

## Ruth's Corner



The Carel du Toit Centre is one of a kind. We teach deaf children to speak and we are the only school in the Western Cape that caters for the very young child with a hearing impairment. Children enter the programme as soon as the hearing loss is diagnosed. There can be no delay in starting intervention because hearing loss in childhood is a neuro-developmental emergency. Without help they will never realise their potential.

But, at our Centre, the majority of children are making accelerated progress in their language learning. They are overcoming the barriers caused by their hearing loss and they are catching up with their hearing peers. Our vision is for them to continue their education in mainstream schools and all our supporters make it possible for us to continue this service.

## Audio Tunes

Last year we fitted loan aids on one of our youngest infants yet – only 5 weeks of age at the time — and we are proud to share that he will soon be a year old and is developing age-appropriately at this stage. The Audiology Department lends hearing aids to a child until their own hearing aids have been procured. The reality at the Centre is that the average age of hearing technology is more than 5 years and almost all our children need new and more reliable technology now. Our dream is to provide them with suitable and timely technology upgrades, and not just to keep existing devices working.



The Audiology Department is growing and we now have a second audiology post. This means that the Centre's children have access to support and problem-solving services faster and more thoroughly. Thank You all for your contributions to the services we offer.

## We can CHAT



For 42 years, the core of the Centre's method has been Parent Guidance. Now known as the CHAT Centre, the spotlight continues to shine on the most essential members of our team – The Parents.

There is a magic in sharing one's personal story to a group of people who can relate to it. That is how we kicked off the year with our annual CHATerrific gathering and the overriding feeling was 'I am not alone'. Ongoing and new initiatives include the monthly Parent Support gathering, small business training, Dad's Breakfast and parent-to-parent phone support.

At the end of the day this is about the children. With a steady flow of referrals to the Centre, the gold standard is always EARLY intervention. Our newest babies are two and three months of age. Are they young enough? Absolutely!

## WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU



Loyal support from donors help us continue to empower children with hearing impairments to reach their full potential. If you would like to donate to the Carel du Toit Trust, please do so via direct deposit, EFT, debit order or online.

### Bank Details:

ABSA Bank Parow Branch 632005

Account Number: 404 823 7586

Please include your name and contact details to stay informed of your impact and receive your tax certificate.

Get in touch with Kim Simpson and share your email address with us to receive this newsletter via email or to unsubscribe.

**Tel:** +27 21 933 4578 **Fax:** +27 21 933 2774

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[www.careldutoit.co.za](http://www.careldutoit.co.za)

## Your help empowers us...

...this is how you can support:

- ◆ Consider a once-off or monthly donation via the bank details provided
- ◆ Become a GivenGain Activist and fundraise on our behalf
- ◆ Select the Carel du Toit Trust to benefit from your fundraising endeavours – Please email us for the necessary application if you intend to do so
- ◆ Invite your family, friends & colleagues to consider a donation
- ◆ Contact us or visit our website to find out how you can volunteer to assist at events or with any goods and services you can donate
- ◆ Invite us to meet with your work colleagues and share our impact stories or hope
- ◆ Nominate the Carel du Toit Centre to benefit when you swipe your Woolworths MySchool and Makro loyalty cards

**Contact Valerie van der Merwe**

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**Tel:** +27 21 933 4578

## CYCLE-4-SOUND

Be a sport and please support!

If you are participating in the **2016 Cape Town Cycle Tour**

then we have the perfect win-win scenario for you. Contact our office to find out how you can contribute in a meaningful way while you embrace your challenge as part of our charity group.



**Contact Ronnis to secure your spot in the team**

**Email:** [Ronnis@careldutoit.co.za](mailto:Ronnis@careldutoit.co.za)

**Tel:** +27 21 933 4578

## Special visits this year



Steadfast supporter of many years and member of the local community, Mr Leslie April, visited with us in June and met the Trust's Kim Simpson and Jonene Johnson. Jonene is the mother of a current learner and provides family support to other parents at the CHAT Centre.



David Geldenhuys of ARCH Retail Systems came to visit in July and enjoyed his time in Teacher Beverly's class of learners. The whole ARCH team followed soon after.

## Thank You

It has been over 42 years now that the Carel du Toit Centre has been in existence, teaching spoken-language to children with hearing impairments, through diagnosis of hearing loss, early intervention, and natural learning experiences facilitated by a multidisciplinary team of specialists.

*It's all because of you and your big heart!*

The Carel du Toit Trust raises funds for the Carel du Toit Centre, where deaf children learn to speak.

The Carel du Toit Trust issues Section 18A tax certificates for South African citizens who donate R100 or more. Posting of these documents takes place once a year and you are welcome to contact our office if you wish to receive it sooner.



The Carel du Toit Trust is a registered charity.

003-401 NPO

PBO No: 18/11/13/3124

The Carel du Toit Centre has satellite branches in Bloemfontein and East London.

Your support enables us to offer children with hearing impairments an opportunity to learn to speak and integrate into a hearing society.

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HEAR IN.  
YEAR OUT.

October 2015



Ndapanda and her mother, Lahja, travelled all the way from Windhoek, Namibia, to seek the specialised services of the Carel du Toit Centre in Cape Town. After her first three months enrolled at the Centre from 14 April 2015, Ndapanda's speech has improved from 15 to 60 words and Lahja is overjoyed with the progress thus far.

The journey to this point was not an easy one and not ideally as progressive as it should have been. The good news is that Ndapanda has two cochlear implants and the support of a multidisciplinary team of teachers, therapists and audiologists.

6 year old Ndapanda was diagnosed with severe to profound hearing loss at 18 months of age, after Lahja realised that her little girl was not acknowledging her voice. She then underwent 6 months of hearing tests with an audiologist in Windhoek. Lahja recalls just how difficult it was to comprehend the reality that she and Ndapanda faced and is now in awe of the Centre's quality of intervention since they first arrived.

Lahja believes that the strongest impact of the Centre's work is empowering her and other parents to become partners in their children's learning by using every single opportunity to teach them.

Learning to speak is a natural experience for a hearing child, taking his or her cue from what they hear but this association of words with things or people is not present if hearing is impaired. Ndapanda now has a chance to reach her full potential, just like all the other children enrolled at the Carel du Toit Centre.

**Contact the Carel du Toit Trust if you would like to be a part of giving the gift of spoken-language to children with hearing impairments.**