

Vuk'uzenzele

Produced by: Government Communication & Information System (GCIS) English/isiXhosa EyoMsintsi 2022 Ushicilelo 2

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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Matlou keeps an eye on her community's vision

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TOGETHER WE CAN BEAT THE CORONAVIRUS



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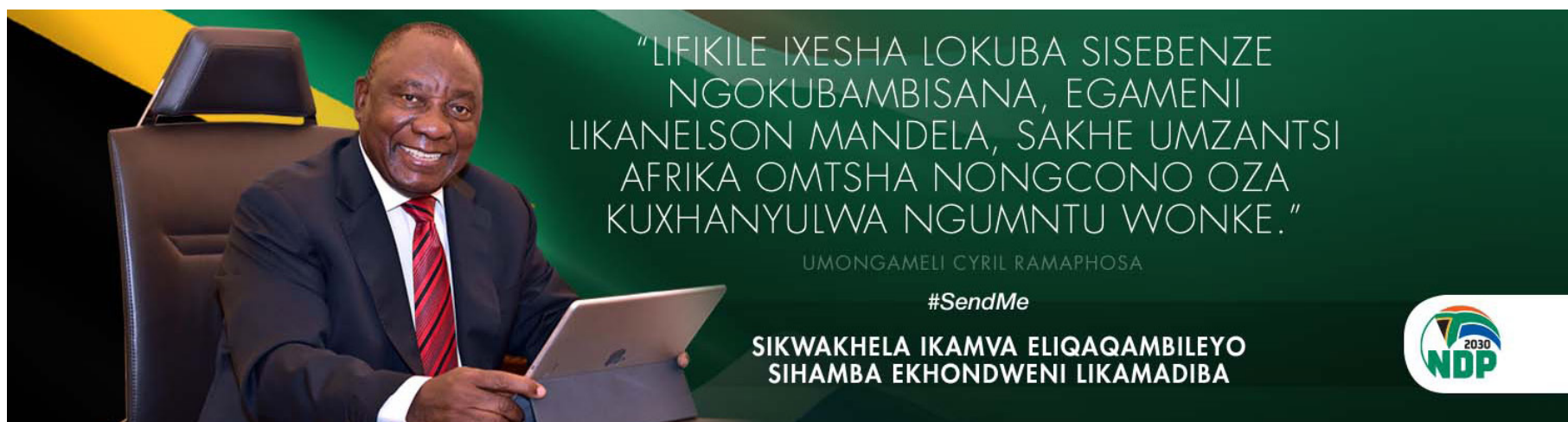
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Indlela entsha yokulwa urhwaphilizo

ifumana iziphumo

Umlo wokulwa urhwaphilizo ufuna zombini intando eqinileyo yezopolitiko kunye namaziko azimeleyo anako ukulwa ulwaphulo-mthetho.

KwiNtetho yoBume beSizwe yam yokuqala, ngowama-2018, ndenza isibophelelo sokuguqula imeko ngokuchasene norhwaphilizo kumaziko ethu oluntu kunye nokulwa ubuqhophololo kunye nentsebenziswano kwicandelo labucala ngendlela eqatha nenenjongo efanayo.

Ukusukela ngoko, besisebenza nzima ukomeleza kunye nokuxhasa ukuthotyelwa komthetho kunye nee-arhente ezinxulumeneyo. Siye saseka Ulawulo lweGunya loTshutshiso lweSizwe ukuze lujongane norhwaphilizo olunobuzaza kunye neNkundla yamaTyala eKhethekileyo ukuze iCandelo loPhando eliKhethekileyo (i-SIU) likwazi ukubuyisa kwakhona iimali ezibiweyo. Sikwanikezele ngenkxaso kunye nezibonelelo kwamanye amaqumrhu abalulekileyo okulwa ulwaphulo-mthetho afana neCandelo lokuThinjwa kweMpahla, iCandelo loLwaphulo-mthetho eliKhethekileyo lwezoRhwebo kunye neCandelo loPhando loLwaphulo-mthetho eliPhakamileyo, elaziwa ngokuba ngooKhetshe.

