



'Courage is the first of human qualities because it is the quality that guarantees all the others.'

Winston Churchill

If Ukuwela could have a second name, it would be Courage. Ukuwela's everyday actions, decisions and vision start with taking courage.

One man who took the courage to become part of the Ukuwela team is the awesome Asisipho Ndzoto (below, right) who was appointed as Ukuwela Facilitator on the 1st of April 2022. Asisipho's appointment is made possible by Miller's Attorneys as part of the Yes4Youth program. Thank you Miller's - Asisipho adds immense value and capacity to Ukuwela!

Skills training

We are excited to share that two of our Carpe Diem learners, Maria Maarten and Daniel Baleseng have started training at McDonald's, Courtney Street. This opportunity is made possible via JobAble powered by JobJack - thanks guys for helping us connect new dots! Huge thanks also to Lucinda and the team of Managers at McDonald's who attended a disability education opportunity presented by Ukuwela prior to commencing the placement. Daniel and Maria have made great progress during the term and will continue their journey for the rest of this year!



Libhongolethu Mjijwa made us proud by attending a Flooring and Carpeting workshop presented by Belgotex at Van Kervel School on the 4th and 5th of May 2022. Shoutout to Jan Barnard (Van Kervel School) and Allan de Wit (Belgotex) for enabling this opportunity.

LIBHONGOLETHU (LEFT) WITH CALVIN AND LYNN FROM BELGOTEX



All the coffee lovers (that includes us) will be happy to hear that Alexander Africa and Libhongolethu Mjijwa (this guy doesn't say no to an opportunity) have started Barista training at the Redband Barista Academy under the watchful eye of Trainer, Ursula. This opportunity is made possible by Nina's Café which is the lead restaurant hosting the annual Gourmet and Gourmand (G&G) function at Carpe Diem School. Alex and Libhongo hope to be trained up to serve our guests with the coffee of their choice at the G&G on the evening of the 20th of August 2022!

ALEX (LEFT) AND LIBHONGOLETHU (RIGHT) WITH URSULA FROM THE REDBAND BARISTA ACADEMY

Keeping our commitment to prepare Carpe Diem learners for the world of work, Ukuwela has taken our senior boys for work exposure in the hospitality industry to Geronimo Spur and Timber Wolf Spur where they worked in the kitchen. Well done boys, you made us proud! Our senior girls attended the Heatherpark Spar where they participated in packing shopping bags. It takes courage to pack bags and greet customers - job well done, girls! Ukuwela continuously aim to bring the curriculum and the industry closer together. Thanks to the financial support from donors we have bought kitchen scales, a high pressure hose and massage bed to enable our Educators to teach learners skills required by the industry.



OUR SENIOR BOYS AT GERONIMO SPUR (LEFT) AND GIRLS AT HEATHERPARK SPAR (MIDDLE)

MR JOHAN DE JAGER, THE BOYS AND THE HIGH PRESSURE HOSE!

New opportunities

Two of our favourites have done it again! Our Ukuwela candidates and Woolworths! Big congratulations to Jaco Claassen, Jody Oliver, and Darren Smith on their successful interviews and subsequent employment at Woolworths Langeberg Mall, Garden Route Mall, and George CBD respectively. We have been on a journey with Woolworths for the past five years and can only commend them for their support and commitment to our learners. To our successful candidates: it takes courage and you guys have it!



JODY (LEFT) AND DARREN (RIGHT) JUST BEFORE THEIR INTERVIEWS AT WOOLWORTHS



CHRISTELINE SAPTO (MIDDLE) AND LEE-KAY PÊREL (RIGHT) WITH THEIR VASBYT AWARDS



'Vasbyt' Awards

We're no Churchill, but we dare say that following on courage, is commitment. Luchiano Aweries, Jarryd Grootboom, Lee-Kay Pêrel, and Christeline Sapto received the prestigious 'Vasbyt' Award for being employed for one year and longer! Congratulations to these candidates, their parents, co-workers, and supervisors! This is truly an achievement to be proud of.

The things we talk about

Ukuwela is always on the lookout for opportunities to spread the good news about youth with disabilities and we got the opportunity to do just that on Eden FM on the sixth of the sixth month at six o'clock. Ominous as it sounds, it was in fact, a joyous and most pleasant experience talking with host Cyril Williams on the matter of youth with disabilities and employment.

When we talk about Ukuwela and its participants we do so with much gratitude towards everyone who makes it possible for our learners to grow and develop as workers. A big thank you to wing ladies Herma Lombard and Cornel O'Kennedy who have been at the ready to support our learners during this super busy term. Your willingness and courage made it all possible!

Take courage, take care!

Until next term,

The Ukuwela Team