

UKUWELA IINDABA QUARTERLY IMPACT MARCH 2025

'It is showtime, folks!'

It was with gusto and flair that Ukuwela opened the curtain on 2025! The very first star of our show was Anthea Human, who started her employment journey at Boshoff Visser Inc (BVI) on the 16th of January 2025. We are super excited to announce (drum roll) that Anthea became the 50th Ukuwela candidate to access employment through the intervention of the program! A big thank you to the BVI team in George for your commitment and support to Ukuwela. Another company committed to the journey is Safari Braai Products where Koketso Phalane started his first job on the 6th of February 2025!



**BIG SMILES FROM ANTHEA (LEFT) AND KOKETSO (RIGHT)
ON THEIR FIRST DAY OF WORK! PROUD OF YOU!**

The positive vibes really got momentum during March when Kate-Lynn Alkaster started her job at Xerox under the watchful eye of her supervisor and mentor, Katy. Chrizzett Botha and Kihara-Lee Ruiters added the necessary touches of fabulousness when they started their jobs at Michelangelo Hair Salon and Dry Bar!



**KATE-LYNN ALL SETTLED IN AT
XEROX**



**CHRIZZETT (LEFT) AND KIHARA (RIGHT)
FEELING POSITIVE AT MICHELANGELO HAIR
SALON AND DRY BAR**

A massive shoutout to the Garden Route District Municipality for providing paid work experiences to Anthea, Kate-Lynn, Chrizzett and Kihara-Lee! We salute your commitment to the employment of persons with disabilities and for including Ukuwela in your journey to address youth unemployment. Indeed, a report by Stats SA indicated that youth with work experience are four times more likely to transition into employment than youth without experience ([Unemployment in South Africa: A Youth Perspective | Statistics South Africa](#)). Giving youth a chance to gain work experience is the first step into paving the way to future employment. We saw this reality unfold when Ukuwela candidate, Jeraldo London, completed his one-year contract as Access Control Officer at Carpe Diem School on the 28th of February 2025.

It was a day of double celebrations! Not only was Jeraldo awarded reaching the one-year employment mark with the renown 'Vasbyt' certificate, he was also congratulated on his new appointment as Class Assistant/General Worker at Carpe Diem School for the coming year!

**JERALDO (RIGHT), YOU'RE A
LEGEND! CONGRATULATIONS!**



Our school leavers are flourishing, but so are our Carpe Diem learners! A group of senior Carpe Diem girls participated in an excellent short course in Basic Massage Techniques presented by seasoned Beauty Therapist, Gretha Taute, from Michelangelo Hair Salon and Dry Bar. The training ended with members of the public who came for massages where our learners had the chance to show their stuff!



**THE GIRLS WITH GRETHA TAUTE,
BEAUTY THERAPIST
EXTRAORDINAIRE!**



**HARD AT WORK PRACTICING THE
ART AND SCIENCE OF MASSAGING**

Preparing our learners for the world of work is what we are all about which is why we are super excited about Barista training for two of our learners, Keagan Prins and Othandwayo Baadjie. Expert trainer, long-time Ukuwela supporter and all-star, Rudy de Bruyn, are training these two learners at Ciro's and they are loving it!

Our relationship with JobAble goes way back and we are so grateful for Marius Erasmus from JobAble and Brian Cupido from McDonald's for enabling job shadowing opportunities for learners with disabilities not only in the Southern Cape but also the Western Cape and Eastern Cape! Congratulations to Mercy-Lee Abecornie who recently started her journey at McDonald's Courtney Street.

The hard work did not stop there! This term our senior boys and girls had the opportunity to participate in work exposure at Game Car Wash where they washed, dried, vacuumed and cleaned cars under the watchful eye of Ukuwela Facilitator, Asisipho Ndzoto. Big thank you to Jacques and his team for always welcoming our learners with open arms!



**IT'S ALL SHINE AND SPARKLE: OUR SENIOR LEARNERS
HARD AT WORK AT GAME CAR WASH!**

What an AMAZING performance and all of it very real! Thank you to our trainers, funders, facilitators, employers and supporters! You are our people, and we enjoy every minute working with you behind the scenes to create platforms where our learners and candidates can perform!

In the words of Looney Tunes:



*"That's all for now, folks!"
The Ukuwela Team*



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