

# About the contributors

**Kashifa Abrahams** is a researcher within the Child Health Services Programme at the Children's Institute, University of Cape Town. She has an MSc TO and a BSc TO. Her research interests are health and development and her current research focus is on child deaths and an exploration of the ethics of undertaking research with children.

**Lizette Berry** is a researcher in the Child Poverty Programme at the Children's Institute. She has an MA in Social Policy and Management. Her experience includes co-ordinating support services for children with physical and intellectual disabilities and conducting research on social security for children. She is currently developing a database of indicators on child rights and well-being as a tool for monitoring the situation of children in South Africa.

**Debbie Budlender** is a specialist researcher with the Community Agency for Social Enquiry (CASE). She has a BA Honours in Economics, an MA in Industrial Sociology and a BSc in Computer Science and Mathematics. She is overall co-ordinator of South Africa's Women's Budget Initiative and has served as a consultant to the Department of Finance, non-governmental organisations and other governments and donors in various countries. She serves on South Africa's Employment Conditions Commission and on the Council of the University of Cape Town. She has since 2002 been on a long-term, part-time secondment to the Centre for Actuarial Research at the University of Cape Town.

**Sonja Giese**, formerly with the Children's Institute, now works for the United Kingdom-based charity, Absolute Return for Kids (ARK), where she is establishing a programme to support children in heavily AIDS-affected communities in South Africa. She has a Social Science Honours (Psychology) degree and is currently registered for an interdisciplinary Masters degree. Her areas of interest include supporting children through schools, strengthening the role of home-based carers in their support of vulnerable children, and preventing and addressing the institutionalisation of children.

**Katharine Hall** is a senior researcher in the Child Poverty

Programme at the Children's Institute, University of Cape Town. She studied music and anthropology and has eight years of social research experience. Her research has spanned a range of sectors including health and health promotion, education, small- medium- and micro-enterprises development, low-costing housing, housing finance and land tenure, amongst others. Since joining the Children's Institute in 2004 her work has focused on the targeting of government services and poverty alleviation programmes for children.

**Michael Hendricks** is a paediatrician and researcher at the Child Health Unit in the School of Child and Adolescent Health, University of Cape Town. He has an MB ChB, MMed (Paed) and MTrop (Paed DCH). His field of research includes clinical and public health nutrition. The focus of his research includes micronutrients, the impact of micronutrient deficiency on cognitive function, community-based nutrition and the evaluation of nutrition programmes/policies. He also convenes the Masters programme (M Phil) in maternal and child health and is involved in undergraduate and postgraduate training.

**Marian Jacobs** is the Director of the Children's Institute, Professor of Child Health in the School of Child and Adolescent Health at the University of Cape Town (UCT) and directs the Child Health Unit in the Faculty of Health Sciences (UCT). She is a public health paediatrician with a special interest in child health policy and child rights and holds a number of appointments in national and global health bodies.

**Leigh Johnson** is a researcher at the Centre for Actuarial Research at the University of Cape Town. He has a Bachelor of Business Science and PG Diploma Actuarial Science. His research interests are in the modelling of HIV/AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases, and in the modelling of prevention and treatment strategies for these diseases. He is a member of the AIDS Committee of the Actuarial Society of South Africa (ASSA), and he has been closely involved in the development of the ASSA AIDS models.

**Annie Leatt** is the Child Poverty Programme Manager at the Children's Institute, University of Cape Town. As a social

scientist, Annie has worked in university and non-government settings on issues of gender-based violence, HIV/AIDS and poverty. Her research interests in the area of child poverty include social security, policy development and water and sanitation.

**Mrs Graça Machel** is the current Chancellor of the University of Cape Town and also the Chairperson of the Children's Institute Board of Advisors. Passionate about education and the problems of children in the developing world, she has been a major force in increasing literacy and schooling in Mozambique, and has spoken for the rights of children, families and communities from platforms all over the world. In the 1990s, she led a United Nations study on the impact of armed conflict on children, which resulted in the approval of a Special Representative of the UN Secretary General on Children in Armed Conflict. She is a goodwill ambassador for UNICEF, chairperson of the National Organisation of Children of Mozambique and president of the country's UNESCO commission.

