

Vuk'uzenzele

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Cate's paints to make a mark

Sihle Manda

After refusing to allow limited resources to stop her from reaching her dream, paint manufacturer Cate Olifant is on course to make her mark in this demanding industry.

Olifant's journey began in 2016 when she left the construction sector to follow her dream of becoming her own boss.

Although she wanted to create her own paint range, after doing market research, she realised just how much money it would take. She approached a State-owned development finance institution, the Industrial Development Corporation (IDC), for funding, only to be told that her application would only be considered if she was already manufacturing her own paints.

She heeded the advice and Akani Paints was born.

Speaking to Vuk'uzenzele, she says: "I decided to take the risk. I don't have a background in chemical engineering; I've never worked in a chemistry plant nor have I worked on paint [manufactu-

SEVERAL GOVERNMENT entities have helped a Tzaneen entrepreneur grow her paint manufacturing business – and now she hopes to take on the big players.



Cate Olifant is ready to be a big player in the paint manufacturing industry and create jobs for her community.
Picture supplied by the dtic

ring] before."

She says after her funding request was turned down, she did relevant short courses and visited several paint manufacturers to learn from them.

Around that time, Olifant relocated from Gauteng to Limpopo, where she set up shop in an abandoned and dilapidated building in the Nkowankowa industrial area.

"When I got the factory in July 2016, I thought, 'Okay, I have the building, but it is dilapidated.'"

Fortunately, she had savings, and although she had to start on a smaller scale than she had initially planned, she was able to renovate the factory.

"I had to get a second-hand machine, which cost me about R60 000, only to find out it wasn't going to work [because] I still needed other things."

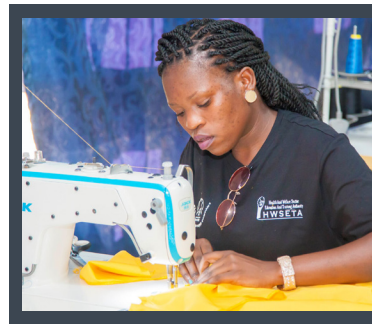
Over the next few years, Olifant found work and saved what she could to invest in her business.

"In 2019, I started produc-

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Indlela entsha yokulwa nenkohlakalo ithela izithelo

Ukulwa nenkohlakalo kudinga uthando lwepolitiki nokuzimela okuqinile, kanye nezikhungo ezinekhono lokulwa nobugebengu.

ENkulumeni yami yokuqala Engesimo Sezwe, ngowezi-2018, ngenza isethembiso sokwenza uguquko lokulwa nenkohlakalo ezikhungweni zethu zikahulumeni kanye nokulwa nokukhwabanisa nenkohliso emkhakheni ozimele ngomfutho nangenjongo efanayo.

Kusukela lapho, besilokhu sisebenza ngokuzikhandla ukuqinisa nokweseka ama-ejensi ezomthetho nalabo abasebenzisana nabo. Sisungule uPhiko Lwezokuphenya kwiNhlangothi Yezokushushisa Kuzwelonke ukuze lubhekane nenkohlakalo esezingeni eliphezulu kanye neNkantolo Ekhethekile ukuvumela uPhiko Oluphenya Amacala Akhethekile (i-SIU) ukuthi ikwazi ukubuyisa izimali ezebiwe kalula. Siphinde seseka futhi sanikezela ngezinsiza kwezinye izikhungo ezilwa nobugebengu obubucayi ezifana noPhiko Lokushaqwa Kwempahla, uPhiko Oluphenya Amacala Akhethekile Ezentengiselwano kanye noPhiko Lokuphenya Kobugebengu Obubekwe Phambili, olaziwa ngokuthi ngoKlebe.

Le mizamo ithela izithelo.

Ngokusebenzisana

nezinhlangano ezibalulekile kuhlelo-kusebenza lwezobulungiswa kwezobugebengu, uPhiko Lwezokuphenya Kwamacala seluvule amacala enkohlakalo angaphezu kwama-20 kunyakamali owedlule futhi nabasolwa abangama-65 sebethwe siwe amacala. La macala abandakanya amaningana 'okuthunjwa kwamandla ombuso' kanye namanye amacala abucayi enkohlakalo.

