

A report on career exhibition by Ikusasa lethu Education Project

On Friday the 28th of June 2014, the organization (IEP) in collaboration with, residents of House Protea (University of Pretoria), through the support of Tag Solvent, the Acting Director of TuksRes, Wannabee and other stakeholders, made this career fair a great success. This was a community engagement project aimed at supporting the underprivileged learners of rural schools in KZN. In his capacity as Educational Psychologist with particular interest in Career guidance and development, Dr Maximus Sefotho was invited by a Non-Profit organization (NPO) Ikusasa lethu Education Project based in Mseleni KwaZulu Natal to support the organization's planned career fair. The NPO realized the desperate need for career guidance in that area which is very rural, characterized by a need for education as a key pillar of the Millennium Development initiative. Education has proved severely limited in this area. When Dr Sefotho received an invitation to participate in the career fair, he extended the invitation to the House, and the invitation was accepted. This is in line with the Organizational Culture of House Protea. In aligning with the University of Pretoria's strategies and vision, House Protea is determined to have a tangible socioeconomic impact in South African communities.

Wannabee Stores supported the project with a donation of items to the monetary value of R2000.00. The House Management Committee used its budget to provide for food and payment for the social events planned. The acting Director of the Department of Residence Affairs and Accommodation Mr Kgomotso Legari supported the excursion by paying for transport and accommodation of the residents, who had also contributed R250.00 each towards the excursion.

The career exhibition was an immense success. Over 400 learners attended the career fair and interacted with the University students and other delegates. Dr Sefotho used one of the well-developed Education Psychology tools, a tool used to assess and guide learners for career paths, to assist the learners during the career fair to discern their strengths, opportunities and possibilities in shaping and developing a career path. All the University of Pretoria students gave testimonies and encouraged the high school learners to strive for excellence and push towards attaining a university degree. Different disciplines (Arts; Humanities; Engineering; Health Sciences, Applied Sciences and social sciences) were represented.

Tag Solvent, (private chemical company) through the aid of Gareth Taylor donated R5000.00, which was used by the NPO to provide necessary logistics in order for the organization to be able to fulfill its mandate.

