

NEWS BULLETIN

MFESANE AND NDA FUNDING PARTNERSHIP BIRTHS 10 ENTREPRENEURS IN KHAYELITSHA

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The 8 of 10 graduate entrepreneurs with Mfesane CEO and NDA COO

05 October 2022, Khayelitsha – Ten entrepreneurs are ready to commence operations on their small businesses following successful completion of the course and receipt of business starter kits from the grant funding partnership between Mfesane and the National Development Agency (NDA). The sewing business kits include a sewing machine, overlock machine, toolbox with sewing tools, materials and an iron.

Khayelitsha Qandu-qandu resident, graduate and owner of Bukwa Creations, Mrs Khanyisa Vonco (32) said, “This graduation is a dream come true. My dream in life is to be a leading photographer who can travel the world to meet new people, work with new clients including celebrities and all other people. I am grateful to Mfesane and all the people that made this dream possible. The equipment I received today will put me in a position to make my dream a reality”.

The 10 entrepreneurs completed a one year, full-time, entrepreneurial programme comprising training in: Basic Entrepreneurial Skills, Special Tracksuit-making Course, Tax Turnover Training, Job Readiness, Workshop, Beadwork Training, Small Business Venture Workshop, Business Concept Mentorship, Business Counselling, Marketing and Branding and Mobile Literacy.

This job creation grant-funding partnership between West Coast based civil society organisation, Mfesane NPC, and poverty eradication agency, National Development Agency (NDA) has to date produced 30 youth start-up businesses in the Western Province – 10 are based in Khayelitsha. The programme facilitated by Mfesane received a grant of R368 883.69 from the NDA to provide the business training workshops and supply start-up kits for the 10 self-motivated entrepreneurs.

“Mfesane’s vision and mission of ‘empowered communities, sustainable families’ is realised through this partnership with the NDA. I wish all the participants well in establishing their businesses. They can only grow from here as they have already demonstrated their determination and will to succeed through participation in the programme” says Mrs Yolandi Afrika, Chief Executive Officer of Mfesane NPC.

“Unemployment is a key driver of poverty in our country. The NDA has a deliberate strategy that seeks to narrow the unemployment rate, particularly amongst young people and other vulnerable groups within communities. Together with Mfesane, we have moved this group of women from a position of unemployment to being able to start their own businesses and start to enjoy income generation opportunities that come with being self-employed.

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The NDA will continue the journey with them to ensure they become sustainable by linking them to available markets” said Mrs Susan Khumalo, Chief Operations Officer at the NDA.

Local businessman and Chairman of the Khayelitsha Education Forum lauded the programme for bringing dignity and being a catalyst of job creation in the community. “We are launching new employers here today, who have gained valuable skills that will change their lives for the better. Soon Khayelitsha will open a manufacturing factory that will supply the 64 schools in

Khayelitsha with uniforms – a move to bolster the local township economy as well as create jobs. We will partner with Mfesane and NDA to source capable business people to join in this initiative,” said Mr Lulamile Mqikela.

The entrepreneurs are all excited about their business operations, some are already operating stalls where they display and sell their clothing items which include: aprons, amaGeremani, imiBhacho, track suits and sportswear, pyjamas, doeks, shirts, school and church uniforms.

The entrepreneurs will continue to receive ongoing training, mentoring and coaching from Mfesane MFC. **Congratulations to:** *Sinalo Tasana – Twins Fashions; Nobubele Knazi – Okheka Sewing Business, Thembakazi Mhluthwa – Thembie M Production, Bukelwa Manyela – Eagle Wings Clothing, Khanyisa Vonco – Bukwa Creations, Florence Moti – Stitching with Zee, Noluvo Ngcozela – Ngcozi CompanyCo, Nobantu Mabulwana – Siyaphuhla, Nolusindiso Manxiwa – Gia Grazie and Nontombi Ngceni – Sethu’s Sewing & Designs.*



Mrs Yolandi Afrika, CEO of Mfesane



The youngest entrepreneur, Ms SinaloTasana, receives her certificate and business starter kit



Mrs Susan Khumalo, NDA Chief Operations Officer gave the keynote address



Celebration by the graduate entrepreneurs

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