Kunyakamali owedlule, uPhiko Lokushaqwa Kwempahla lwathola imiyalelo yokumisa ukusebenza kwempahla nemali yenani lezigidigidi ezi-R5.4 ehlobene namacala enkohlakalo, kanye nesigidi esingama-R70 esakhokhelwa iSikhwama Sempahla Yobugebengu Eshaqiwe.

Eminyakeni eyisishiya-galombili eyedlule, i-SIU yathola izimali kanye nempahla yenani lezigidigidi ezi-R2.6 kanye nezinkontileka ezibekwe eceleni zenani lezigidigidi eziyi-R18. Inani lamacala ayi-119 angabiza izigidigidi ezingaphezu kwe-R13 avulwe i-SIU eNkantolo Ekhethekile.

Inkohlakalo iyinkinga ngokwedlulele edinga ukushushiswa.

Ababhebezeli benza noma ngabe yini ukulahlekisa umkhondo. Bavula izinkampani ezingasebenzi ukucashisa ukungena nokuphuma kwezimali okusolisayo, bahambise izimali

ngokushesha phakathi kwama-akhawunti amaningi, bahambise iminingwane yemalingena engeyona kwiziphathimandla zokuqoqwa kwentela, futhi uma kungabasebenzi bakahulumeni, basebenzisa abangani nezihlobo ukufaka izicelo zemisebenzi yamathenda ukucashisa ukubandakanyeka kwabo.

Lokhu kusho ukuthi ukuphendula kweziphathimandla vele ngeke kuzwakale.

Ngowezi-2020, sasungula isikhungo esiqondisa izigwegwe ngokwehlukahlukana i-Fusion Centre njengesikhungo esisebenza ukubhekana namacala ezezimali, kubandakanya nenkohlakalo. Lesi sikhungo sihlanganisa amakhono okuphenya amacala ophikweni lukahulumeni lokugwema ubugebengu kanye nezinhlelo zezokuvikeleka nalezo Zikhungo Zobunhloli Bezezimali, ezisungula ubunhloli bama-ejensi ezomthetho obuzosetshenziswa ophe-nyweni lwabo.

Eminyakeni emibili selokhu kwasungulwa i-Fusion Centre, indlela yayo yokuqondisa izigwegwe 'yokulandela imali' ithela izithelo ezibonakalayo.

Kunyakamali owedlule, umsebenzi we-Fusion Centre wasiza ngokuphenya kwamacala okukhwabanisa nenkohlakalo angama-276. Cishe izigidi ezingama-R613

zemali eyamiswa kuqulwa amacala obugebengu.

I-Fusion Centre yayisungulwe ngenhloso yokuphenya inkohlakalo ekuthengweni kwempahla ye-COVID-19.

Ukugunyazwa kwayo sekuqhutshelwe ukuthi kufake phakathi ukushushumbiswa kwemali, ukukhwabanisa, ukungaphathi ngendlela efanele, ukweseka ngezimali izenzo zobudlova kanye nobunye ubugebengu obubucayi bezimali.

Kamuva-nje oKlebe bacacise inqubekelaphambili esiyenziwe iThimba Elilwisana Nenkohlakalo, i-Fusion Centre eyingxenyalo. Phakathi konyakamali wezi-2019 nowezi-2022, abasolwa abangama-554 baboshelwa inkohlakalo, abayi-142 babo balahlwa ngamacala.

Enye indlela ebalulekile yokuphenya ezezimali ukwenza ucwaningo lwendlela yokuphila olwenziwa iSikhungo Esiqoqa Intelu eNingizimu Afrika (i-SARS). Ngonyaka owedlule, u-SARS waphothula ucwaningo lwendlela yokuphila olungama-25 lwenani elingaphezu kwezigidi ezingama-R450 ukusombulula ukuphambana phakathi kwemalingena edaluliwe kanye nendlela yokuphila yomuntu.

