

Vuk'uzenzele

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Entrepreneur trades trash for community dignity

A FORMAL recycling buy-back centre in Soweto is uplifting the community in the spirit of Nelson Mandela Month.



■ Smanga Mthembu is using waste recycling to help make dignified funerals a reality in his impoverished Soweto community. Picture: supplied.

Owen Mngadi

Smanga Mthembu, a Soweto entrepreneur who is making a difference in his community through his recycling business, is living up to the Nelson Mandela Day theme to 'Do what you can, with what you have, where you are'. By transforming an illegal dumping site into a reliable, award-winning recycling business called Umphakathi Recyclers, the 30-year-old is empowering his community and helping to provide dignified funerals, while looking after the environment. It all started after Mthembu dropped out of university due to a lack of funding and tried his hand at recycling. After collecting a large bag of paper, which he sold to a nearby informal recycling centre, he noticed that most of his fellow recyclers

were very poor. "You could see that many people were 'eating from hand to mouth'." He decided to find out more about the recycling sector and learnt that it offers many opportunities for improving lives – if done properly. These were the first steps towards the establishment of Umphakathi Recyclers. Mthembu became a member of the Polyethylene Terephthalate Recycling Company (Petco) – a non-profit company that promotes plastic recycling across the country and helps ensure recyclers have a place to sell what they collect, at a fair price – and set about finding a suitable site. He identified a neglected school that had been turned into an illegal dumping area and approached the ward councillor for assistance in

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Special teams created to keep infrastructure safe


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Government funding helps Limpopo farmer bloom

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Monkeypox ka nageng ya Afrika Borwa

Tona ya Maphelo Ngaka Joe Phaahla o kgonthiše gore *Monkeypox* e utollotšwe ka Afrika Borwa nakong ya kopano le bobegaditaba ka Pretoria, Gauteng.

O re o amogetše pego go tšwa go Ditirelo tša Laporotori ya Maphelo a Setšhaba (NHLS) gore ba kgonthiše gore go na le *Monkeypox* ka Afrika Borwa ka diteko tša laporotori.

Baerase e utollotšwe ka Gauteng le Kapa Bohlabela.

Monkeypox gantši ke bolwetši bja go se be šoro kudu bjoo bo bakago dintho goba dišo mo mmeleng.

Gantši ga bo šoro gomme mahu a gona e ka ba 1%.

Nakong ya go feta bolwetši bjo bo ile bja begwa ka dinageng tša Afrika tša go swana le Nigeria, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Central African Republic le Ghana mo mathomong a bo 2000.

Dipalo tša godimo tša go phulega gonabjale di go la Yuropa gomme UK ke yona e di etilego pele moo batho



bao ba fetetšwego e lego ba 700, gomme ba Spain bona ba ka godimo ga 500, ya latelwa ke Germany, Portugal le France.

Tona o bolela gore Institute ya Setšhaba ya Malwetši a go Fetela (NICD) e dira tlhahlo ya mošomong ya inthanete go bašomi ba maphelo gore ba kgone go lemoga bolwetši gore go kgonwe go dirwa diteko tša laporotori tseo di hlokegago.

"Bolwetši bjo bo phatlalala fela ka go kgomana, ka

gona o ka se bo hwetše ka go ba ka phapošing ye tee le motho yo a fetetšwego." Tona a realo.

Tona Phaahla o kgonthiše ditšhe maAfrika Borwa gore *Monkeypox* ga se baerase ye mpsha yeo e sa tsebjego gomme bora-mahlale ba na le tsebo ka ga yona.

Modulasetulo wa Komiti ya Dikeletšo ya Ditona (MAC) ka ga COVID-19 yoo gape e lego leloko la Taolo la NHLS, Profesa Koleka

Mlisana, o re *Monkeypox* ke bolwetši bjoo bo tlwaelegilego ka dikarolong tša Gare le Leboa la Afrika bjoo bo tsebegago ka go se be šoro.

Ka bolwetši bjoo bo tlwaelegilego go bolelwa ka bolwetši bjoo gantši bo hwetšwago go batho bao ba itšego goba lefelong leo le itšego.

O re bolwetši bja *Monkeypox* bo nyakile go swana le bja Sekobonyana.

"Go na le meento le dihlare go alafa *Monkeypox*.

Bolwetši bjo bo tšwelela ka maswao a go swana le a mpshikela le a bolwetši bja *Legionnaires*. Selo se bohlokwa ke gore motho yo mongwe yo mongwe yo a nago le maswao go bonolo go mo phekola gomme sa bohlokwa kudu le go feta ke gore ga e fetelane fela fela, ga e swane le baerase ya malwetši a go hema, ka gore yona e fetela ka go kgo-mana. E tla go fetela ge fela o kgomana thwii le motho yoo a fetetšwego," a realo.

Bolwetši bja *Legionnaires* ke mohuta wo šoro wa nyumonia.

Profesa Mlisana o re go latišiša batho bao molwetši a kopanego le bona go bohlokwa mo tabeng ye gomme Kgoro ya Maphelo e tla tšwela pele go dira seo.

O kgonthiše ditšhe maAfrika Borwa gore infrastraktšha ya Laporotori e na le didirišwa ka moka tša maleba go kgontšha go lekola diphetelo tše dingwe le tše dingwe tše diswa tšeo di ka tšwelelago.

—SAnews.gov.za

COVID-19 regulations cancelled

Health Minister, Joe Phaahla recently cancelled COVID-19 regulations relating to the wearing of face masks, gatherings and persons entering the country.

The regulations were promulgated by the Minister on 4 May in the Regulations Relating to the Surveillance and the Control of Notifiable Medical Conditions. President Cyril Ramaphosa in a national address in April said the regulations would be eased gradually.

The gazetting of the regulations means that the wearing of face masks in any public-use indoor space or when on public transport is no longer required.



On gatherings, people congregating in public spaces will no longer be limited to certain numbers.

The regulations stipulated that a maximum of 50% of the venue capa-

city may be occupied, provided that every attendee must be vaccinated against COVID-19 and produce a valid vaccination certificate. Alternatively, they could produce a valid certificate

of a negative COVID-19 test obtained not more than 72 hours before the date of the gathering.

Regarding limitations on people entering the country, the regulations required that any person entering the country be vaccinated against COVID-19 and produce a valid vaccination certificate.

Alternatively, this group of people needed to produce a valid certificate of a negative PCR COVID-19 test not older than 72 hours before the date of departure.

Minister Phaahla reminded South Africans of the importance of vaccinating for COVID-19.

"We just need to end with caution that the

COVID-19 virus is not yet gone; it is still in our midst; we are just stronger than before, especially with vaccination, and we urge those not yet vaccinated to come forward and those due for boosters to also come forward," he said.

The Minister added that the vaccination program will remain and is now being integrated into normal health services.

"We urge all leaders of society and organisers of events to work with our health workers to promote healthy lifestyle and know your status, which is - blood pressure, blood sugar, cancer, HIV and COVID-19." —SAnews.gov.za