

## Ukuwela Iindaba Quarterly Impact July 2021



"To the youth of today, I also have a wish to make: be the scriptwriters of your destiny and feature yourselves as stars that showed the way towards a brighter future."

Nelson Mandela

June is Youth Month and we celebrate our future South African generation! Our beloved Madiba had a vision for a brighter future for our youth, but also a clear instruction to youth to MAKE IT HAPPEN!

Yes, we are very concerned about the national youth unemployment rate of 46,3% (first quarter of 2021, Statistics South Africa). But that is exactly the kind of battlefield Ukuwela was built for. Sourcing opportunities and providing support to youth with disabilities to be able to write their scripts and star in their life stories towards a brighter future.



Lee-Kay Pêrel started a new chapter on the 3rd of May 2021 when she commenced employment as a Fitting Room Attendant at Woolworths, Mossel Bay Mall. Congratulations Lee-Kay, your dedication, friendliness, and precision is an example to your peers and co-workers! Every Woolworths store in the Garden Route now employs an Ukuwela candidate! Thank you Woolworths, you continue to 'make a difference' where it matters most!

### LEE-KAY SHOWING WHAT TEAM WORK IS ALL ABOUT

Benjamin Dyssel similarly started a new employment opportunity at Albertinia Panelbeaters at the beginning of June 2021. We are instant fans of Albertinia Panelbeaters who believe in investing in young people, teaching them all there is to know from the bottom up. Thanks to Fernando Junior and Team!



# THAT'S OUR GUY! BENJAMIN DYSSEL! THESE GUYS CAN WORK! WAY TO GO ALBERTINIA PANEL BEATERS!

We're also superfans of the Michelangelo Hair Salon and Dry Bar who, under the visionary leadership of Yozeldè du Plessis, afforded Raychaan Pienaar a voluntary internship opportunity to learn skills for the salon industry. Big up also to Raychaan's sister, Lucrecia, who is assisting Raychaan to learn the ins and outs of public transport to get to and from work. Behind every successful sister, is another sister!



RAYCHAAN WITH HER COLLEAGUE, DARREL-LEE



**LU-WAYNE HARD AT WORK** 

Let's not forget all our Ukuwela candidates who are still within the first twelve months of their employment and still going strong: William Majavie at Fancourt; Christeline Sapto at Africorp; Ricardo de Wee at Kiewietsvlei; John Johannes at Safari Braai Products; Luchiano Aweries at Woolworths, Plettenberg Bay; Jarryd Grootboom at Woolworths, Knysna and Lu-wayne Bruinders at Grow Green Organics.

Special mention goes to Luciano Aweries who was awarded 'Employee of The Week' (for the SECOND time!) on the 3rd of June 2021!



LUCHIANO RECEIVING HIS EMPLOYEE OF THE WEEK REWARD

### Ukuwela's impact

Since Ukuwela's inception four a half years candidates have ago, 28 accessed employment in the open labour market of whom 7 have already been employed for longer than two years! 30 Candidates have participated in voluntary work placements in preparation for employment and just short of 90 presentations have been conducted at businesses, companies, and organisations to advocate the vocational abilities and needs of youth with disabilities and raise awareness on Ukuwela.



**JOB COACH SUZANNE** PRESENTING AT KNYSNA SECONDARY RESOURCE CLASS

During this time we have learned many valuable lessons which we recently shared with learners, parents and Educators at the Knysna Secondary School. Similar to our Ukuwela candidates, these learners also present with learning difficulties. We were not only able to share our lessons, but also those aspects which contribute to a success and that employment for youth with disabilities is indeed possible!



#### Like and share!!!

Ukuwela recently celebrated our 200th like on Facebook! Stay updated with our news and happenings by liking and following our Facebook page (@ukuwelaprogram) and become a part of the Ukuwela family!

Thank you to every business, employer, co-worker, educator and family member who partner with Ukuwela to enable our youth with disabilities to write stories and take centre stage!

Warm greetings from a chilly George,









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