Kucacile ukuthi izinyathelo esizithathile njengalo hulumeni ukubuyisa umthamo, ikhono nokuthembeka kwezikhungo ezibandakanyeka

ekulweni nenkohlakalo zinomphumela obonakalayo.


Ukuvumelana komsebenzi wawo wonke ama-ejensi ezomthetho kuzigqema ekhanda izigilamkhuba: ema-

phaketheni azo. Izimali zikahulumeni ezaphangwa zayiswa kwenye indawo ziyabuyiswa futhi labo abathintekayo kulezi zenzo bayashushiswa yizinkantolo zakithi.

Ukuqhubeka nokuqinisa imizamo yethu yokulwa nenkohlakalo, ngimemezela ukubekwa koMkhandlu Kazwelonke Oweluleka Ngokulwa Nenkohlakalo.

Lo Mkhandlu uzohlanganisa ababambiqhaza ababuya kuwowonke umphakathi ukubheka ukuqaliswa kokusebenza kweqhingasulikahulumeni lokulwa nenkohlakalo. Umkhandlu omusha uzokweluleka uhulumeni ngezinyathelo ezibucayi zokugwema inkohlakalo, amakhono esikhungo kanye nezinsiza ezidingekayo ukugwema ibuya lokuthunjwa kwamandla ombuso kanye nokuqeda ukukhwabanisa nenkohlakalo eNingizimu Afrika.

Inhlasonqangi yethu ngukwakha izikhungo ezinamandla neziqinile ezingaqeda inkohlakalo futhi zimelane nanoma yimiphi imizamo yokuthumba amandla ombuso esikhathini esizayo.

Njengoba siqhubeka nokwakhela phezu kwale mpumelelo, sinethemba ukuthi noma kungathatha isikhathi, labo abeba futhi baphanga izinsiza okwakungezabantu bazobhekana nemiphumela yezenzo zabo. 

Qaphela izimpawu zokuqala zomdlavuza ebantwaneni

More Matshediso

Ukuswela ulwazi ngomdlavuza ebantwaneni nezimpawu zawo kusho ukuthi abantwana abaningi eNingizimu Afrika bahlonzwa ngalesi sifo uma sesihambe kakhulu.

Uma umdlavuza uhlonzwe kusenesikhathi futhi welashwa, maningi amathuba okwelulama ngokugcwele.

UMxhumanisi weNhlango Yomdlavuza Wabantwana eNingizimu Afrika (i-CHOC) u-Taryn Seegers uthi ukwazi izimpawu ezejwayelekile zomdlavuza kubantu abasebasha, kungasindisa impilo.

“Izimpawu nezinkomba kungaba nzima ukuzihlukanisa kumaqhubu ajwayelekile, imihuzuko,

ukukhula ngesivini kanye nokuguquguquka kwemizwa. Kodwa-ke, ukuhlonzwa kusenesikhathi kungumongo,” kusho yena.

Ngokusho kweNhlango Yomdlavuza eNingizimu Afrika (i-CANSA), abantwana abaphakathi kwama-800 kuya kwabayi-1 000 eNingizimu Afrika bahlonzwa ngomdlavuza unyaka nonyaka.

Kodwa-ke, inhlango le ingathekisa ukuthi isigamu sabantwana abanomdlavuza eNingizimu Afrika abahlonzwa nhlobo.

Ukusiza ukuqinisekisa ukuthi umdlavuza ubonakala kusenesikhathi, i-CHOC iqhuba izinhlelo zokuqwashisa ngalesi sifo emiphakathini, ifundisa abazali nabantwana ngezimpawu zokuqala

okumele baziqaphele.

Inhlango yeseka abantwana kanye nentsha enomdlavuza noma isifo esiyingozi segazi kanye nemindeni yabo.

“Sihlose ukwenza ngcono ukushesha ukutholaka kwalesi sifo kanye nokulawula ukwelashwa okuyimpumelelo. Noma ngasiphi isikhathi, i-CHOC ingaba nabantwana kanye nentsha eyinakekelayo engaphezu kwe-1 500, ngesikhathi inikezela ukwesekelwa kokululekwa ngengqondo kwimindeni engaphezu kwe-1 500,” kusho u-Seegers.

