still more to do. The need is urgent, and the time to act is now. We invite you – partners, supporters, and advocates – to help break down barriers to hearing care. Together, we can create a world where no one is left in silence.

With gratitude,

PROF. DE WET SWANEPOEL
Founder & Chairman,
hearX Foundation



LETTER FROM THE PROGRAMME MANAGER

Reflecting on 2024, each beneficiary we've reached represents a unique story, and it is a privilege to play a role in their journey. In the communities we serve, we encounter individuals who would not otherwise have access to hearing and vision care. The need can be overwhelming, but we remain committed to our core value of People First. As Mother Teresa wisely said,

"Never worry about numbers. Help one person at a time, and always start with the person nearest to you."

We strive to ensure that each person we assist feels valued, and through this approach, we have built trust and credibility within communities. As we continue this journey, we remain committed to doing as much as we can with the resources available. We are excited for what the future holds and look forward to further expanding our impact in the years to come.

With gratitude,

ALISON WILSON
Programme Manager,
hearX Foundation





OVERVIEW

WHO WE ARE



Our Mission

To develop, implement and scale sustainable hearing services using digital technologies that anyone can use anywhere.



Our Values

Our core values are:

- People-first,
- Trust and
- Innovation for change

OUR VISION

Healthy hearing for everyone, everywhere.

Hearing connects us to the world, yet for 430 million people – one in every five globally – this connection is disrupted by disabling hearing loss (WHO, 2021).

The challenge is even greater in low- and middle-income countries, where 80% of those affected live with little to no access to hearing care. For many, help is simply out of reach.

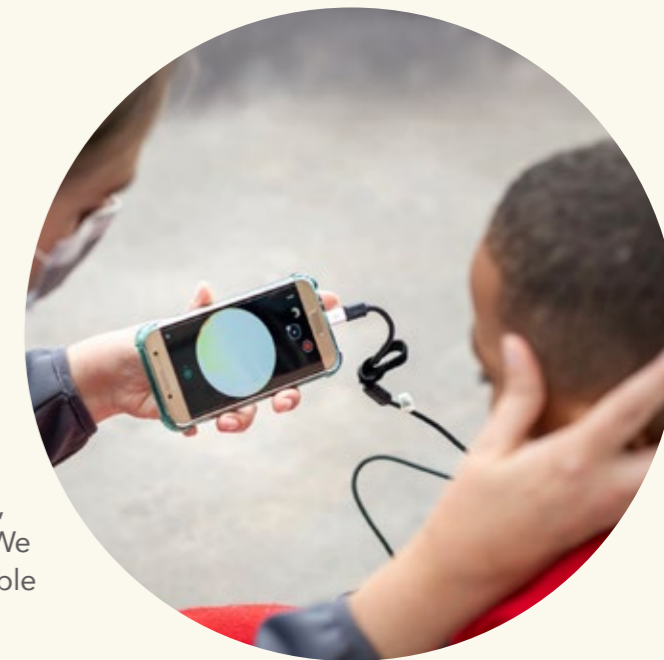
At hearX Foundation, we believe hearing health is a right, not a privilege. Our mission is to shine a light on the importance of hearing care and to break down barriers to access, especially in underserved communities. By partnering with local organisations, we create practical, scalable, and sustainable hearing solutions that reach people where they are – whether in schools, clinics, workplaces, or rural villages.

Our impact is felt at every level – individual, community, and global – as we work to create a world where everyone, everywhere, has the opportunity to hear.

WHAT WE DO

Hearing care should be accessible, simple, and effective. That’s why we develop, implement, and scale innovative, digitally-enabled hearing services that can be used by anyone, anywhere.

Through our evidence-based programmes, we tailor solutions to meet the unique needs of each community, ensuring they are contextually relevant and impactful. We work hand-in-hand with local partners to build sustainable hearing care systems that leave a lasting difference.

