

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."

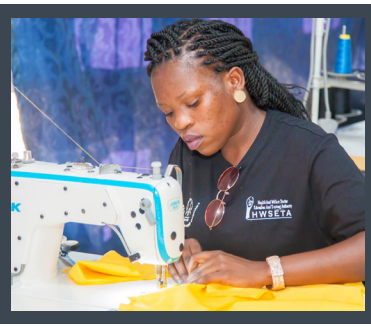
Over the next few years, Olifant found work and saved what she could to invest in her business.

"In 2019, I started produc-

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Matlou keeps an eye on her community's vision
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Indlela Etja Yokulwa Nobukhohlakali Iveza Imiphumela

Ipi yokulwa nobukhohlakali ifuna ukuncama okusimeleleko keze-politiki, neenhlango ezizijameleko nezine-kghono ezilwisa ubulelesi.

EKulumeni yami yokuthoma yobuJamo beliZwe ngomnyaka wee-2018, ngenza isithembiso soku-jikisa izinto ngokucitha ubukhohlakali eenhlanganweni zethu zomphakathi besilwe nokukhwanisa nomukghwa wehlanganyela ekorweni yangeqadi ngamandla afanako nango-mnqopho munye.

Solo kwalokho, sise-benza ngokukhuthala ukuqinisa nokusekela abathobelisimthetho bethu nezinye iinjamiso ezinjalo. Sisungule iBandla lezokuTjhutjisa leliZwelo elizakulwa nobukhohlakali obumbi, sasungula nesiGungu seBandla eliKhethekileko, ngomnqopho wokusiza iPhiko eliKhethekileko kezokuPhenya (i-SIU) ukuthi sikghone ukubuyisa iimali ezetiweko. Sibuye sasiza nangokusekela nangemithombo yamandla kezinye iinqhema eziqakathekileko njengesiqhema esidla ipahla, i-Asset Forfeiture Unit, nesiqhema esikhethekileko samacala wezerhwebo i-Specialised Commercial Crime Unit kunye nePhiko eliPhenya imiLandu eKhethekileko neyiNgozi Khulu, esibizwa ngokuthi ma-Hawks.

Lemizamo seyithomile ukuveza imiphumela.

Ngokusebenzisana neenjamiso eziqakathekileko ehlelweni lezomthetho bulungiswa ngamacala wobulelesi, ama-Hawks atlolise amacala wobu-

khohlakali angaphezulu kwama-20 emnyakeni weemali osandukuphela lo, baba ma-65 abasolwa abavulelwa amacala.

Lapha-ke kubalwa namacala ambadlwana 'wokuthunjwa kombuso' namanye amacala amambi wobukhohlakali.

Emnyakeni weemali oqed'ukuphela lo, isiQhema esiDla iPahla sinikelwe igunya lamandla wokulwala imali ehlanganisa amabhiliyoni ama-R5.4 aphaathelene namacala wobukhohlakali, kwathi iinGidi ezima-R70 zabhadelwa esikhwameni sokubuyiswa kwepahla ekhambe ngobulelesi, i-Criminal Assets Recovery Fund.

Eminyakeni ebunane edlulileko le, i-SIU ibuyise imali nepahla ehlanganisa amabhiliyoni ama-R2.6, yacitha amakontaka wemali emaBhiliyoni ali-R18. Nasele awoke ali-119 amacala ahlanganisa imali engaphezulu kwamaBhiliyoni ali-R13 atloliswe yi-SIU esiGungwini seBandla eliKhethekileko.

Ubukhohlakali licala elirareja khulu nalitjhutjhiswako.

Izelelesi ezenza amacala wobukhohlakali zenza koke ezingakwenza ukucima umtlhala wobulelesi bazo. Zivula iinkhampani ezenzelwe futhi ngomnqopho wokugubela ukusebenzisana kwemathunzaneni, zikhambise imali msinyana zikhutjiswa ema-akhawundini amanye zidluliselwe kamanye, zidurhise iziko lezomthetho ngemali eziyenzako, ukudlula lapho, nayibe basebenzi bakarhulumente, zisebenzise

abangani neenhlobo kobana bafake iimbawo zamathenda, kobanyana zona (izelelesi) zizokusithela ngalaba abafake iimbawo zamathenda.

Lokhu-ke kutjho ukuthi amagadango weemphathimandla nawo kufuze bona arareje ngokunjalo.

