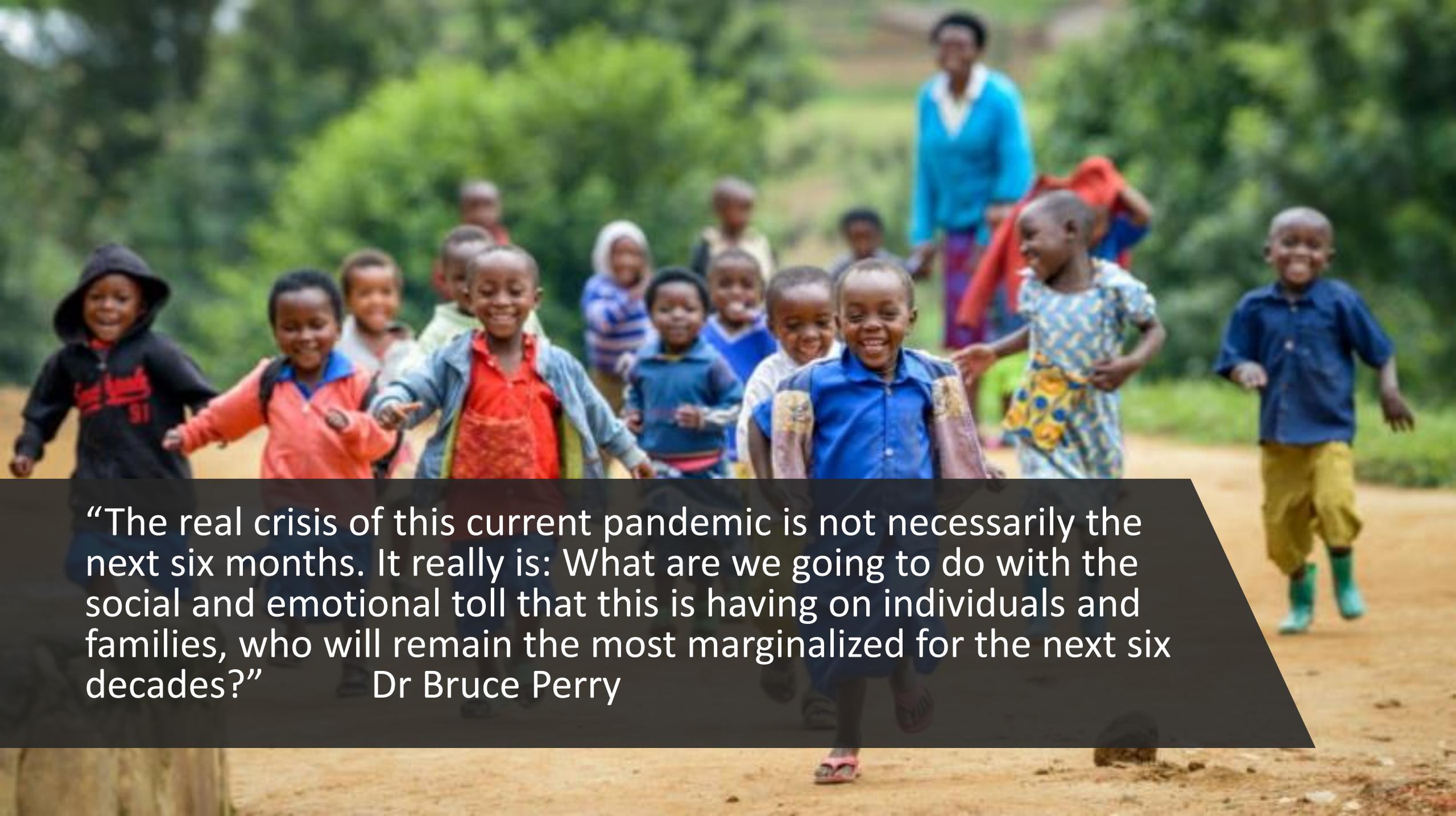


Jelly Beanz

We create holistic African interventions which include:

- ♥ **Therapeutic services** for children that have experienced trauma, abuse or neglect and their families
- ♥ **Training and mentoring** within the child protection and child mental health sector
- ♥ **Development of resources** to improve services delivery





“The real crisis of this current pandemic is not necessarily the next six months. It really is: What are we going to do with the social and emotional toll that this is having on individuals and families, who will remain the most marginalized for the next six decades?”

