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**13 June 2022**

## **Launch of the *South African Child Gauge 2021/2022* Children's mental health: A catalyst for development**

**15 June 2022 | 14:30 for 15:00 – 16:30 | New Lecture Theatre, University Avenue,  
University of Cape Town**

Child and adolescent mental health is the foundation of a strong, vibrant and healthy society. Yet, children and adolescents in South Africa continue to face multiple adversities that erode their mental health. Investing early to promote children's optimal wellbeing is one of the best investments we can make in our future prosperity, as it offers an opportunity to break the cycle of poverty, violence and mental ill health.

Ahead of Youth Day 2022, these and other findings will be discussed at the release of the *South African Child Gauge 2021/2022* by the following speakers:

- Advocate Bongani Majola, Chairperson - South African Human Rights Commission
- Christine Muhigane, Country representative - UNICEF South Africa
- Professor Sharon Kleintjes, Professor of Intellectual Disability - Department of Psychiatry and Mental Health, UCT
- Professor Shanaaz Mathews, Director - Children's Institute, UCT
- Associate Professor Tracey Naledi, Deputy Dean Health Services - UCT and Director, Tekano
- Professor Rudzani Muloiwa, Head of Department of Paediatrics and Child Health - UCT
- Professor Linda Richter, DSI-NRF Centre of Excellence in Human Development, University of the Witwatersrand
- Professor Mark Tomlinson, Co-Director: Institute for Life Course Health Research, Stellenbosch University
- Dr Yogan Pillay, Country Director - Clinton Health Access Initiative
- Dr Granville Whittle, Deputy Director: Social mobilisation and partnerships - National Department of Basic Education
- Chuma Busakhwe, Youth Researcher - CitiesRISE

This 16th annual *Child Gauge* is published by UCT's Children's Institute in partnership with UNICEF South Africa; the DSI-NRF Centre for Excellence in Human Development, University of the Witwatersrand; the Standard Bank Tutuwa Community Foundation and The LEGO Foundation.

The media are invited to attend: [RSVP HERE](#)

Date: Wednesday, 15 June 2022

Time: 14:30 for 15:00 – 16:30, followed by light refreshments

Place: New Lecture Theatre, University Avenue, University of Cape Town or online.

**Join the conversation online:**

#ChildGauge #MentalHealthMatters #OnMyMind #FutureChild

**ENDS**

**Issued by: UCT Communication and Marketing Department**

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