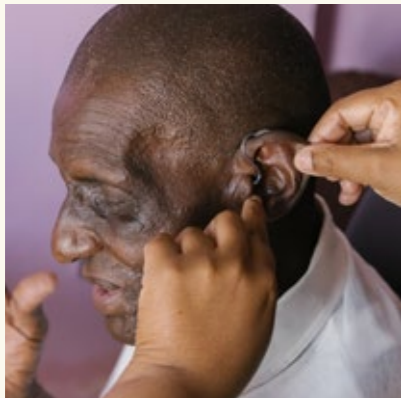


By leveraging technology and collaboration, hearX Foundation is changing lives – one community, one person, and one sound at a time.

"With sound restored through hearing aids, joy takes the lead."

INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGY

We use innovative digital hearing health technology by hearX Group to expand access to care at community level. By leveraging mobile health (mHealth) solutions, we can deliver essential hearing services directly to underserved populations, ensuring greater reach and impact.





IMPACT TO DATE

TRANSFORMING LIVES THROUGH HEARING CARE

At hearX Foundation, impact is measured not just in numbers but in the lives changed. Since our inception, we have worked tirelessly to ensure hearing health is accessible to those who need it most. **Our Reach: 77,080 children and adults provided with access to hearing care services and/or awareness training.**



77,080

BENEFICIARIES REACHED



117,136

HEARING AND VISION TESTS CONDUCTED



1,994

FACILITIES REACHED (SCHOOLS, ECD'S AND SENIOR FACILITIES)

2,071 INDIRECT BENEFICIARIES REACHED (VIA PARTNERS IN 2024)

14

RESEARCH PUBLICATIONS CONTRIBUTED TO



3,849

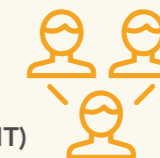
PEOPLE TRAINED



TRAINING & AWARENESS: ECD PRACTITIONERS, TEACHERS, PRIMARY HEALTHCARE STAFF & COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKERS

3,292 HEARING AWARENESS TRAINING PARTICIPANTS

SECTORS REACHED (HEALTH, EDUCATION & SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT)



CORE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS TARGETED

The Ripple Effect of Hearing Care: Each number represents a life changed, a classroom empowered, and a community strengthened. Through our work, we bridge the gap between need and access, ensuring that hearing health is a reality – not a privilege.



PROGRAMME HIGHLIGHTS

CIRCLES OF CARE

At hearX Foundation, we believe hearing health is a journey, not just a service. Our Circles of Care model ensures that individuals receive the right support at the right time, while communities are empowered to sustain lasting change. Our approach is structured around three core programmes, each designed to identify, support, and empower those affected by hearing loss.

HOW WE IMPLEMENT OUR PROGRAMMES

Our success is built on collaboration, innovation, and community empowerment. We achieve impact through:

- Community Engagement – fostering local involvement to ensure long-term sustainability.
- Partner-Centric Approach – working with trusted local organisations and healthcare providers.
- Innovative Service Delivery Models – leveraging mobile health (mHealth) technology to extend our reach.
- Evidence-Based Solutions – using research-driven methods to deliver high-quality hearing care.
- Empowerment of Community Members – training teachers, caregivers, and healthcare workers to champion hearing health.
- Advocating for Healthy Hearing – raising awareness to reduce stigma and increase access to care.

Through our Circles of Care model, hearX Foundation is transforming hearing health care – one individual, one community, and one partnership at a time.



Awareness and Prevention

Knowledge is the first step towards change. We equip teachers, caregivers, and community members with the skills to identify hearing-related challenges early and take proactive action.

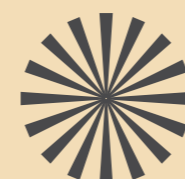
KEY INITIATIVES:

EARS Teacher Training Programme – a mobile health (mHealth) intervention designed to train and empower ECD practitioners and teachers in recognising, referring, and supporting learners with potential hearing difficulties.

