



# Stichting Little Lions Nederland

## Annual Report 2025

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### Preface

You are reading the fourth official annual report of **Stichting Little Lions Nederland** (KvK 84599928), covering the activities and progress of 2025. Stichting Little Lions Nederland was formally incorporated on **25 November 2021**. The foundation was established with a single purpose: to support and strengthen the work of **Little Lions Child Coaching South Africa**, the organisation at the heart of this story. ([link](#)).

Little Lions Child Coaching works to improve the mental health and emotional wellbeing of children growing up in under-resourced communities in South Africa and Kenya. Through structured workshops, children aged 8 to 13 develop essential social and emotional skills, including confidence, emotional awareness, and resilience.

At its core, Little Lions seeks to make conversations about mental health normal, accessible, and practical for children who often have limited access to psychosocial support by training local role models to become mental health coaches. By equipping children with tools to understand and regulate their emotions, the programme aims to help them navigate everyday challenges and build a stronger foundation for their future wellbeing.

Stichting Little Lions Nederland exists to enable and support this mission, helping mobilise resources and partnerships so that the work in South Africa & Kenya can continue to grow and reach more children each year.

## Activities

The 2025 main activities of Stichting Little Lions Nederland included:

1. Hosting our annual fundraising dinner at Toscanini Amsterdam,
2. Strategic sessions with the South African organization,
3. Joint strategy week with the South African board and team in Cape Town, &
4. Activities in the lead-up to World Mental Health Day 2025.

These activities are in addition to the Stichting's main activities, which entail supporting the work of Little Lions Child Coaching South Africa through material and immaterial gifts and other contributions.

### Fundraising dinner at Toscanini Amsterdam

In 2025, Stichting Little Lions Nederland hosted its fourth annual fundraising dinner at Toscanini. Over the past years, this event has become an important moment for bringing together supporters of Little Lions, strengthening the community around the organisation while raising critical funds for the work in South Africa.

The evening once again proved both meaningful and impactful. Supporters, friends, and partners gathered to learn more about the progress of Little Lions Child Coaching and to contribute to the continued expansion of the programme for children in South Africa and Kenya.

Thanks to the generosity of attendees and supporters, the event raised **more than €35,000** for Little Lions Child Coaching South Africa.

A special note of gratitude goes to **Jurjen op de Weegh**, who generously volunteered his time and energy to help make the evening an even greater success. Through his efforts, he secured **€10,000 contribution via Salesforce**, significantly strengthening the total funds raised.

Beyond the financial impact, the evening once again demonstrated the strength and commitment of the Little Lions Pride: a network of supporters who continue to believe in the importance of improving children’s mental health and emotional wellbeing.

Year	Funds Raised during Toscanini dinner	Costs	Spendable Funds
<i>All figures below are in Euros</i>			
2023	15,050	871	14,179
2024	27,250	2,102	25,148
2025	35,635	1,156	34,479



Strategy Week & World Mental Health Day 2025

In October 2025, Little Lions organised a Strategy Week in Cape Town, bringing together board members from both the Dutch and South African foundations alongside the Little Lions Cape Town team. In total, eight board members from the Netherlands and South Africa participated in this in-person working week.

The primary focus of the week was to step back from day-to-day operations and jointly develop the organisation's 3–5 year strategic direction. Through a series of working sessions, the boards and management team discussed programme development, organisational priorities, and the long-term ambitions of Little Lions. Particular attention was given to the organisation's financial strategy, exploring how Little Lions can build a more sustainable funding model while responsibly scaling its impact.

Beyond the formal strategy sessions, the week also provided an important opportunity for Dutch board members to engage directly with the work on the ground in Khayelitsha. By participating in programme activities and meeting community members, board members gained a deeper understanding of the local context and the real-world impact of the Little Lions workshops.

The strategy week coincided with activities around **World Mental Health Day (10 October)**. On this occasion, Little Lions organised several community-focused events in Khayelitsha to promote awareness around mental health.

On [8 February 2025, a Fun Mental Health Event was organized in the Resource Centre Hall in Khayelitsha](#). This event brought together community members, children and their families in an accessible and engaging way, promoting awareness around mental health in a positive and inclusive environment.

On 10 October 2025, [Little Lions marked World Mental Health Day with a community event](#). Board members engaged with community members and experienced firsthand the importance of mental health awareness within the Khayelitsha community. The official launch of The Little Kings - a living street exhibition and mental health awareness campaign [was featured on Cape Town TV](#).