Kunyaka-mali owedlule, u-Seegers uthi i-CHOC yakwazi ukusiza abantwana abayi-1 724, intsha engama-553 kanye nabadala abayizi-2 232 ngezinhlelo zabo ezingumongo.

“Usizo lwethu lubandakanya ukweseka ngokozwelo kulolu hambo lomdlavuza, ukududuza, ukunakekelwa uma ushona kanye nokwesekwa uma ushonelwe,” kusho u-Seegers.

Izimpawu zomdlavuza wabantwana ze-St Siluan

- S – Thola usizo lokwelashwa kusenesikhathi uma izimpawu ziqhubeka.
- I – Ichashaza elimhlophe esweni, ukuqalwa ingxemu, ukuvaleka amehlo noma ihlo eliphumela ngaphandle.
- L – Isigaxa esiswini, okhalweni, ekhanda, ezingalweni, emilenzeni, emasendeni noma kwizindlala.
- U – Imfiva engachazeki

ekuphatha ngaphezu kwamaviki amabili, ukwehla emzimbeni, ukukhathala, ukuphaphatheka, ukuhuzuka kanye nokopha kalula.

- A – Amathambo, amalunga, iqolo okubuhlungu kanye nokuphuka kalula.
 - N – Izimpawu zezi-nzwa, ukushintsha indlela yokuhamba, yokuma noma yokukhuluma, ukuphathwa ikhanda okungapheli okuhambisana noma okungahambisani nokuhlanza kanye nokukhula kwekhanda.
- “Intsha, ematasa ngeze-midlalo kanye nokunye ukuzivocavoca, ijwayele ukungaziqapheli izimpawu zokuqala zomdlavuza,” kusho u-Seegers. **U**

Ngeminingwane ethe xaxa, shayela inombono yosizo yakwa-CHOC ku: **0800 333 555** noma uvakashele ku: www.choc.org.za

Matlou keeps an eye on her community's vision

Owen Mngadi

After witnessing how being blind affected her grandmother, a young girl vowed that she would one day help people in her community with vision problems.

Manare Matlou made good on her promise and today, at the young age of 23, has an optometry practice, Optic iCare Optometrists, in Giyani, which she opened in February 2022.

The daughter of pastors, Matlou was raised in GaPhadi in Limpopo. After matriculating from a local high school, she earned her Bachelor of Optometry degree from the University of Limpopo in 2020, at the age of 21. She then worked for several practices to gain experience and knowledge of running a practice.

Matlou says many people



Manare Matlou treats a patient in Giyani.

in her rural village live with vision problems and blindness because they cannot afford eye surgery. She says the extreme heat in the area contributes to people getting cataracts and light sensitivity eye diseases.

Because of the need for better eye care in the

community, she chose to open her practice in Giyani. “You need to have business knowledge to start a private practice and you must learn from colleagues in the industry.”

Matlou says opening an optometry practice is expensive, because of the cost of the equipment and

spectacle frames needed. She also had to hire two assistants. As soon as her business is better established, she wants to open more practices and offer pensioner discounts.

Look after your eyes

Eye Care Awareness Month, which runs from September 21 to October 18, aims to educate people on the importance of eye health and regular screenings to avoid future complications. The Department of Health recommends that you have your eyes tested every one to two years. If you have risk factors such as high blood pressure and

diabetes, it is best to do it every year.

Matlou adds that a well-balanced diet, including nutrients like omega-3 fatty acids, lutein, zinc, and vitamins C and E, helps combat age-related vision problems. She also recommends people wear sunglasses to protect their eyes from the sun's ultra-violet rays.

She also said that Optometrists offer primary eye care. They are trained to detect vision problems, eye diseases and other abnormalities. If needed, they supply glasses. If specialist care is needed, optometrists refer their patients to the right specialist. **U**

People wanting to study for an optometry degree at university level need to have done english, mathematics, physical sciences and life sciences at grade 12. It takes a minimum of four years to complete, and a one-year internship is compulsory.