



“I'm a different person in my house, I feel proud to be a mother. I wish that all the parents could come and learn what we have learnt.”



2010-11 in numbers

792 children

received regular support with their reading and writing

138 volunteers

gave their time as tutors

170 parents

attended the parent programme

**15 schools, 5 pre-schools
and 3 libraries**

ran Wordworks programmes

4 organisations

were trained in our methodology



“We have seen a steady improvement in reading and writing, but the biggest boost has been in the children's self confidence – ‘I can do it!’”

A message from Shelley O'Carroll, Director of Wordworks:

2010 was an exciting and busy year for us. We were delighted to see the reach of our work expand rapidly with new schools and centres coming on board to deliver our programmes. It also naturally meant a lot more work for us, so we were pleased to welcome two new members of staff into our team.

In terms of our central goal of raising literacy rates among South African children, improved assessment results in many of our schools are a testimony to the very real difference Wordworks is making. Through our Early Literacy Programme we continue to see the value of targeted intervention as children learn to read and write. It is always a delight to watch the children blossom under the supportive eye of their volunteer tutors, growing in confidence and self-esteem as they take big strides forward.

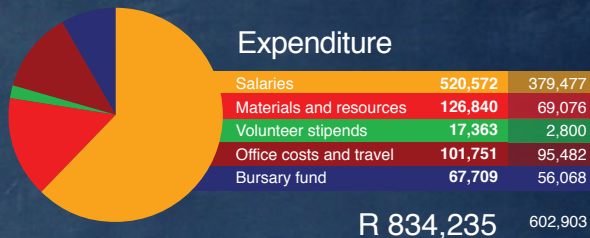
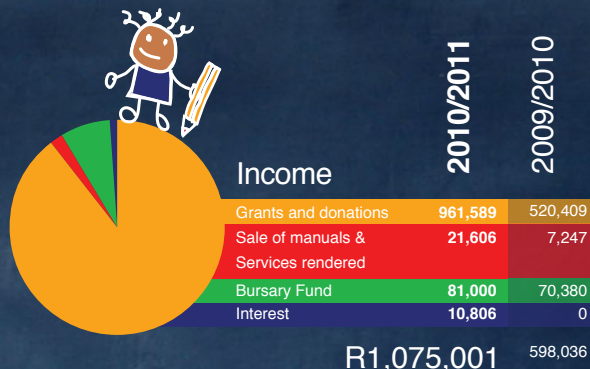
We are also beginning to see how our programmes are empowering women in their communities. Some of the women who have participated in the parent programme have gone on to run the seven-week course at their schools. Other parents and volunteer tutors have started working as teaching assistants or

enrolled for ECD training. We are thrilled that Wordworks is able to contribute to this kind of personal growth, which enables the impacts of our work to be spread more widely through communities.

In 2011-12, the scope and reach of our work will keep growing. Our priority will continue to be the provision of training, mentoring and resources to build the capacity of schools and communities to deliver our programmes on a self-sustaining basis. We are also excited to be piloting a Grade R literacy teacher training programme in partnership with the Centre for Early Childhood Development.

We couldn't do all of this without the generosity and loyalty of our funders and supporters – sincerest thanks to you all. We are trying to get better at staying in touch with you through our new newsletter and revamped website. We hope that you enjoy them and continue to be inspired by stories of young lives transformed through the dedication of teachers, parents and volunteers.

Very best wishes,

Mission:

Wordworks aims to strengthen early literacy and language development in disadvantaged communities through targeted early intervention and the delivery of proven programmes and resources. Wordworks seeks to enable all children to fulfil their learning potential by empowering parents, teachers, community members and volunteers to play a meaningful role in facilitating the early acquisition of reading and writing skills.

To find out more about our programmes and how you can support our work, visit our website at www.wordworks.org.za