Community-Based Awareness Training – fostering a culture where hearing health is prioritised, reducing stigma, and encouraging early intervention.

Hearing Health Awareness and Prevention Sessions – engaging both children and community members to promote lifelong hearing health habits.

By providing education and tools, we create hearing-aware environments where early detection and intervention become the norm.



Early detection & intervention for children

Early detection can change a child's future. Our screening programmes remove barriers to education by ensuring children aged four and older receive timely hearing and vision assessments.

HOW WE BRIDGE THE GAP:

Community-Based Dual Sensory Screenings – using hearX digital technologies, we conduct both hearing and vision screenings for pre-school and school-aged children.

Clear Referral Pathways – ensuring those identified with potential hearing or vision difficulties receive the necessary interventions to access the care they need.

School & Community-Based Solutions – bringing hearing and vision care closer to those who need it most through trusted local partnerships.

By identifying hearing and vision challenges early, we empower children to thrive in school and beyond.



Community hearing care for adults

Hearing loss in adulthood can lead to isolation, reduced independence, and diminished quality of life. Our community-based hearing care ensures older adults remain connected to their loved ones and the world around them.

OUR APPROACH:

Home & Community-Based Hearing Care – offering end-to-end hearing services directly to seniors in their own environments.

Affordable, Accessible Solutions – ensuring cost-effective, sustainable hearing care that reaches even the most underserved individuals.

Maximising Long-Term Benefit – providing ongoing support to optimise hearing aid use and overall hearing wellness.

Through innovative service delivery models, we restore confidence, communication, and connection.



PROGRAMME IMPACT BY GEOGRAPHICAL AREAS

PAARL VALLEY (Cape Winelands, Western Cape)

OVERVIEW

Since its launch in 2019, the Paarl Valley Programme has grown from preschool hearing and vision screenings in Mbekweni to serving individuals of all ages across Paarl East, Wellington, and surrounding areas. To date, it has provided care and training to over 12,441 children, adults, and teachers, supplementing public health services and reducing waiting times for intervention.

In 2024, the programme set out to expand its reach, aiming to screen 4,400 children and 50 older adults while training 200 ECD practitioners and teachers in hearing awareness and prevention. Another key focus was improving timely access to intervention services. With 95% of targets achieved, the programme continues to break barriers through strong partnerships, strategic outreach, and innovative service delivery. Increased teacher confidence in identifying hearing difficulties further ensures that more children receive the care they need.

PROGRAMME HIGHLIGHTS FOR 2024



4,406
CHILDREN SCREENED



44
ADULTS RECEIVED COMMUNITY HEARING CARE



174
TEACHERS & ECD PRACTITIONERS RECEIVED HEARING AWARENESS AND PREVENTION TRAINING

“The work you do is amazing. The difference in Raymond’s life is indescribable – it’s as if a whole new world has opened up for him. We never imagined Raymond would receive hearing aids so quickly. In just four weeks, his life was completely transformed. The process was stress-free, and the impact has been life-changing.” – Yolande Bestbier, Employer



“Skylar was struggling with severe hearing loss in one ear. Thanks to the CROS hearing system donated by hearX Foundation, he now has the opportunity to develop, communicate, and engage fully in life.” – Eloise Scholtz, Audiologist

IMPACT IN NUMBERS – 2024 RESULTS

SCREENING & AWARENESS TRAINING

- **4,406** children received hearing & vision screening
- **44** older adults received hearing & vision screening
- **105** facilities reached
- **6,200** children reached through vision & hearing awareness training sessions

REFERRAL RATES & FOLLOW-UP

- **7.9%** referral rate – hearing
- **7.6%** referral rate – vision
- **351** children received community-based first-line diagnostic follow-up for hearing
- **273** beneficiaries successfully connected to care

ACCESS TO TREATMENT

- **87** individuals fitted with spectacles
- **26** individuals fitted with hearing aids

COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT

- **5** members of the Paarl Valley community employed



PROGRAMME IMPACT BY GEOGRAPHICAL AREAS

KHAYELITSHA & SURROUNDS (Cape Town, Western Cape)

OVERVIEW

Since 2017, the hearX Foundation has provided hearing care in Khayelitsha and surrounding areas. Through our partnership with Ikamva Labantu, we have re-established and enhanced access to hearing care at the grassroots level.

