



Real Reform for ECD (RR4ECD) is a movement advocating for holistic, well-funded, inclusive, and quality early childhood development (ECD) services for all children. RR4ECD is a broad-based alliance supported by over 200 organisations and coordinated by 12 elected representatives who form the Steering Committee to lead RR4ECD's work.

VISION

RR4ECD's vision is to see all young children in South Africa thrive and access holistic, inclusive, and quality ECD services.

MISSION

Legal mobilisation and collective action towards an enabling legal, policy, and regulatory environment to ensure all young children in South Africa have access to ECD services and the opportunity to thrive.

PEOPLE

A movement of knowledgeable and empowered ECD practitioners, parents, caregivers, and community members.



BACKGROUND

The Equality Collective works to improve the quality and accessibility of ECD programmes in South Africa through advocacy and law reform. We co-founded the RR4ECD movement in 2020 and now coordinate the movement where we provide backbone support including coordination, strategic, technical, advocacy and communications support to maximise collaboration around RR4ECD's campaign efforts.

The RR4ECD movement was founded in response to a poorly drafted Children's Amendment Bill which did not address the challenges facing the sector. Supported by thousands of ECD practitioners, we successfully lobbied Parliament to reject the sections in the Bill that related to ECD and a Technical Team was then set up to draft a new Bill. Legislative reform is now a priority for the government, and we are campaigning for FIVE REFORMS to be included in the Bill.

While these FIVE REFORMS inspired the movement, we broadened the campaign's objectives and developed a new strategy.

RR4ECD CAMPAIGNS



Right to Nutrition: Nutritional support is provided by the Department of Basic Education to all attendance-based early learning programmes, whether or not they are registered.



Make the Bill Better: Evidence-informed reforms, including our Five Reforms, are adopted in the regulations, and norms and standards.



ECD Act: A self-standing ECD Act is put in place that clearly articulates the right to ECD for young children and state obligations to expand access.



Make Local Government Work for ECD: Local governments create safe, vibrant and caring learning spaces for young children by prioritising, planning, and budgeting appropriately for ECD and addressing municipal barriers to registration and expansion of ECD services.

FIVE REFORMS

REFORM 1



A one-step registration process for ECD providers.

REFORM 2



Access to a per child subsidy for all children who need it.

REFORM 3



Simpler, adequate health, safety, and programme standards.

REFORM 4



Support for ECD practitioners to meet registration requirements.

REFORM 5

Infrastructure support for ECD providers.

ECD practitioners are the movement's lifeblood. A key outcome of our work is the creation of a strong, active ECD practitioner network—known as the Real Reformers. RR4ECD currently has a footprint across four provinces and in six municipalities, reaching 622 ECD practitioners. We aim to empower these ECD practitioners to be involved in law and policy development on early learning at both the local and national levels.

Support the campaign and become a #RealReformer

ecdreform.org.za

Email our campaign coordinator, Tshepo Mantje on tshepo@equalitycollective.org.za

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