



December 2016

TOWNSRIVIER SEED

NEWSLETTER

1ST EDITION





TOUWSRIVIER SE.ED NEWSLETTER

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TOUWSRIVIER SE.ED PROGRAMMES: HITTING THE GROUND RUNNING! A Re-cap of Socio-Economic Development work done in 2016



Caption: Youth of Touwsrivier attending the Annual SE.ED programmes Career Fair. 24 September 2016

Knowledge Pele has begun the work of fostering a new development path for Touwsrivier, one that is defined by a focus on education and skills and aimed at fostering sustainable local economic growth. Touwsrivier Socio-Economic and Enterprise Development (SE.ED) programmes, funded by the 36 MW Solar Plant (CPV 1) located near the town, were launched on the 5th of December 2016.

The SE.ED programmes consist of 4 main programmes, namely the Experience Works programme, the Bursary Fund, Enterprise 4 South Africa and Enterprise Starter Pack.

The Experience Works Programme

The Experience Works programme is aimed at improving the employability of trainees

while exposing them to various opportunities in their respective career development paths. Overall, the programme aims to develop skills needed to boost the development of Touwsrivier. The programme placed 10 candidates in Johannesburg based companies and provided them with on-the-job development opportunities. The programme provides full funding for living expenses and a monthly stipend.



Candidates selected for the Experience Works Programme upon arrival in Johannesburg.

PROGRAMME SUCCESSES:

The following key successes were achieved in 2016:

- Of the 10 candidates, 2 have gone on to find full time employment in their respective fields
- A total of 3 candidates were offered permanent employment by their host companies as a result of their outstanding performance throughout the year.
- In 2017, 2 candidates will return to a TVET college to continue their studies in Electrical engineering one candidate will begin her University studies in BComm Law.



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ENTERPRISE 4 SOUTH AFRICA

THE BURSARY FUND



The Electrical Engineering students at West Coast College.

The Bursary Fund programme is aimed at supporting the development of technical skills to feed into the skills base required to spur local economic development in Touwsrivier. Candidates were funded to attend Electrical engineering courses at West Coast TVET College. A total of 8 candidates were supported to pursue their studies in electrical engineering and related fields. This funding provided full cover for tuition and accommodation and provided a monthly stipend. A further 8 Touwsriver students were partially funded, receiving only a monthly stipend, to complete their studies in Business Administration.

PROGRAMME SUCCESSES:

The following key successes were achieved in 2016:

- All students showed significant improvements in results over the course of the year.
- All students achieved a 90% or higher average attendance for lectures.
- A total of 11 partially and fully funded bursary recipients have qualified for further support and will continue their studies in 2017.



Grab & Go and Buzzy Beez showcasing their products at the SE.ED Career Fair.

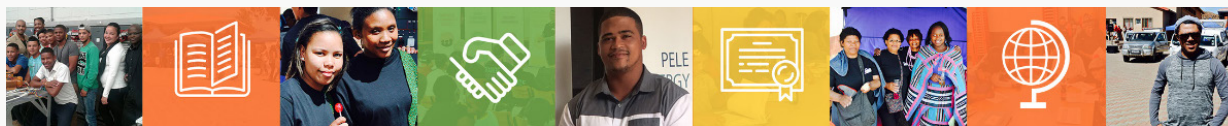
The Enterprise 4 South Africa programme is aimed at supporting existing businesses in Touwsriver to achieve sustainability. The programme supported 7 local businesses by pairing them with consultants and providing seed funding.



PROGRAMME SUCCESSES:

All supported businesses exhibited their products and services at the SE.ED Career Fair on the 24th of September 2016! The businesses involvement in the Career Fair was as follows:

- Buzzy Beez supplied goodie bags that were distributed to all participants of the career fair. The company also showcased their clothing items and sold a few of their items on the day.
- JC Sounds provided Dj services for the event day;
- JM Petro Catering catered for the entire event, providing a healthy meal pack to all who attended the launch
- As the Career Expo was held on national Heritage Day, Tomorrow's Music students performed the national anthem at the opening of the Career Expo;
- Grab & Go provided baked goods/ snacks for all participants of the programme.



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SE.ED 2016 CAREER EXPO



SE.ED Career Expo participants.