Ngomnyaka wee-2020, savula iZiko elimaGatjagatja lapho kuzakusetjenzelwa khona amacala weemali ama-qalontanzi, akhamba nobukhohlakali phakathi. Izikweli lihlanganisa amakghonofundwa wokuphepha weenjamiso zombuso zokukhandela ubulelesi nezokuphepha kunye neweZiko lamaQhinga weeMali, wona akha amaqhinga wabathobelisimthetho abazawasebenzisa ephe-nyweni labo.

Ngemva kweminyaka emibili lavulwa leliZiko elimaGatjagatja, indlela yalo emagatjagatja 'yokulandelela umtlhala wemali' iveze imiphumela emihle nebonakalako.

Emnyakeni weemali osandukuphela, umsebenzi weZiko elimaGatjagatja usekele amahlandla ama-276 wokuphenya ngobukhwananisi nobukhohlakali. Kulinganiswa ukuthi ima-R659 weengidi imali ebuyiselwe emBusweni ngokulonda nangokubuyiswa kwemali eyenziwe/etholakele ngobulelesi. Ilinganiselwa eengidini ezima-R613 imali ekusolakala ukuthi itholakele ngomgunyathi wobulelesi evaliweko.

IZiko elimaGatjagatja ekuthomeni lalisungulelwe ukuphenya ngobukhohlakali obuphathelele

nokuthengwa kwepahla ye-COVID-19. Kwanjesi-ke amandla wayo seladluliselwe ukwembatha namacala wokuthola imali ngomgunyathi, ukukhwananisa, ukungasetjenzi-swa kule kwemali, ukusekelwa ngeemali kwamaphekula kunye namanye amacala weemali amambi.

Mhlapha ama-Hawks asandukubika ngengcenyendima esele yenziwe siQhema esiLwa nobukhohlakali, iZiko elimaGatjagatja eliyengcenyeyaso. Phakathi komnyaka weemali wee-2019 nee-2022 kubotjhwwe abasolwa abama-554 ngamacala wobukhohlakali; kila-babasolwa, abali-142 babo bagwetjiwe babe bethweswa iingwebo.

Elinye ithulusi lamaqhinga weemali eliqakathekileko kuhlolwa kwendlela abantu abaphila ngayo, bahlolwa liZiko lezeMali (i-SARS). Nyakenye i-SARS iphenye kamahlandla ama-25 ngobujamo beemali babantu; lelophenyo-ke ngeemali engaphezulu kwama-R450 yeengidi ngomnqopho wokurarulula umraro wokungathomani kwemali eyaziwako umuntu ayirholako nendlela aphila ngayo.

Kuyakhanya-ke ukuthi liyabonakala beliyezwakala igalelo lamagadango esiwathetheko thina simbuso walelihlalanda ukubuyisa amandla, ikghono nokuthembeka kweenjamiso ezinesandla epini yokulwa nobukhohlakali.


Umsebenzi olungelelweko wabo boke abathobelisimthetho unemba izelelesi lapho kubuhlungu khona khulu: eenkhwa-

meni zazo. Iimali zombuso abantu abaziphakisa zona ngomtjhotjhaphasi ziya-buyiswa, kanti-ke labo abenza lokhu amakhotho welizwe lekhethu ayababotjuthjisa.

Ukuqinisa umzamo wethu ukuya phambili ukujikisa izinto kucithwe ubukhohlakali, ngimemezela amabizo weemphathimandla eziqatjhelwe umKhandlu oYelelisa ngobukhohlakali eliZweniloke.

UmKhandlu uzakubutha boke ababelani emagumbini amane womphakathi bazokubeka ilihlo ehlelweni likarhulumente lokuphunyelelwa komsebenzi wokulwa nobukhohlakali. Isijamiso esitjhesi sizakulimukisa urhulumente ngamagadango wokuvikela aqakathekileko, amandla weenjamiso kunye nemithombo yamandla efunekako ukukhandela ukubuyeleleka kokuthunjwa kombuso bekucithwe ukukhwananisa nobukhohlakali eSewula Afrika.

Umnqopho wethu wokugcina kukwakha iinjamiso ezinamandla nezibambelelako ezingaqeda ubukhohlakali bezikghone nokujamelana nemizamo yangomuso yokulinga ukuthumba umbuso.

Njengoba siraga ngokwakhela phezu kwalepumelelo nje, sinesiqiniseko sokuthi nanyana kungathatha isikhathi eside, labo abeba babe baziphakisa imithombo yamandla neensetjenzi-swa ezinqophe ukusiza isitjhaba bazayithola into abayifunako ngalokho abakwenzileko. 