**Helen Meintjes** is a senior researcher in the HIV/AIDS Programme at the Children's Institute, University of Cape Town. She has an MA in Social Anthropology and has worked for many years in policy research. Currently her main focus is on exploring issues relating to the provision of care and support to children in the context of the AIDS pandemic.

**Namhla Mniki** is a researcher in the HIV/AIDS Programme at the Children's Institute, University of Cape Town. She has a postgraduate degree in development studies and has lectured in the development field and in research methodology. Currently she is managing the *Dikwankwetla* project, as well as researching the capacity of schools to be nodes of care and support for vulnerable learners in South Africa.

**Jo Monson** is the materials developer for the HIV/AIDS Programme at the Children's Institute, University of Cape Town. She has worked extensively in the development sector across a range of communication fields including drama, radio, video and publishing. She is currently developing a range of materials in collaboration with facilitators, learners, educators and community members to support schools in ensuring child well-being.

**Paula Proudlock** has a BA (LLB) and a BA degree and is in the final stages of an MA in Public Law. She has nine years of experience in project and network management, children's rights and advocacy. Her particular interest is on promoting the participation of civil society in the policy and law-making process. She is a founding member of the Alliance for Children's Entitlement to Social Security (ACCESS) and currently serves on the ACCESS board. She is also the manager of the Children's Bill Working Group and the Child Rights Programme Manager at the Children's Institute, University of Cape Town.

**Paul Roux** is a public servant and a senior specialist paediatrician at Groote Schuur Hospital, Cape Town, where he directs a paediatric HIV/AIDS clinic. He holds an MB ChB, MA in Philosophy (Bioethics) and doctoral (MD) degrees. Paul chairs the NGO Kidzpositive™. His particular interests are developing best practice for ARV treatment teams, developing ARV treatment sites as platforms for intersectoral contribution, income-generating projects for HIV-affected families, and modes of communication in clinical practice.

**Norma Rudolph** is a senior researcher who is currently leading the Caring Schools Action Research Project at the Children's Institute, University of Cape Town. She has an Masters in Education. Her research interests are communication for social change, child rights, teacher development, early childhood development and evaluation.

**Justice Albie Sachs** is a human rights activist and a Constitutional Court judge. He played a prominent role in the struggle for South Africa's liberation from apartheid and spent his early years as an advocate defending people charged under racist statutes and repressive security laws. He went into exile in 1966 and spent more than two decades in exile in England and Mozambique. He returned home in 1990 and, as a member of the Constitutional Committee and the National Executive of the African National Congress, he played an active part in the negotiations which led to South Africa becoming a constitutional democracy.

**Maylene Shung-King** is the deputy director of the Children's Institute and also manages the Child Health Programme at the Children's Institute, University of Cape Town. She is a medical doctor with further training in public health and has worked in the field of child health policy research for the past nine years. Her current focus is on improving health services for children.

The South African Child Gauge is produced by the Children's Institute, University of Cape Town. The aim of this annual publication is to report on the situation of children to highlight the challenges related to the promotion and protection of children's rights.

The South African Child Gauge examines the links between children's reality, South Africa's commitments to child rights, and society's progress in this regard. This is done through commentary on the country's response to different aspects of realising children's rights, and through a set of broad-based indicators aimed at gauging improvements in the situation of children over time. This first edition focuses on children and HIV/AIDS, presented against the backdrop of a narrative and quantitative snap-shot of the situation of children in South Africa.

The Children's Institute aims to contribute to policies, laws and interventions that promote equity and realise the rights and improve the conditions of all children in South Africa, through research, advocacy, education and technical support.

46 Sawkins Road, Rondebosch  
Cape Town, 7700, South Africa  
Tel: +27 21-689 5404  
Fax: +27 21-689 8330  
E-mail: [ci@rmh.uct.ac.za](mailto:ci@rmh.uct.ac.za)  
Web: <http://web.uct.ac.za/depts/ci/>