Knowledge Pele hosted a Career Expo on the 24th of September 2016 in Touwsrivier. The main aim of the fair was to provide a platform for community members to access information about and apply for the SE.ED programmes. The career fair included the following elements:

- Motivational talk by Oscar Petersen, a comedian who was raised in Touwsrivier and is well known in the community.
- Self- starter master classes that focused on providing career guidance, CV writing and interview preparation for participants of the career fair.
- Stalls/opportunities for all E4SA businesses to showcase their products/ services and work done throughout the year to improve their businesses sustainability
- Stalls for small businesses from Cape Town, Worcester and Johannesburg to showcase their businesses and tell the story of how they went about starting their businesses and various opportunities available in their sector.
- Participation of current SE.ED programme beneficiaries in the day as part of their community outreach programme. SE.ED beneficiaries assisted with planning of the career fair, accepting applications and providing insights to community members who were interested in applying for the programmes.

CAREER EXPO ESSAY WRITING COMPETITION



Ashley Leendertz, a Grade 11 pupil at De Kruine High School receiving his laptop for his winning essay submission!

In the run up to the Career Expo, Knowledge Pele ran an essay writing competition at De Kruine High School. Competition entrants were asked to submit a 500 word essay where they discuss how they saw Touwsrivier in 20 years and the innovative intervention they would implement to grow Touwsrivier and provide opportunities for youth to succeed. The competition was open to Grade 10 – 12 pupils and the winner of the competition would receive a laptop!

The winner of the competition, Ashley Leendertz, envisioned a multi-purpose centre where the community of Touwsrivier can participate in extra mural activities and access various skills development training.



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SE.ED CHANGE AGENTS



SE.ED Change Agents undertaking their community outreach programme at the Career Expo.

As part of the move to provide greater access to the SE.ED programmes for Touwsrivier, Knowledge Pele has identified SE.ED Change agents! Change Agents are participants of SE.ED programmes who have shown great potential and interest in driving change in their community. They are committed to supporting Touwsriver transform into a thriving community with opportunities for all. They lead by example, contribute to the community's development and inspire the next generation of young leaders to make a lasting impact!

The Change Agents main role is to provide guidance to the community on how they can get involved in the SE.ED programmes and what the benefits are for them. They also will continue to lead by example by participating in various community outreach programmes!

To get in touch with change agents, visit our website, www.touwsrivierseed.co.za or our facebook page: Touwsrivier SE.ED.

TAKING PART IN THE SE.ED PROGRAMMES

The Touwsrivier SE.ED programmes are an opportunity for all members of the community to invest in their personal growth and development while contributing to the local economic development of the community. To get involved, apply for programmes or learn more about the programmes, get in contact with us via our platforms.

www.touwsrivierseed.co.za
touwsrivierseed@knowledgepele.com
 Facebook: Touwsrivier SE.ED

Together, we can ensure that the community of Touwsrivier will be self-sufficient and thriving well after the power plant is decommissioned in 2035 by continuing to invest in people and local economic development!

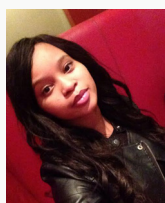


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REFLECTIONS FROM THE COMMUNITY LIAISON OFFICER TRAINEE

CAREN MEIRING



I am currently a community liaison trainee intern at Knowledge Pele. Knowledge Pele is a research and advisory firms that designs and implements programmes for energy communities.

I am from a small energy community called Touwsrivier. The community has a population of about 8000 people. Touwsrivier has a low employment rate and with the SE.ED programmes(Work experience programmes, Bursary programmes and Enterprise Development programmes) Knowledge Pele has implemented, I got to understand first-hand just how important their services are to my community.

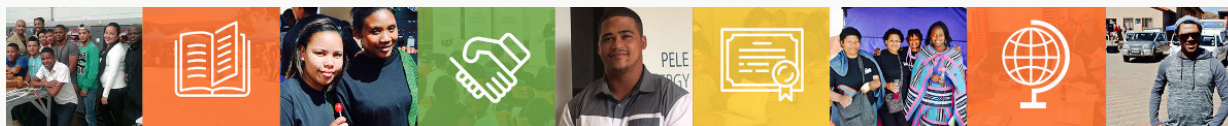
Although I have no work or tertiary education history, working as an intern for a research and development firm has taught me various things. These include a clearer insight into how communities work and it has also given me the opportunity to strengthen my skills and to learn more about myself and what drives or motivates me.