Ezi nzame zivelisa iziphumo.

Ngentsebenziswano namaqumrhu aphambili

kwinkqubo yobulungisa kulwaphulo-mthetho, iCandelo loPhando libhalise ngaphezulu kwamatyala orhwaphilizo angama-20 kunyaka-mali odlulileyo kwaye abatyholwa abangama-65 baye bamangalelwa. Ezi zinto ziquka 'ukubanjwa kombuso ngobhongwane' kunye namanye amatyala orhwaphilizo anobuzaza.

Kulo nyaka-mali uphelileyo, iCandelo lokuThinjwa kweMpahla lifumene imiyalelo yokuthintelwa ekusetyenzisweni kwempahla exabisa iibhiliyoni zeerandi eziyi-5.4 ezinxulumene namatyala olwaphulo-mthetho, apho izigidi zeerandi ezingama-70 zihlawulwe kwiNgxowamali yokuBuyisa iMpahla yoLwaphulo-mthetho.

Kule minyaka isibhozo idlulileyo, i-SIU iye yafumana inkxaso-mali kunye neempahla ezixabisa ibhiliyoni zeerandi eziyi-2.6 yaza yabekela bucala iikhontrakthi ezixabisa ibhiliyoni zeerandi ezili-18. Amatyala ali-119 ewonke axabisa ngaphezulu kweebhiliyoni zeerandi ezili-13 abhaliswe kwi-SIU kwiNkundla yamaTyala eKhethekileyo.

Urhwaphilizo lulwaphulo-mthetho oluntsonkothileyo ekufoneka lutshutshiswe.

Abenzi bobubi benza imigudu emangalisayo yokugquma imikhondo yabo. Baseka iinkampani ezisemthethweni nezingasebenziyo ukufihla iintengiselwano ezingalu-

nganga, bethubelezisa iimali ngokukhawuleza phakathi kwee-akhawunti ezininzi, ezibonakalisa ingeniso ngendlela engeyiyo kumagunya erhafu, kwaye, kwimeko yabasebenzi bakarhulumente, basebenzisa izihlobo nezalamane ukufaka izicelo zeethenda ukufihla ukubandakanyeka kwabo.

Oku kuthetha ukuba impendulo yabasemagunyeni kufuneka ibe nobugocigoci.

Ngowama-2020, siseke iziko i-Fusion Centre elinezinto ezininzi enjengeziko lokusebenzela ukulungisa ulwaphulo-mthetho oluphambili kwezemali, kuquka urhwaphilizo. Eli ziko lidibanisa ndawonye amandla ophando othintelo lolwaphulo-mthetho kunye namaqumrhu okhuseleko karhulumente kunye nalawo eZiko leZobuNtlola bezeziMali, eliphuhlisa ubuntlobo ukuze ii-arhente zogcino-mthetho zibusebenzise kuphando lwazo.

Iminyaka emibini ukususela ekusekweni kwe-Fusion Centre, indlela yalo ebandakanya abantu abavela kwiintlobo ezahlukeneyo zomsebenzi 'yokulandela imali' iye yavelisa iziphumo ezibalulekileyo.

Kulo nyaka-mali uphelileyo, umsebenzi we-Fusion Centre uxhase uphando lobuqhophololo norhwaphilizo olungama-276. Malunga nezigidi zeerandi ezingama-659 zabuyiselwa kuRhulumente ngendlela yokulondoloza kunye nokubuyiswa kwengeniso yolwaphulo-mthetho. Malunga nezigidi zeerandi ezingama-613 eziyingeniso yolwaphulo-mthetho

olurhanelwayo ziye zathintelwa ekusetyenzisweni.

