

# UKUWELA IINDABA QUARTERLY IMPACT MARCH 2024

**‘Keep moving ahead because action creates momentum, which in turn creates unanticipated opportunities.’**

**Nick Vujicic**

We love this quote by Nick Vujicic, the celebrated motivational speaker who is also a person with a disability. If we could summarise Ukuwela’s first term of 2024 in one word it would be: ‘momentum’. How important it is to sustain and how it begets further opportunities, very often unanticipated yet greatly appreciated!

One Ukuwela candidate who kept the momentum going is Ikie Lourens. He celebrated his one-year workiversary at Sub-Sahara Solar on the 13th of February 2024. We are very proud of you, Ikie! Annie, Ikie’s mom, also expressed her feelings when she said: ‘I’m very proud of Ikie and I say thank you!’



**YOU EARNED YOUR VASBYT AWARD!  
CONGRATULATIONS IKIE!**

Two Ukuwela candidates who recently started their employment journeys are Patricia Tamboer and Jeraldo London. Patricia started her journey on the 30th of January 2024 at Blitsdruk and she is enjoying every moment! With employment comes a whole lot of boxes which she ticked with the assistance of the Ukuwela team, such as opening a bank account and learning to take the GoGeorge bus by herself. Big thank you to Ukuwela team member, Cornel O’Kennedy, for supporting Patricia at work!

Jeraldo London's employment journey commenced on the 1st of March 2024 when he was appointed at Carpe Diem School as the Gate and Access Control Officer. His position was made possible by Millers Attorneys and the Yes4Youth program. We love this partnership and the way our George community are connecting the dots to support each other and invest in local youth! Jeraldo did a splendid job at his interview competing with other candidates. He has shown tremendous determination and grit, walking from work to his home in Jonkersberg when his transport did not arrive. With the help of the Ukuwela team and a few angels, we were able to support and assist him with accommodation and transport. He is also a young man who quickly had to learn the GoGeorge-ropes and we would like to give our local bus service a double thumbs up for being predictable, reliable, and accessible!



**PATRICIA ALL SMILES ON HER  
FIRST DAY AT WORK AT  
BLITSDRUK**



**JERALDO, PROUD NEW  
EMPLOYEE AT CARPE DIEM  
SCHOOL!**

What a privilege to invest in our learners at Carpe Diem to prepare them for the world of work. This term accredited training provider, NQtac, under the guidance of Johannes Smith facilitated a housekeeping course for our senior Carpe Diem learners from the 4th of March to the 8th of March 2024. The information was super valuable and presented in such a practical way. Shoutout to CareVita who enabled us to use their hotel rooms to give our learners a 'real deal' experience! Sidenote: Ukuwela is also now proud owners of a vacuum cleaner, mop bucket system (the one with the lever) and various other cleaning tools. Having the right equipment enables learners to sharpen their skills!

From housekeeping to washing cars. Our senior learners are really on a roll! These learners attended work exposure opportunities over the course of the term at Game Car Wash in York Street. Thank you to Ukuwela facilitator, Asisipho Ndzoto, for your patient guidance. It is wonderful to see how our learners develop their skills with repeated exposure and practise!



**JOHANNES FROM NQTAC  
EXPLAINING THE INS AND OUTS  
OF DUSTING**



**BERNITO PROVING THAT BOYS  
CAN MAKE BEDS DURING THE  
HOUSEKEEPING TRAINING!**

Back to connecting the dots... Ukuwela had the privilege of attending the Employer Breakfast Session hosted by the Department of Employment and Labour on the 6th of February 2024 at the Protea Hotel by Marriott King George. Ukuwela is super excited about the possibilities that the Garden Route Skills Mecca could hold for our candidates during 2024. Watch this space! Another sidenotes (apologies): we can't help mentioning that the Protea Hotel by Marriott Kind George employs three Ukuwela candidates!!



**...AND JESNIQUE PROVING THAT  
GIRLS CAN WASH CARS**

Another meeting with lots of heart was hosting the therapists from the Sabrina Love Foundation in Plettenberg Bay at Carpe Diem School and specifically, at the Ukuwela office. We had a great session talking about our journey and how we can support each other.

We would like to thank our funders, team members, employers, the staff at Carpe Diem School, and service providers for helping us to keep our momentum going. Indeed, it was our momentum that led to unexpected opportunities which you will learn more about in next term's newsletter!

For now, enjoy the ride with us!

Blessings,

*The Ukuwela Team*



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