Over the past few months, I've learned how to write proper proposals and concept notes. I've also had the opportunity to help coordinate events and launches of our programmes and I even got to directly interact with clients in our meetings.

Working at a small company, that is experiencing the kind of growth that Knowledge Pele have, has definitely been a bit of a wakeup call. I've been exposed to working with a lot of experienced people, like Public Relations officers and enterprise specialists.

Finally, the most important thing I've learned at Knowledge Pele is how important it is to enjoy coming to work. I've had part-time jobs, but this was the first job where I felt like I was a part of a team and not an undertrained/underqualified intern. I'd also like to thank KP for giving me the opportunity to grow and develop as both a community liaison trainee and as a person. From my manager who who trained me and works with me every day to help me perform better, to the senior team who spent time teaching me about the renewable energy sector, and made me feel welcome and valued, you're the best, and I look forward to being in touch for many years to come.

Overall I have found being an intern to be a positive experience and one that I would definitely recommend to others.



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WORK EXPERIENCE PROGRAMME

MY EXPERIENCE AS A JOHANNESBURG RESIDENT AND INTERN.

ALLEN MELITE



My name is Allen and I'm currently on the SE.ED Work Experience Programme. I live in the beautiful and vibrant Braamfontein and it's a brilliant location!

I'm an intern at Revive Electrical Transformers in Klipriver. Adapting to a whole new working environment was not easy. The people at Revive made me feel welcome. My manager also motivates me a lot and always makes me see that the sky is the limit.

Honestly, I once thought that being a Human Resource Administrator was my dream. But I've found a real passion for doing Admin. By realising that my heart is not within HR, I've decided to study Management Assistant next year.

By working and living in Johannesburg, I have come to realise that there is so much happening and so much more to life than what we see. I've realised that I see myself living here in the near future.

This year I've really grown and I've done things that I'm not used to, like attending festivals and just exploring a city with the beautiful lights.

MY EXPERIENCE AS AN INTERN.

SHERYL-LEE ARRIES



My name is Sheryl-lee Arries I am 19 years old and I recently matriculated in 2015. I applied for the Work Experience Bursary Programme in 2015 and I'm currently an Intern at Benguela Global Fund Managers, an asset management company.

My job here was basically to compile news articles of the renewable energy sector as a contribution to our daily morning meetings, learning the fundamentals of the business and the process of analysing and valuating a company.

Moving to Johannesburg was a great experience. Living alone, making new friends and adapting to the new surroundings was a challenge on its own. Coming from a small town with no tertiary education and jumping straight into the work force was not easy, but luckily I wasn't alone. I had a great support structure at work and as well from the group of Touwsrivier.

This experience truly opened my eyes to so many things. It pushed me to my limits and made me bring out the kind of potential I never thought I had in me! It made me realise that there is so much more to this world and it enabled me to dream bigger.

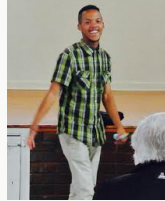
Knowledge Pele exposed us to so many opportunities to move forward in to becoming successful people. With this programme we all gained the kind of experience others are struggling to get. This programme gave me the assurance of a bursary at the end of this year. And with that I aspire to complete my studies and to once more rise above my circumstances.



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OUR COMMUNITY NEEDS FIXING

ASHLEY LEENDERTZ



Have you ever wondered how it would feel like to have a drug-free community, a community where every learner puts their time and effort into their schoolwork and a community that creates jobs?

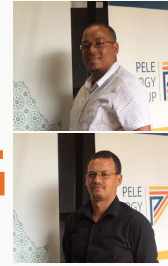
Apartheid made it very harsh for us as people with colour. We've been corrupted from our education. These days it's different. All we want to do is complete school, study, work and be satisfied. As a whole we can change the mindset of our community. We should not tell our children that school is boring, instead we should motivate and push them. We should let them know that the sky is the limit and they can be anything if they set their mind to it. Parents should motivate them by telling them that school was the best part of their life.