I-Fusion Centre ekuqaleni yamiselwa ukuphanda urhwaphilizo olumalunga nenkqubo yokufumana abaniki-zinkonzo enxulumene ne-COVID-19. Umyalelo wayo ngoku uyandiswa ukuze uquke ukuthutyeleziswa kwemali, ubuqhophololo, ulawulo olugwenxa, inkxaso-mali yabanqolobi kunye nolunye ulwaphulo-mthetho lwezemali olunobuzaza.

OoKhetshe kutsha nje bachaze enye yenkqubela-phambili esele yenziwe liQela lokuLwa uRhwa-philizo, apho i-Fusion Centre iba yinxalenye yalo. Phakathi konyaka-mali wama-2019 kunye nowama-2022, abarhanelwa abangama-554 babanjelwa urhwaphilizo, apho abali-142 kubo baye bagwetywa.

Esinye isixhobo esibalulekileyo sobuntlobo kwezemali luphicotho-zincwadi lwendlela yokuphila olwenziwa yiNkonzo yeRhafu yoMzantsi Afrika (i-SARS). Kulo nyaka uphelileyo, i-SARS igqibe uphicotho-zincwadi lwendlela yokuphila olungama-25 oluxabisa ngaphezulu kwezigidi zeerandi ezingama-450 ukusombulula ukungangqinelani phakathi kwengeniso echaziweyo kunye nendlela yokuphila yomntu.

Kucacile ukuba amanyathelo esiwathathileyo njengolu lawulo lokubuyisela amandla okwenza, ubuchule kunye nokuthe- mbeka kwamaziko abandakanyekayo kumlo wokulwa norhwaphilizo

zinempembelelo ebonakalayo.

Umsebenzi olunge- lanisiweyo wazo zonke ii-arhente zokunyanze- liswa komthetho ubetha abaphuli-mthetho apho kubuhlungu kakhulu khona: kwiipokotho zabo. Iimali zoluntu ebezityhu- thuliwe zaza zajikiselwa kwelinye icala ziyabuyiswa kwaye abo banoxanduva lwezi zenzo bayatshutshi- swa ziinkundla zethu zamatyala.

Ukomeleza nangakumbi iinzame zethu zokuphelisa urhwaphilizo, ndibhengeza ngokuqeshwa kwiBhunga leSizwe leeNgcebiso zoKulwa uRhwa-philizo.

IBhunga liza kuhlanga- nisa abachaphazelekayo kuluntu ngokubanzi ukuze bajonge ukuphunyezwa kwesicwangciso-qhinga sikarhulumente sokulwa urhwaphilizo. Eli qumrhu litsha liza kucebisa urhu- lumente ngamanyathelo abalulekileyo othintelo, ubuchule beziko kunye nezixhobo ezifunekayo zokuthintela ukuphinda kubanjwe umbuso ngobho- ngwane kunye nokususa neengcambu ubuqhopho- lolo kunye norhwaphilizo eMzantsi Afrika.

Eyona njongo yethu iphambili kukwakha amaziko awomeleleyo nakwaziyo ukumelana neemeko ezinzima ano- kuphelisa urhwaphilizo kwaye amelane nayo nayiphi na imizamo yexesha elizayo yokubamba umbuso ngobhongwane.

Njengoko siqhubeka nokwakhela phezu kwezi mpumelelo, siqinisekile ukuba nokuba kuthatha ixesha, abo babileyo baza batyhuthula ubutyebi obenzelwe abantu baza kujongana neziphumo zezenzo zabo. **V**

Jonga iimpawu zokuqala zomhlaza wasebuntwaneni

More Matshediso

Ukunqongophala kolwazi ngomhlaza wasebuntwaneni kunye neempawu zawo kuthetha ukuba abantwana abaninzi baseMzantsi Afrika baxilongwa xa isifo sikwinqanaba eliphezulu.

Umhlaza osaqalayo uyaxilongwa kwaye unyangwe, liphezulu ithuba lokuchacha ngokupheleleyo.