Tjheja Amatshayo Wokuthoma Wekankere Yabantwana

More Matshedis

Ukutlhoga ilwazi lokubona ikanke-re yabantwana namatshayo wayo kutjho ukuthi abantwana beSewula Afrika abanengi nakutho-lakala ukuthi baphethwe sisifesi siske sesakhele.

Ikankere nayibonakele msinyana beyelatjha, kwanda amathuba wokuthi umuntu emphetheko aphole ngokupheleleko.

UmLungeleli wezoku-Thintana eHlanganweni yezekankere yabantwana i-Childhood Cancer Foundation South Africa (i-CHOC), u-Taryn Seegers uthi ngokwazi amatshayo avamileko wekankere ebantwini abatjha, ungasiza ekuhlengeni ipilo.

“Amatshayo neentjengiso kungaba budisi uku-zihlukanisa esikhakheni, emathuthuveni, emikghubukweni, emafeni kunye nekupherhukapherhukeni kwemizwa yomuntu

okujayelekileko. Nokho-ke kuqakathekile ukuthi itho-lakale msinyana ingakakheli ikankere,” kutjho u-Seegers.

Ngokutjho kweHlangano yezeKankere eSewula Afrika (i-CANSA), bahlangana kwama-800 ne-1000 abantwana beSewula Afrika ekutholakala ukuthi banekankere, qobe mnyaka.

Ngakelinye ihlangothi, ihlangano le ilinganisa ukuthi abantwana abasiquntu ebantwaneni abanekankere eSewula Afrika kugcina kungakatho-lakali ukuthi banekankere.

Ukusiza ekuqinisekiseni ukuthi ikankere ibonakala msinyana ngokungakgho-nakalako, i-CHOC inehlelo lokuphandlulula ephandlulula ngalo ababelethi nabantwana emphakathini ngamatshayo wokuthoma ayelelisako ekumele aqalwe.

Ihlangano le isekela abantwana nelutjha elinekan-kere namkha elinokugula kweengazi okungabulala,

ibuye isekela nemindenabo.

“Singophe ukwenza ubungcono bokuthi ku-tholakale msinyana ukuthi umuntu unekankere, bese utholelwa indlela yokwelatjha okuliziso. I-CHOC ingaba nabantwana nelutjha elingaphezulu kwe-1 500 elitjhejako, ngasikhathi sinye, ukube ngahlanye isekela imindeneni engaphezulu kwe-1 500 ngesizo lokuthoba ingqondo nangeendingo zomphakathi,” kuhlathulula u-Seegers.

Emnyakeni weemali osandukuphela lo, u-Seegers uthi i-CHOC ikghone ukusiza abantwana abayi-1 724, nabantu abatjha abama-553, nabantu abakhulu abazii-2 232 ngamahlelo wayo angaqakatheke khulu.

“Hlangana nemisebenzi esiyenzela umphakathi kukhona newokusekela ummoya wabantu ekhambeni labo lekankere, newokubaduduzwa, newokubatjheja nabafika ekugcineni kwepilo, kunye newoku-

sekela ababhujelweko,” kuraga u-Seegers.

Amatshayo Wekankere Yabantwana Ngokwehlelo Lelulo Ka-Siluan

- S – Funa isizo lokwelatjha kusese nesikhathi nayibe unamatshayo aphikeleleko.
- I – Amacaphaza amhlophe elihlweni, ukuphambana kwamehlo okutjha, ukuphophala kungakalindeleki namkha ukutomuka kwelihlo/kwamehlo.
- L – Iliqa emathunjini, esifunzini, ehloko, emikhonweni, emlenzeni, emahlwayini, namkha emadloleni.
- U – Umgomani ongahlathulukekiko okuphatha bekweqe iimveke ezimbili, ukukhehla komzimba, ukudinwa, ukuthunya, ukukghubuka lula nokopha.
- A – Amathambo

afuthako, amalungu afuthako, umgogodlha ofuthako kunye nokwephuka lula.

- N – Amatshayo wemithambo, ukutjhuguluka kwendlela yokukhamba, ukutjhuguluka kokusimelela namkha kwekulumo, ihloko ebuhlungu isiphelani nokuhlanza/ngaphandle kokuhlanza kunye nokukhula kwehloko.

“Abantu abatjha, abanemidlalo abayidlalako namkha abahlala basebenzisa umzimba, kanenginengi abawatjheji amatshayo wokuthoma wekankere yabo,” kutjho u-Seegers. **U**

Eminye imininingwana ungayithola ngokuthintana ne-CHOC enomborweni yesizo ethi-**0800 333 555** nofana uvakatjhele ubunzinzolwazi 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.