



## Video 5: The Role of the Community Worker

**Rosemary Luger**  
Occupational Therapist  
Chaeli Campaign

Definitely make use of the community, try and find someone from the local community who can work alongside you. We have a wonderful community worker here in Masiphumelele. People talk to her, she's got the right language, she's got the right background. Um so she often makes the links. Um and she kind of makes that initial relationship, sets up the appointments um and then obviously is there to help translate and...and get feedback from the teacher if there's a language barrier.

### Home visits

**Bukiwe Mkhuba**  
Community Worker/Parent of a child with a disability

I do home visits; visiting the parents of children with disabilities and the parents um of children that have identified, that their ECD centre is having some developmental delay or uh slow learning difficulty.

Uh, my home visits are just a way of supporting the parents that having their children with disabilities and then supporting those who are having the children with um delay to just give them ideas of how they can help develop their children's situation.

With those ones um that are having children with disabilities, we talk about a lot of things because I know what they're going through. I know; I've been there myself so we chat we kind of encourage each other with the appointments and follow up and just monitoring the development of their children.

I visit those parents during the week and then on Fridays I'm here with Rose; we're seeing the children that are developmental delay or having some learning difficulties.

### Visits to Educare centres

**Bukiwe Mkhuba**  
Community Worker/Parent of a child with a disability

Then we also go to Edu-care centres, where we do some groups there for 3 weeks each Edu-care centre.

**Nozukile Jingisa**  
Principal  
Ithemba ECD centre

The children were so excited, because they know sis'Bukiwe, as she's...she's among us in the location, she will accept them, the children, and then make them to to be quiet, she will come to us and explain what is she going to do today.

**Bukiwe Mkhuba**  
Community Worker/Parent of a child with a disability

Some of the schools that we visit uh don't have any resources and mostly our, our resources are not things that we go and buy to the shops. It's things that each and every parents uses at home. Especially their shakers that we make out of a toilet roll and the two bottle caps. So they've never thought they could make a thing, a shaker, out of that. We give them those ideas that you don't have to buy, use what you've got at home.

### Success so far...

**Bukiwe Mkhuba**  
Community Worker/Parent of a child with a disability

My greatest success has been being there for the parents with children with disabilities as they have told me that they've never got counselling from any of the hospitals that they delivered their babies. So being there for me has given them um um um a kind of edu- education about disabilities, supporting them all and being there for them all the time.

ENDS