UMququzeleli woNxi-belelwano lwe-*Childhood Cancer Foundation South Africa* (i-CHOC) u-Taryn Seegers uthi ngokwazi iimpawu ezixhaphakileyo zomhlaza kulutsha, kunganceda ukusindisa ubomi.

"Iimpawu kunye nemiqondiso kunokuba nzima ukuzibona phakathi kwamaqhuma aqhelekileyo, imigruzuko, ukukhula ngokukhawuleza kunye

nokuguquguquka kwesimo sengqondo. Nangona kunjalo, ukufunyaniswa kwangethuba kubalulekile," utshilo.

Ngokwengxelo ye-*Cancer Association of South Africa* (i-CANSA), baphakathi kwama-800 ukuya kwi-1 000 abantwana baseMzantsi Afrika abaxilongelwa umhlaza kunyaka ngamnye.

Nangona kunjalo, lo mbutho uqikelela ukuba isiqingatha sabantwana abanomhlaza eMzantsi Afrika abazange baxilongwa.

Ukunceda ukuqinisekisa ukuba umhlaza ubonwe ngokukhawuleza, i-CHOC iqhuba iinkqubo zokwazisa uluntu, ixelela abazali nabantwana ngeempawu ezilumkisa kwangethuba ekufuneka baziqaphele.

Eliziko lixhasa abantwana kunye nolutsha

olunomhlaza okanye olunokuphazamiseka kwegazi okusongela ubomi kunye neentsapho zabo.

"Sijonge ukuphucula ukufunyaniswa kwangethuba kwaye siququzelele unyango olusebenzayo. Nangaliphi na ixesha, i-CHOC inokuba nabantwana abangaphezulu kwe-1 500 kunye nolutsha kukhathalelo lwayo, ngelixa inika inkxaso ngokwasengqondweni nangokwasentlalweni kwiintsapho ezingaphezulu kwe-1 500," utshilo u-Seegers.

Kunyaka-mali ophelileyo, u-Seegers uthi i-CHOC ikwazile ukunceda abantwana abali-1 724, ulutsha olungama-553 kunye nabantu abadala abangama-2 232 ngeenkqubo zayo ezingundoqo. "Iinkonzo zethu ziquka

inkxaso yeemvakalelo ngendlela yohambo lwabo lomhlaza, intuthuzelo, ukhathalelo lokuphela kobomi kunye nenkxaso yokuzila," utshilo u-Seegers.

Iimpawu zomhlaza wasebuntwaneni ze-*St Siluan*

- S – Funa uncedo lwezonyango kwangethuba ngeempawu eziqhube-kayo.
- I – Ibala elimhlophe elisweni, ukufithekisa, ukungaboni ngequbuliso, ikhozo lweliso elithe phuhlu.
- L – Iqhuma esiswini, kumarhorho, entloko, ezingalweni, emilenzeni, emasendeni okanye emadlaleni.
- U – Umkhuhlane ongachazwanga okhoyo ngaphezulu kweeveki ezimbini, ukwehla

kobunzima bomzimba, ukudinwa, inkangeleko embatshileyo, ukugruzuka lula kunye nokopha.

- A – Ukuqaqamba kwamathambo, amalungu omzimba, umqolo kunye nokwaphuka lula.
 - N – Iimpawu zemithambo-luvo, zenguquko ekuhambeni, zokuthantamisa okanye ezokuthetha, intloko ebuhlungu eqhubekayo ehambiselana nokugabha okanye ngaphandle kokugabha kunye nentloko edumbileyo.
- "Ulutsha, oluxakeke yimidlalo kunye nemi-setyenzana, lusoloko lungaziqapheli iimpawu zokuqala zomhlaza walo," utshilo u-Seegers. **U**

Ngeenkcukacha ezithe vetshe, qhagamshelana nomnxeba woncedo we-CHOC ku: **0800 333 555** okanye undwendwele 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.