In 2024, we placed a strong emphasis on reaching older adults, a group that faces significant barriers in accessing ear and hearing care. Our goal was to reach 150 older adults with community-based, end-to-end hearing care. A key highlight of the year was supporting the feasibility testing of the new World Health Organisation guidelines for community-based hearing aid provision. Additionally, we were delighted to reintroduce our preschool hearing screening programme, aiming to screen 1,000 children, raise awareness, and identify hearing challenges early. Through these efforts, we continue to expand access and improve hearing health in the community.

PROGRAMME HIGHLIGHTS FOR 2024



1,076

CHILDREN SCREENED



143

ADULTS RECEIVED COMMUNITY HEARING CARE

"My work is about helping people hear better. I visit senior clubs to teach them about hearing health, how to prevent hearing loss, and how to care for their ears. It's special to serve my own community, in my own language – I can go the extra mile, build trust, and truly make a difference. The biggest change I see in those fitted with hearing aids is that they no longer feel isolated. They can join conversations again, communicate freely, and reconnect with the world around them." – Zukiswa, Community Screener



"Receiving hearing aids brought my dignity back. I can enjoy life again with confidence." – Go Ultra Hearing Aid Recipient

IMPACT IN NUMBERS – 2024 RESULTS

COMMUNITY-BASED HEARING CARE FOR SENIORS

- 143 older adults received hearing care in their communities.
- 22 seniors fitted with binaural Go Ultra hearing aids.

COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT

- 1 community member from Khayelitsha employed

CHILDREN'S HEARING SCREENING PROGRAMME

- 1,076 children screened for hearing issues.
- 58 Early Childhood Development Centres (ECDs) & schools reached.
- 10% referral rate for hearing concerns.
- 43 children received community-based first-line diagnostic follow-ups.
- 1 child fitted with a hearing aid (with further follow-ups in progress).



PROGRAMME IMPACT BY GEOGRAPHICAL AREAS

ATTERIDGEVILLE (Gauteng)

OVERVIEW

The hearX Foundation Atteridgeville branch was established in March 2024 and officially launched on World Hearing Day. Dedicated to improving hearing care services in Atteridgeville, Gauteng, our mission is to provide accessible hearing care to both children and adults. In partnership with the Clinton Health Access Initiative (CHAI), the programme introduced community-based dual sensory screening for children, ensuring healthy hearing and vision for healthy learning. Since its launch, the Atteridgeville programme has made significant progress in establishing sustainable hearing care services. Strategic partnerships, targeted outreach, and dedicated community health workers have played a key role in delivering care on the ground.

World Hearing Day 2024 – Changing Mindsets

The Atteridgeville branch launch on World Hearing Day 2024 was a milestone event, marking the beginning of our impact in the region. The event included free hearing screenings for the community, a stigma-reducing awareness session promoting early intervention, and a powerful testimonial from a hearing aid recipient.

EVENT IMPACT

347
COMMUNITY MEMBERS PARTICIPATED IN FREE HEARING SCREENINGS

226
COMMUNITY MEMBERS RECEIVED VIDEO-OTOSCOPY FOLLOW-UPS

38
INDIVIDUALS RECEIVED WAX REMOVALS

135
COMMUNITY MEMBERS UNDERWENT COMPREHENSIVE HEARING EVALUATIONS

“Helping my community and making a difference in children’s hearing and vision is a privilege. As a mother, having this job means so much to me. I’ve learned so much about hearing and vision – things I never knew before. Being part of the hearX Foundation has broadened my mind and opened new doors for me. It’s an honour to be part of this team.” –

