

CSI update: Investing in vital pre-school education facilities

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At M&G Investments, we advocate for the enduring power of sustained commitment and empowerment. We recognize that genuine transformation transcends mere one-time contributions; it necessitates ongoing dedication, consistency, and a forward-looking perspective. This principle lies at the heart of our corporate social investment (CSI) initiative, where our focus is on projects with lasting benefits for both individuals and communities.

Fundamental to our strategy is the understanding that education serves as the hub for breaking the cycle of poverty and fostering active societal participation. Hence, educational endeavours stand as the cornerstone of our CSI program. We firmly believe that investing in education holds the key to unlocking the potential of young minds, fostering community development, and instigating profound and enduring change for future generations.

One of the organizations we are proud to partner with in 2024 is Chic Mamas, a Volunteer-Based Social Enterprise and NPO dedicated to supporting educational initiatives in the Early Childhood Development (ECD) sector. Since its founding more than a decade ago, the group has contributed over R11 million to these initiatives in underprivileged areas around South Africa.

Through our collaboration with Chic Mamas, we have supported two impactful projects aimed at improving educational facilities and opportunities for young learners.

In KwaZulu-Natal, we have contributed towards critical infrastructure upgrades and the establishment of a feeding scheme at Sphethamandla Pre-School and Umzamo Pre-School. These investments will not only enhance the learning environment, but also ensure that children have access to nutritious meals, enabling them to thrive both academically and physically. We have also supported the Hangklip Community Park Project located in the Western Cape, which aims to construct a secure and vibrant playground for the children of the community. This initiative is not just about providing a recreational space; it's about creating a safe and stimulating environment where children can learn, play and grow together outside of school.

The progress made at Sphethamandla Daycare and Pre-school is a testament to the impact of our investments. Significant improvements have been made to the infrastructure, including the construction of new toilets, safety gates and windows, as well as the establishment of a drainage system. These enhancements will create a more conducive learning environment and ensure the safety and well-being of both students and staff.

Similarly, the recent renovations at Umzamo Pre-school have transformed the school premises, addressing issues related to mud and water accumulation. By concreting and paving various areas, we have eliminated hazardous conditions and provided teachers and children with a cleaner and more accessible environment.

As for the Hangklip Community Park Project, progress is steadily advancing. The involvement of local artists and landscapers will add a creative and sustainable touch to the park, making it a vibrant hub for community engagement and play.

At M&G Investments, we understand that true empowerment requires a holistic approach that addresses the root causes of inequality and poverty. By investing in education and community development, we are not only changing lives today, but also laying the foundation for a brighter and more equitable future for all. We are proud to partner with organisations like Chic Mamas and remain committed to making a meaningful difference in the communities where we operate.

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