



Autism Connect Quarter 4 Newsletter

October - December 2025

Director's Desk

UNLOCKING GREATNESS | CELEBRATING 13 YEARS

As we conclude our 13th year, our hearts overflow with gratitude for the bridges of inclusion we've built together. Our leap into digital systems this quarter is purely to safeguard this legacy—ensuring parents, learners, and our team have the world-class precision they deserve.



Nicolette Ripepi
DIRECTOR, AUTISM CONNECT

JOIN THE MOVEMENT



SCAN TO PARTNER FOR 2026

AWIEF 2025 Conference & Exhibition at the CTICC* in Cape Town! 🌍🌟

October 2025

The theme “Breaking the Barriers: Now More Than Ever” truly came to life - from powerful stories to meaningful connections.

At Autism Connect, we're proud to stand alongside women who are driving inclusion, innovation, and impact across Africa.



Here's to breaking more barriers together and creating spaces where every voice is valued! 🙌

#AWIEF2025 #BreakingBarriers #AutismConnect
#InclusionMatters #WomenInBusiness #CapeTown



Sisterhood

October 2025



We were honoured as The Rainbow Step Foundation invited our very own Director to share at their powerful event. 🌈

What made the moment truly special? The beautiful common thread both she and Sam, the Foundation's Founder, spoke of drawing strength from the same source: sisterhood. It's that unwavering bond of women who lift, love, and lead through every challenge.

The day overflowed with connection, laughter, and tears of relief as families found hope in shared understanding. Together, we're building bridges of inclusion and support for every child on the autism spectrum.

Because when sisterhood stands tall, hope becomes unstoppable.

Celebrating 2 Amazing Years!

October 2025

Autism Connect Skills Centre is thrilled to celebrate its 2nd year of empowering young adults with autism to reach their full potential! 🎉

Since our inception, our programme has grown exponentially, thanks to the solid foundation laid by our incredible team of facilitators. From 2023, we've been blessed with an amazing group of individuals who've guided, supported, and encouraged our young adults to shine:

Adea Pillay
Jaden Wagner
Ursula Pietersen
Dianne Goliath

Ronelle Frempong
Ann Titus
Triston Allie
Moeneeb Gilbert



All under the visionary leadership of Nicolette Ripepi (Director), our team has helped our young adults achieve proud moments, including:

Creating beautiful cheeseboards and calendars 🧀📅

Managing an incredible thrift store 🛍️📚

We're so proud of how far we've come and can't wait to see what the future holds! Here's to many more years of growth, learning, and success! 🌟

#AutismConnect #SkillsCentre #2YearsOfExcellence #EmpoweringYoungAdults
 #AutismAwareness #InclusiveEducation

Art Exhibition

15 November 2025

We're still beaming with pride thinking about our amazing young adults at the Skills Centre! 🌟

Last week, they worked tirelessly to prepare their art pieces for the Autism Western Cape Art Exhibition, and it paid off in the best way possible! 🎨 Their creativity and talent shone bright, and most of their artwork found new homes - what a wonderful achievement!

We're so grateful to Autism Western Cape for providing this incredible opportunity for our young adults to showcase their skills. A huge congratulations to all our young artists - we're so proud of you!



Insightful Visit from the Department of Health

20 November 2025

We had a productive and insightful visit from the Department of Health officials from the Licensing Inspectorate Unit today at Autism Connect Early Learning Centre! The team provided valuable feedback and insights, which will help us continue to enhance our services and support for children with autism. We're grateful for their expertise and commitment to quality care. Thank you to the DOH team for their time and input! #AutismConnect #DOHVisit #QualityCare #EarlyLearningCentre



Inclusion Matters

December 2025

The Cape Town Museum of Childhood, in collaboration with the Department of Social Development, hosted an incredible DRAM event in honour of Disability Awareness Month (3rd Nov - 3rd Dec). We were thrilled that Autism Connect was a part of this inspiring celebration! 🙌 Our team had an amazing time connecting with the community and promoting inclusion. 💙 Thanks to the Cape Town Museum of Childhood for hosting us!

#DisabilityAwarenessMonth #DRAM
#InclusionMatters #AutismConnect



As we conclude Disability Awareness Month

Accessibility with Jabaar

10 November 2025



Our Programme Manager, Moeneeb Gilbert, hosted an insightful session at the Centre for the Book, National Library of South Africa, focusing on "Literacy and Reading for Autistic Individuals - A Guide for Parents, ECD Centre, and Librarians". This initiative aligns with the National Library of South Africa's efforts to drive disability awareness and support.

At Autism Connect, we're committed to creating a society that values and supports individuals with autism and other disabilities. We're proud to be part of this important conversation and look forward to continuing our work towards a more inclusive future!

3 December 2025

Today, our team had an incredible day spreading awareness and advocating for inclusivity!

Our Director, Nicolette Ripepi, represented Autism Connect at an event hosted by the Department of Social Development, showcasing the amazing work of organisations promoting inclusivity for individuals with disabilities. We were thrilled to exhibit some of the incredible art pieces created by our young adults at our Skills Centre, highlighting their talents and passions.



To our sponsors and everyone who gives, pledges, and supports our campaigns - thank you!



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FUTURES
MOVEMENT**



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