Katlego Maboe, Community Screener



“These hearing aids have changed my life. Before, I struggled to hear, but now I hear every word, every sound. Thank you so much – please continue helping others like me.” – Mr Magubane, Hearing Aid Beneficiary

IMPACT IN NUMBERS – 2024 RESULTS

SCREENING & AWARENESS TRAINING

- **891** children received hearing and vision screenings.
- **78** ECDs centres participated in screening initiatives.
- **2,974** children reached through hearing & vision awareness training sessions.
- **67** teachers trained to identify and refer children with potential hearing difficulties.

REFERRAL RATES & FOLLOW-UP

- **1%** of children referred for further hearing care.
- **2.5%** of children referred for further vision care.
- **17** children connected to appropriate follow-up care.

COMMUNITY-BASED HEARING CARE FOR SENIORS

- **10** older adults received hearing care.
- **7** seniors fitted with binaural Go Ultra hearing aids.

COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT

- **2** members of the Atteridgeville community employed.

“Thank you for the amazing training. There are things I will do differently now. I hope this makes my teaching even better in the future.”

– Leticia Chandre, Grade R Teacher

NATIONAL IMPACT

EMPOWERING EDUCATORS THROUGH THE EARS TEACHER TRAINING PROGRAMME

The **EARS Teacher Training Programme** is a five-day, WhatsApp-based awareness and prevention initiative that equips Early Childhood Development (ECD) practitioners and teachers with essential knowledge on hearing health in children. This vital resource empowers educators to identify, support, and advocate for children with hearing difficulties.

PROGRAMME IMPACT

Since its inception, the EARS Teacher Training Programme has made a tangible difference, with educators reporting:

- Improved awareness of hearing health issues affecting children.
- Practical application of training in daily teaching.
- Enhanced ability to identify and assist children with hearing difficulties.
- Increased advocacy for hearing health in their communities.

Research has shown significant improvements

in participants’ knowledge, with gains retained six months after training. > [Read more](#)

In 2024 alone, the programme successfully trained 174 ECD practitioners and teachers across South Africa. This achievement brings the total number of trained participants to 2,463 from 46 communities since its launch.

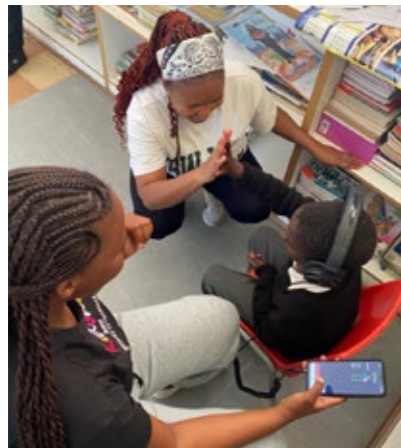
LOOKING AHEAD: SCALING IMPACT IN 2025

To amplify its reach and impact, the programme is set to be automated in 2025. This enhancement will strengthen large-scale hearing awareness and prevention efforts, ensuring that even more children receive the support they need for healthy development.

“Thank you so much for this. I will surely recommend others to do the training. There are new things to consider now when children fall behind – it’s not always because they are lazy or naughty.”

– Zandile, Grade R Teacher





IMPACT THROUGH PARTNERSHIPS

A strong partner-centric approach has been key to our success in 2024, enabling us to scale impact and extend hearing and vision services to new communities. By developing replicable models of care, the hearX Foundation empowers others to implement and sustain these services beyond our direct reach.

SCALING SERVICES IN THE EASTERN CAPE AND FARMING COMMUNITIES OF THE WESTERN CAPE

This year, partnerships allowed 2,071 children in the Eastern Cape to access essential hearing and vision care, while targeted initiatives brought services to farming communities, schools, and rural populations in the Western Cape. By working alongside global health leaders, research institutions, and grassroots organisations, we continue to strengthen systems, improve accessibility, and drive innovation in hearing care.

