

PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL PROFILE

Sicelo Kunene (Nkabinde)

Academic Development:

- Completed Matric at Inanda Seminary
- Trained and qualified as a Registered Nurse at Edendale Hospital
- Trained and qualified as a Midwife at Charles Johnson Memorial Hospital
- Further studies through UNISA majoring in Community Health Nursing Science and Nursing Education.

Further Studies in other fields

- Small Business Management and Retail Management through INTEC College
- Development Administration through UNISA
- Local Economic Development through Department of Economic Development sponsored LED Programme in KwaZuluNatal
- Business Retention and Expansion Programme through BRE Institute, a USA (Florida) based Institute in partnership with South Africa. A programme that targets big and small businesses in the promotion of Sustainable Local Economic Development.
- Internet Marketing with UCT online school
- Project Administration with UCT online school
- Organic Farming through Mthombongashi Agricultural School in KZN
- International Organic Leadership Course through a German based International Organics (IFOAM) Academy

Community-based capacity development

- She participated in the first group of trainees sponsored by the Martin Luther Programme at The King Centre in Atlanta Georgia which had partnered with KLTC to prepare South Africans for the first Democratic Free and Fair Elections, with emphasis on Conflict Resolution Strategies
- Trained in Youth Health Care with focus on Adolescent Sexuality and Parenting Skills
- Short Courses in Women and Gender Empowerment programmes

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

Worked as a Registered Nurse from 1978

- Ladysmith Hospital
- National Health and Population Development, while working at the National Health and Population Development she participated in a pilot programme that targeted Youth Health Care and Parenting, short courses were also undertaken mainly in the field of adolescent psychology for knowledge empowerment
- Qwaqwa Department of Health

Worked as a Community Development Facilitator in 1993-1995

- South African Council of Churches (SACC) servicing the Eastern Free State Communities
- Independent Development Trust (IDT) servicing the then Northern KZN and Eastern Free State regions

CONSULTANCY AND FACILITATION EXPERIENCE

As it happens with most people, she realised that this was not what she was born to do on planet earth , as a result, from 1983 she was engaged in starting family businesses.

Started own Consultancy in 1995 and has held different consultancy positions:

1. Through SNNS Services the following services were offered:
 - Consultancy in Business Development Services
 - Provider of Professional Training and Facilitation Services
 - Consultancy and Facilitation in Local Economic Development
2. Contracted by Bergville Business Advice Centre in 1998-1999 to develop a Business Advice Centre and also achieve its accreditation status with relevant institutions which was achieved within the first six months of the service
3. Engaged in developing materials and delivery of short-term capacity building projects for the Department of Education sponsored projects for the out-of-school youths in the Ladysmith region in 2003
4. Contracted by the University of KZN (Department of Nursing) to deliver capacity building and mentorship to rural women identified to be beneficiaries of the programme which the University of KZN and McMaster University of Canada were to brand as RUWEP (Rural Women Empowerment Programme).
5. Delivery of a New Venture Creation Learnership project, which was a pilot project co-sponsored by the Department of Labour and the Danish Govt. The project ran over eighteen months and made way for the ongoing New Venture Creation Learnerships in the country
6. Co-facilitated delivery of business development programme for the then Lever-Ponds (Unilever) Social Plan Programme implementation in 2003-2004, which aimed to empower employees identified for retrenchment. The training programme prepared these employees for starting business entities that would initially provide services for the Unilever as well as participate in the broader business and trade arena
7. Provided capacity building in project management and communication to project technical teams and community development facilitators contracted by Durban Metro Water to erect the new sanitation project as well as make these facilitators capable to provide after-care services for the community e-Ngonyameni
8. Participated in developing learning materials and delivering a learning programme for the DWAF (Department of Water Affairs and Forestry) staff engaged in Participatory Forest Management.
9. Provided consulting assistance with youth-related LED projects in nine District Municipalities in KwaZulu-Natal as contracted by the then Umsobomvu Youth Fund in 2004-2006 to research areas of competitive advantage in Agriculture & Land-use, Manufacturing, Tourism and Agri-processing
10. Contracted by eThekweni Municipality in the Durban Investment Programme as a Business Retention and Expansion Programme Assistant Coordinator in 2008 which entailed co-facilitating Investment Attraction Strategy Development and Business Retention and Expansion Programme to eThekweni

11. Contracted by Harmony Gold mines to train Harmony Gold staff – mainly hospital and clinic-based medical personnel – in entering information into the IBIS Technology Pivot **System**. This was to facilitate a process of compliance in the mining industry which was under intense pressure from government to comply with key legislation at the time. The training was conducted in four provinces at the mines' medical centres.
12. Contracted by Local municipality to Develop, Implement and Facilitate Organic Farming Programme in KZN to produce for both SA and European market (Netherlands)
13. Contracted as a Facilitator of Operation Sukuma Sakhe Community Care Givers Integrated Foundation Course. The programme provided training to the first group of CCG's (Community Care Givers) in the province of KZN.
14. Currently she is a retired professional turned organic farmer consultant. She is managing a Model farm in the south coast of KwaZulu-Natal where interested would be organic farmers are trained and guided. Her current duties are:
 - Providing Quality Management Systems for small and medium sized businesses
 - Developing and translating learner materials from English to isiZulu
 - Facilitating and coordinating training and mentorship programmes in isiZulu
 - Creating and Compiling newspaper articles for the National Zulu Newspaper (Ilanga News)
 - Giving fortnightly live radio talks in a local radio station Inanda 88.4 FM Radio Station

Having participated in some development work in other countries such as Canada, Rwanda, Kenya, Tanzania, Botswana, Lesotho, Zimbabwe and Zambia and also engaging in social excursions in New Zealand has enabled her to develop and implement empowerment programmes for women at home country. Further Studies in other fields have enabled her to participate in the fields that she has conducted business in to date.

She is now a retired professional turned organic farmer. In this space she promotes gender empowerment programmes for youth and their grandparents, while also giving orientation on long term investments to middle-aged women.

COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT HISTORY

- Founder of Siphumele Child & Family Welfare Society (Ladysmith- 1986)
- Director - Management Board - Thusanang Advice Centre (Rape Crisis Centre- Free State)
- Member of the Board of Trustees - Ntsoanatsatsi Educare Training (Free State)
- Director – Board of Directors - Kagiso Media – (Free State)
- Director - Akhona Trade & Investments - Free State
- Director – Board of Directors – HYDROWSA, a BEE component of the first private hydro-electric station project in the country. The project currently supplies electricity to a local municipality in the Free State.