Dr Bruce Perry



**The COVID19 pandemic
added another layer of
distress to our children
who already experience
high levels of complex
and developmental
trauma**

When they announced that there was to be a lockdown, I freaked out because I felt like it was the end of the world and we're all gonna die. Which is ironic since I'm home ALL day everyday but now I feel trapped inside my house. Perhaps I'm claustrophobic? (18)

I worry about my mom , she is in hospital (5-10).

government should not allow the selling of alcohol because I think it is a bad idea as people make bad choices when they are drunk (10-12)

So many people are dying and getting infected with the virus, i worry that everyone is going to die (5-10)

I think they should check on children more regularly, and make sure that when they talk to children, to allow children to give more honest answers, because most children are hurt and prefer to bottle up their emotions and so they should be free to speak because we do not know if they are being abused or if everything is okay at home or not or how they are feeling. they should communicate more with the children and visit them more often (10-12)

Thanks to: Childline South Africa for the quotations



What we learnt about children's experiences...

- Exposed to increased violence in the home
- Few COVID referrals, sexual abuse is still majority
- Many children traumatised by what is happening at community level (e.g. violence of army in initial lockdown), but few psycho-social services to deal with number of children
- Just 'another thing' to deal with, but has a significant impact on the neurobiological functioning
- Didn't get appropriate information
- Anxiety (illness and death of self and loved ones)
- Withdrawn and shutdown
- Were difficult to manage
- Home-schooling was problematic
- Opening and closing of schooling was very disruptive for children emotionally
- Unsupervised / neglect
- The levels of stress in parents is very high

Service delivery...

- How do children access child protection services during lockdown? – we need hands on the ground
- Pockets of excellence... yet some services were inaccessible
- Service delivery depended a lot on the motivation and commitment of individuals
- Communication with government and NPO communication to be improved for disaster management e.g. food distribution