KEY PARTNERSHIPS AND COLLABORATIONS

- Clinton Health Access Initiative (CHAI) – Eastern Cape and Gauteng – Supporting the roll out of community-based service delivery models for children in underserved communities.
- University of Pretoria (UP) – Eastern Cape – Training and capacity building to enable the inclusion of hearing and vision screening in the Masiphakame project.
- The Grape Community – Expanding hearing and vision services to farming communities, ensuring agricultural workers and their families receive life-changing care.

Through collaboration, we extend care beyond our direct reach, creating a ripple effect of impact. As we grow, we remain committed to scaling sustainable hearing and vision services to those who need it most.



STORIES THAT RESONATE



JOHN'S JOURNEY TO HEARING

At just seven years old, John* had already faced more challenges than most. Born prematurely, he struggled with developmental delays, speech difficulties, and ongoing health complications. Despite these hardships, he was surrounded by the unwavering love of his foster mother, Jolene, who had cared for him since infancy.

Over time, she began to notice John wasn't responding to sounds like other children his age. His speech was delayed, and he often seemed disconnected from conversations. But getting the medical support he needed wouldn't be easy.

John's journey with hearX Foundation began in October 2023 when a routine hearing screening flagged concerns. A follow-up test confirmed the need for further assessment, leading to an audiology consultation. The results revealed chronic middle-ear infections and conductive hearing loss.

The next step was critical: an urgent referral for grommet surgery to restore his hearing. Due to his foster care status, additional legal approvals were required before he could undergo surgery. His

procedure was initially scheduled for May 2024, but unforeseen challenges – staffing shortages and later a suspected chest infection – delayed his operation multiple times. Throughout the setbacks, hearX Foundation remained committed, working with both public and private partners to keep his case a priority. Finally, on 6 September 2024, after 11 months of persistence and advocacy, John underwent successful bilateral grommet surgery.

The transformation was immediate. Jolene shared,

“John is like a radio that won't stop talking! He hears everything so clearly and is making up for lost time.”

John's story is a testament to the power of access to care, persistence, and collaboration. Without intervention, children like John face lifelong disadvantages. But with the right support, even small medical procedures – backed by dedicated specialists, strong advocacy, and compassionate caregivers – can lead to life-changing victories. Ongoing follow-ups will ensure John continues to thrive in his newfound world of sound.

A TEEN'S JOURNEY TO BETTER HEARING

“Marshall had severe hearing difficulties, and it affected his schoolwork. Now that he has received help, there is a noticeable difference. The school says his work is good, and I can see it in his report. His behaviour has also improved – he is no longer as aggressive and smiles more.”

– MOTHER OF MARSHALL JONATHAN, 16 YEARS OLD, HEARING AID BENEFICIARY

REGAINING INDEPENDENCE AND CONNECTION

“I had very bad hearing and couldn't hear clearly. I struggled at church, at home with my friends, and even with my children. Sometimes they would get frustrated because I always wanted the radio louder. But now, after receiving wax removal and hearing aids, my ears are so clear – I can hear everything.”

“The first day I came home with my hearing aids, I didn't say anything. I sat and watched TV with my children. They noticed I was smiling a lot. They looked at each other and said, ‘How is she hearing? She didn't ask us to turn up the volume.’ At the end of the programme, I showed them my hearing aids. They clapped their hands and hugged me. I am so happy.”

“For us older people in the township, it is very difficult to get hearing help. The clinics and hospitals are far, transport is expensive, and the queues are long – you're never sure if you'll be helped. We are so pleased and fortunate to have received this service in our own community at our club.”