A true fact in our community is that a lot of children have talent. In fact, God gave everyone special talents and that should make them know that they have enough potential. The main issue is thus that we don't have the equipment to let the children explore their talents. We need projects for the youth and not only for the youth, but the community also. We need a multi-purpose centre. A centre where children can act, play sports, write, sing and most importantly receive discipline. We also need labs, media classes, libraries and bible studies, where children can grow in their religion.

I know my idea for my community would be a success, because Knowledge Pele will help me achieve my dream for my community!

ONS ERVARING IN JOHANNESBURG

CHARLTON SMITH EN
SHANE SOLOMONS



Ons name is Charlton Smith en Shane Solomons. Ons is tans deel van die Werks Ondervinding Program wat geontwerp en geïmplementeer is deur Knowledge Pele. Ons is aangestel by 'n maatskappy met die naam, LH Marthinusen wat gebaseer is in Denver, Johannesburg. Ons tuiste is in Braamfontein, Johannesburg.

Die maatskappy waar ons werk spesialiseer ondermeer in transformators en motors. Ons ontvang tans opleiding as junior tegniese. Die opleiding behels ondermeer hoe om transformators te diens. Omdat ons met transformators werk beteken dit dat ons meer meganiese werk doen as elektrisiteit. Ons werk ook op substasies, myne en munisipale kragstasies. Ons werk baie in die veld. Dit laat ons toe om regoor die land te reis na verskillende plekke soos Port Elizabeth, Qwa Qwa en vele meer. Ons is tans in Port Elizabeth. Dit reën daagliks en dit veroorsaak dat ons nie elke dag kan werk nie.

Die werk wat ons doen vereis baie fisiese arbeid. Dis wel moeilik, maar laat ons toe om plekke te sien wat ons nog nooit gesien het nie. Sommige dae werk ons van son opkoms tot son ondergang en daar is dae waar jy nie eens 'n moersleutel (spanner) wil gewaar nie.

Naweke bevind ons onself weer terug in Johannesburg. Die stad wat nooit slaap nie. Dit het vir ons 'n rukkie geneem om gewoond te raak aan al die ligte en mooi groot geboue wat dit moeilik maak om net op een ding te fokus. Hoe dit ook al sy, ons tyd hier in

Johannesburg, en by LH Marthinusen, was een van die ongelooflikste ervarings in ons lewe, een wat ons nooit sal vergeet en altyd sal onthou.



DIE IMPAK VAN STUDIELENINGS EN BEURSE, ASOOK WAT DIT BEHEL.

MARLON JOHNSON

Finansiële ondersteuning van tersiere opleidings is gewoonlik 'n nagmerrie vir ouers en kinders wanneer dit kom by die beplanning van studies. Jaarliks sit ouers en matrikulante met hulle hande in hulle hare. Om studies aan 'n tersiere instelling te voltooi is duur. Gelukkig is daar instansies wat deur middel van studielenings en beurse bereid is om ouers te help.

Baie sake-ondernemings en organisasies bied beurse in sekere studierigtings aan, met die voorwaarde dat die student elke jaar 'n sekere akademiese prestasie moet behaal. Ander opsies sluit in studielenings.

Terugbetaling begin gewoonlik eers wanneer jy jou studies afgehandel het, wat beteken dat jy self die geld sal kan terugbetaal nadat jy gekwalifiseer en hopelik 'n werk van jou eie kon vind. As jy 'n goeie student is, is die kans groot dat jy vir jou harde werk beloon sal word deur vir 'n beurs by 'n opleidingsentrum of akademiese instelling te kwalifiseer.

Matrikulante kan ook borge kry in die vorm van beurse. Beurse kan ook ter bied wees op die grond van sport persentasie, wat beteken as leerder goed is in die sport kan hulle beurse ontvang om verder te studeer.

Leerders kan ook aansoek doen om beurse by Nasionale Finansiële Hulpskema vir Studente (NSFAS). Dis 'n lening-en-beursskema wat deur die Departement van Hoër Onderwys en Opleiding befonds word vir studente wat nie geld het om vir hul studies te betaal nie en/of wat nie toegang tot banklenings, studielenings of -beurse kan bekom nie. NSFAS dek alle onkoste insluitend verblyf, boeke en sakgeld.

Dis belangrik dat ouers belangstelling toon. Ouers moet ook hul kinders aanmoedig om te studeer en wys dat daar niks in hulle pad staan nie.