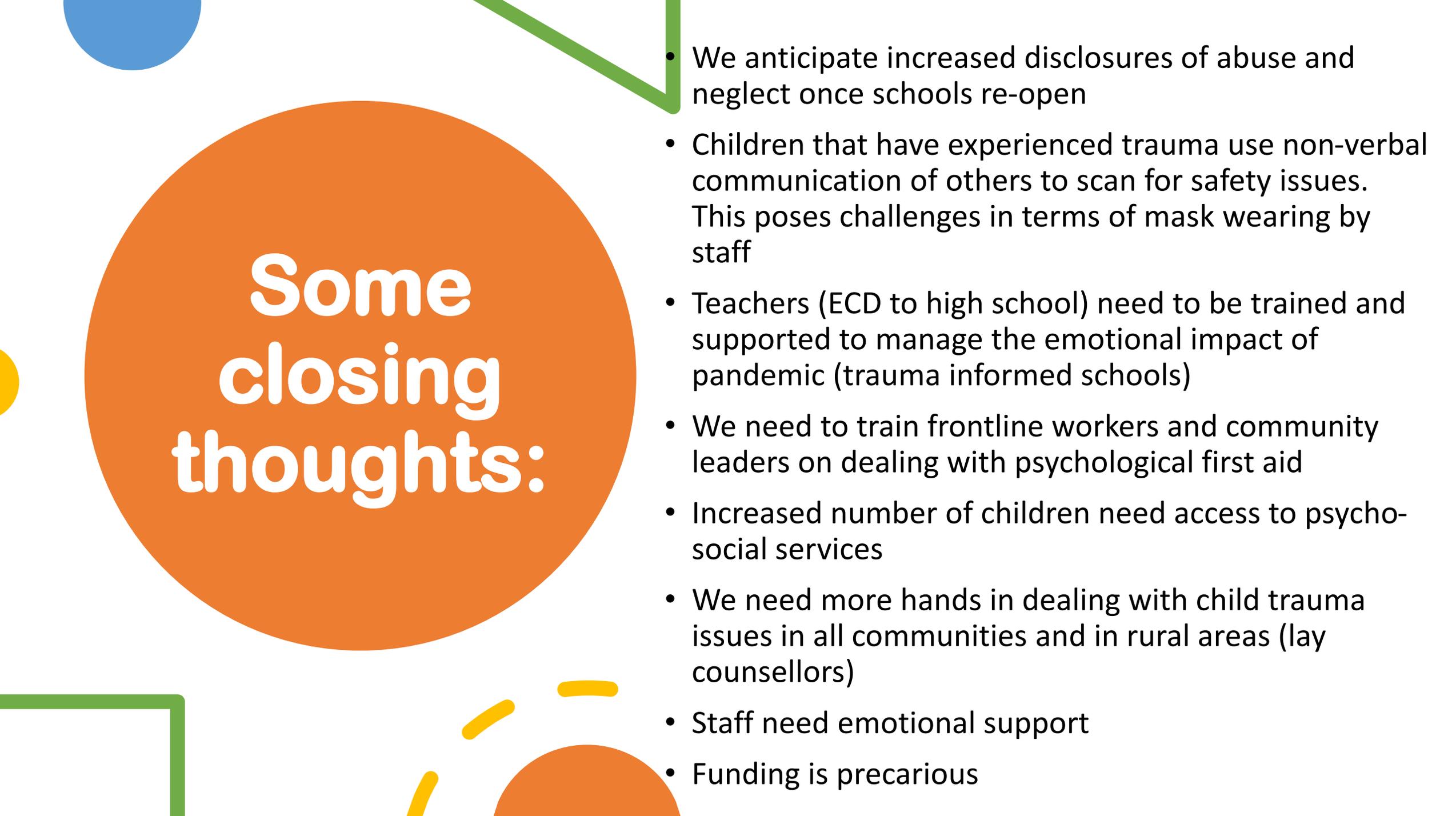


What Jelly Beanz was up to...

- Receiving and distributing donations of food parcels
- Develop messaging for radio broadcasts (in 12 different languages) with an audience of about 24 million.
- Participated in a national advocacy task team
- Continued to make contact with all of our clients (Telephone, WhatsApp or online platforms)
- Reporting of abuse of children and ensuring services were rendered during a time where there were very few statutory child protection organisations available.
- We developed training materials regarding telephone / online therapy and shared with colleagues
- Together with the NACCW and Children's Institute we developed a 12-hour training programme for Child Care Workers, which is accredited with their board.

What else we were up to

- Together with CINDI, Dlananathi and the Department of Social Development, Directorate Child Protection, developed a booklet for communities regarding COVID, child protection and mental health.
- Developed a social media campaign regarding child protection and mental health, for both the general public and frontline workers
- Developed a training presentation for educators to assist in developing healthy mental health strategies when children return to school, to be shared widely
- Presented a Webinar together for ISPCAN (attended by 290 people) regarding the implications of lockdown on our children in Africa.
- Developed therapeutic stories for children regarding the fears and realities of COVID19, and another on the hospitalization of children and loved ones.
- Consultation to colleagues regarding child protection crises
- We are busy compiling a booklet for frontline workers on Psychological First Aid



Some closing thoughts:

- We anticipate increased disclosures of abuse and neglect once schools re-open
- Children that have experienced trauma use non-verbal communication of others to scan for safety issues. This poses challenges in terms of mask wearing by staff
- Teachers (ECD to high school) need to be trained and supported to manage the emotional impact of pandemic (trauma informed schools)
- We need to train frontline workers and community leaders on dealing with psychological first aid
- Increased number of children need access to psycho-social services
- We need more hands in dealing with child trauma issues in all communities and in rural areas (lay counsellors)
- Staff need emotional support
- Funding is precarious



Thank you

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