– CATHERINE, HEARING AID BENEFICIARY





IMPACT THROUGH RESEARCH

Supporting ear and hearing care research is a key focus area of the hearX Foundation, ensuring that hearing health services become more accessible, effective, and sustainable for all communities. As a community-based research partner, we collaborate with leading research institutions to explore innovative service delivery models, strengthen mHealth technologies, and equip community health workers with the tools they need to provide effective hearing care in underserved areas. These partnerships allow us to bridge the gap between research and real-world impact, ensuring that scientific advancements translate into tangible benefits for communities worldwide.

2024 RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS

5  RESEARCH PUBLICATIONS IN LEADING JOURNALS CONTRIBUTED TO

5  SHARED OUR EXPERIENCES & FINDINGS AT INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES

ASSISTED THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANISATION (WHO) WITH FEASIBILITY TESTING OF THE NEW GUIDELINES FOR HEARING AID SERVICE DELIVERY IN LOW- AND MIDDLE INCOME SETTINGS.



RELATED ARTICLES

- [Hearing Aid Service Delivery Approaches for Low- and Middle-Income Settings](#)
- [Mobile health hearing aid acclimatisation and support programme in low-income communities: Feasibility study](#)
- [Smartphone-facilitated in-situ hearing aid audiometry for community-based hearing testing](#)



IMPACT THROUGH VOLUNTEERS

At the hearX Foundation, volunteers and visitors play a vital role in expanding our reach and ensuring more individuals receive the hearing support they need. By joining our teams in the community, they not only help implement hearing care services but also engage meaningfully with people of all ages – listening to their stories, sharing moments, and fostering human connection.

Volunteer Initiatives in 2024

41 HEARX GROUP EMPLOYEES, 123 VOLUNTEER HOURS

A total of 41 hearX Group employees joined our monthly community outreaches and dedicated over 123 volunteer hours, supporting screening of children at ECDs, engaging with older adults at community centers, and hosting activities that brought joy and connection to the communities we serve.

51 VOLUNTEERS, 347 COMMUNITY MEMBERS WERE REACHED

World Hearing Day 2024 brought together 51 volunteers from hearX Group, the University of Pretoria, and the Department of Health to support our community hearing screening and awareness event in Atteridgeville. 347 community members were reached!

SUPPORTED 60 ELDERLY COMMUNITY MEMBERS

Christmas outreach initiative supported 60 elderly community members with essential groceries to help them through the festive season.

We welcomed international visitors who became true Friends of the Foundation. Monique & Leo Wetting (Netherlands) visited twice, generously providing hearing aids to community members, while Rolvix Patterson (US) spent a significant part of 2024 in South Africa, enriching both our team and the communities we serve with his meaningful contributions.



"I think sometimes people feel that they can help by donating money (yes 100%) but there is a level of help that can only be reached by donating your time." – Benjamin King, hearX Group volunteer

We extend our gratitude to the South African national, provincial, and local government departments involved in our projects. Your support is integral to the success and sustainability of our initiatives.



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

VOICES OF GRATITUDE

At the hearX Foundation, our impact is made possible through the collective dedication of our leaders, funders, partners, research collaborators, and team members. Your support, expertise, and commitment enable us to break barriers in hearing and vision care, ensuring that communities receive life-changing services. To our visionary funders, your generosity fuels our mission and amplifies our reach. To our partners and research collaborators, your expertise and ingenuity push the boundaries of what's possible. To our hearX Foundation team – you are the magic behind the mission. Your dedication, expertise, and passion ensure that more people hear, connect, and thrive every day. Thank you for making this impact possible!

With heartfelt thanks, we honor the following partners and organisations for their pivotal role in shaping our 2024 journey:

hearX Group

Ikamva Labantu

CHAI

Khula Development Group

University of Pretoria

The Grape Community

Jannie Mouton Foundation

Postnet Paarl

Nationbuilder

Visionbox

Cincinnati Children's Hospital

Western Cape Department of Health

National Institutes of Health (NIH)

Gauteng Department of Health

Duke University

Inceba Trust

University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences (UAMS)

hearX foundation

 www.hearxfoundation.org
 info@hearxfoundation.org