Finally, on Sunday 11 October 2025 it was time for the Little Lions Khayelitsha Running event, a unique 5km run through the streets of Khayelitsha. The event brought together more than 100 runners from different communities to celebrate mental health, raising €2500, and creating an impactful positive event.

Together, the week brought together strategic reflection, community engagement, and public awareness, significantly strengthening collaboration between the Dutch and South African foundations while reaffirming Little Lions' commitment to advancing children's mental health. The strategy week was highly valued by the Cape Town team, particularly for introducing greater clarity and structure to both strategic direction and financial planning, as well as for establishing clear, shared goals. It also created dedicated space for in-depth reflection and critical soundboarding. The in-person format, bringing all board members together, proved especially effective in accelerating alignment, deepening collaboration, and enhancing overall decision-making.

## Stichting Wilde Ganzen

Stichting Little Lions Nederland continued its partnership with [Stichting Wilde Ganzen](#) in 2025. By being a partner of Wilde Ganzen ([partner website](#)), our donations to the South African Little Lions organization are met with an additional amount via Wilde Ganzen. For every euro Little Lions raised, Wilde Ganzen added another €0,50.

## ANBI

Following the achievement of ANBI status in 2024 ([link](#)), Stichting Little Lions Nederland continued to operate under ANBI status throughout 2025.

## Future

Next to the ongoing activities of supporting and guiding the South African organization, 2026 will focus on continued strategic alignment between the Dutch and South African boards, strengthening long-term funding stability and further professionalization of governance structures.

A fundraising run will be organised in Amsterdam in 2026 to increase local brand awareness, and we plan to host another fundraising dinner later in the year.

## Company plan

The company plan of Stichting Little Lions can be found on our website ([link](#)).

## Organization

Board structure as per 2025:

- Chairman: Knol, Roswitha Berlinda (since 25-11-2021)
- Secretary: Siegersma, Jaimy Lars (since 25-11-2021)
- Treasurer: Westendorp, Welmoet Hillegonda (since 22-11-2024)
- Commercial / Network: Wijkstra, Hendrik Lodewijk (since 22-11-2024)

## Annual account

The 2025 annual account reflects three main financial flows: 1) incoming donations, 2) costs, and 3) outgoing donations. The 2025 annual account can be found on our website [here](#) and was created with the help of Fleur Trienes, registered accountant.

As Stichting Little Lions Nederland is solely focused on helping Little Lions South Africa with monetary and non-monetary help, the monetary side (and annual account) of the Dutch organization has three main financial flows.

1. *Incoming donations*: incoming donations are transfers made into the Dutch bank account with the purpose of supporting the South African NGO. These donations can be monthly recurring donations via the program on our website, one-off charity actions (e.g., charity run organized by a supporter of Little Lions), corporate donations, individual donations and our own annual charity dinner
2. *Costs*: costs are related to costs made during our annual fundraising dinner, website hosting costs, costs related to our bank account and a small portion of unforeseen expenses
3. *Outgoing donations*: this category is dedicated to the donations made to the South African NGO and transferred via the Dutch bank account to the South African NGO.
  - a. Direct outgoing donation: transferred via Currencies Direct due to their beneficial currency exchange rate from EUR to ZAR
  - b. Indirect outgoing donation: transferred to Stichting Wilde Ganzen due to the ongoing partnership we have with the organisation

Description	2025	2024	2023	2022
<i>All figures below are in Euros</i>				
Opening balance	52,264	60,660	6,173	
Incoming Donations	107,197	100,591	161,862	44,399
Costs	-5,640	-4,778	-3,126	-1,426
Outgoing Donations	-114,167	-104,209	-104,249	-36,800
<i>Year Result</i>	-12,611	-8,396	54,487	6,173
Closing balance	39,653	52,264	60,660	6,173

*Specific remark for 2025 related to our annual account.*

Specifically looking at incoming and outgoing transactions, 2025 shows a negative balance specific for this year of -12,611. Despite the negative result for 2025, the foundation maintains a

positive cash position entering 2026. The closing balance reflects the liquid assets position as per December 31, 2025.

Description	December 31, 2024	December 31, 2023	December 31, 2022
<i>All figures below are in Euros</i>			
Liquid assets	52,264	60,660	6,173
Total assets	52,264	60,660	6,173
Equity	52,264	60,660	6,173
Total liabilities	52,264	60,660	6,173

## Previous annual reports

- [2024 annual report](#)
- [2023 annual report](#)
- [2022 annual report](#)