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Empowering the Future: EPWP Trains Participants on Early Childhood Development

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The Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP), in collaboration with the Western Cape Department of Education, has launched a vital training initiative aimed at upskilling 250 Social Sector participants in Early Childhood Development (ECD).

This initiative focuses on equipping participants with essential knowledge and practical skills to support the growth and development of young children, particularly those from diverse backgrounds and children with disabilities.

Ms. Karrimah Jacobs, the training facilitator, highlighted that the programme is designed to deepen understanding of child psychology and the environments that influence early development. “We aim to promote inclusivity and embrace diversity by helping participants better understand the needs of the children they care for,” she said.

The training blends theoretical lessons with hands-on exercises, allowing participants to apply what they’ve learned in real-world early childhood settings. The goal is to nurture well-rounded caregivers who are sensitive to each child’s unique circumstances.

“This training equips participants with the skills to handle young children with care and compassion, without compromising the rich diversity of their backgrounds,” said Mr. Tembela Ndlazi, EPWP Social Sector Manager in Cape Town. “The knowledge gained in Early Childhood Development is crucial—it not only benefits the individual children but also strengthens our communities by laying a strong foundation for future generations.”

Mr. Ndlazi also noted his satisfaction with the progress made by participants so far, praising their commitment and eagerness to learn.

This training initiative reflects EPWP’s ongoing dedication to both skills development and social upliftment within South African communities.

