



Midlands  
Community  
College

# A story of our success



We are very proud of our 2015 students! The marketing department spent a day with some of our 2015 students who are now studying at UKZN in order to find out how they are progressing in their respective fields of study. 2015 was without a doubt a good year for the College and we have many fond memories of the time the group spent with us.

Pictured here are Nkululeko Mnyandu, Gugulethu Mhlanga, Linda Ndlovu, Yolisa Basi and Sindisile Mtolo who are all currently enrolled at UKZN, Pietermaritzburg Campus.

Nkululeko was the SRC president in 2015 and he is now doing his BSc Chemistry and Chem Tech and appeared to be quite relaxed. Nkululeko says

I don't see how I cannot cope at tertiary having been taught discipline, responsibility and given a good foundation in Maths and Science. I am actually cruising here, but I miss MCC. I don't think there will ever be a place like MCC, a home away from home.

Gugulethu says she is so grateful that she spent a year at MCC where she learnt to share. "When I am in business one day, I know I will deal with a lot of different people and I will have to treat them all appropriately. I already know how to do that. I stayed with different people, sharing a dormitory with many different kinds of people; sharing meals together for a whole year. I take that with me as I was never really good with people until last year when I was at MCC." Gugulethu is doing her first year in B.Com General.

Linda Ndlovu was amongst our top students and obtained a bursary from Shell SA Refining. He is currently enrolled for a BSc degree, majoring in Chemistry and Chem Tech. Linda misses the college because he says he gained a lot of respect while he was at MCC. He said,

every time my fellow students came to me for help, I imagined myself as a teacher and would gain even more confidence. I enjoyed the pressure as we all had to do well so now I am using the same technique here and it is definitely working

We were very fortunate to have spent some time with these former MCC students and are excited to see them progressing in their studies. Minenhle is studying Civil Engineering and also received a full bursary from Shell SA Refining. Yolisa is studying BSc Chemistry and Chem Tech and Sindisile Mtolo is registered for a B. Social Science degree.

## Success for our Working Alumni - Simphiwe Mbanjwa



Simphiwe attended Midlands Community College in 2002. He comes from a very poor family and attended a high school where he never received much motivation. As a consequence, Simphiwe never really had any concrete plans for his future. Simphiwe had the following to say about his experience of attending MCC:

"I heard about MCC from a friend. I previously thought that just passing matric was enough. I never thought there could be anything better for me in life. I grew up in a very poor family and the school that I went to, even though I got F's for both Maths and Science, I was still amongst the few who passed matric that year.

I am really grateful that an opportunity to attend MCC was presented to me. I

slept after eating decent meals; I was able to have a shower and given shelter and also received good education for a very small financial contribution from my family. I was accepted at MCC with F's in Maths and Science but when I left the college I had obtained B's in both subjects. The environment and the systems that are in place changed my whole thinking. Coming from a school where education was just not a priority to a school where there is compulsory study time, my whole thinking changed. I started having dreams of my own. I had a firm idea of what kind of life I wanted to live and for the first time, I believed that it was possible for me to have a degree and a good job one day. I now have that degree in Geography and Environmental Studies and am currently studying towards a Honours Degree in Public Administration.

When I look back now, I know that everything I am, I owe to MCC. We lived in a RDP house and really struggled financially at home, but after being employed, I managed to build my parents a decent house and buy a house of my own. I am now married with children and moreover I am employed as a Manager in the Msunduzi Municipality's Human Settlements Division.

It is funny how life can just change around, and knowing it is through someone who gave selflessly, really humbles me. I am so grateful for everything that MCC did for us in 2002 and the work they continue to do. I have no doubt that the world is a better place because of MCC."

# Our Brand Essence



Meet Londiwe Nkabinde who is a Family Community Motivator in the College's Early Childhood Development Programme. She works in Bruntville, assisting children aged 0-4 so that they can have access to early learning opportunities.

This is what she had to say:

"It has been an absolute blessing for me to be part of the Midlands Community College team. After my child was diagnosed with autism, I was faced with many challenges and decided to study ECD with the aim of coping with my own child. After attending all the short courses, I realised I could help many others with similar problems. This is after I noticed tremendous

*"Dedicated to improving lives, by unlocking each individual's true potential"*  
- Midlands Community College

changes in the development of my son with the help of the right toys. He is now a much happier child and coping with his condition and I am also a better parent and able to deal with him better.

I have a group of children who I meet with every day who are grouped according to their ages. We then meet in one of the homes in the community where I teach them through play. It is rewarding to see them grow and having an opportunity that they would not otherwise have had. Pre-schools and crechés are expensive, but MCC has given us a chance to bring the services free of charge so that more children have a good start in life.

**I now have my own vision for the future and I know exactly what I want to do. I want to study further and become a specialist in inclusive education and teach children with special needs. I want to move people away from the stereotypes and negative beliefs they have about children with special needs."**

FAST FACTS  
ABOUT  
MCC

- Midlands Community College is celebrating its 35th Anniversary this year, having been established by Mrs. Pauline Greene in 1981.

- Midlands Community College's work benefits over 8000 individuals through education for beneficiaries from as young as 0 years old.

- 66% of Midlands Community College's income comes from Corporate Social Investment and Private Social Investment.

## A Family In Bruntville



Nomusa Sithole is the mother of Yoliswa (3) and a grandmother to Kwanele (4) who both participate in our non-centre based ECD Programme. A Family Community Motivator (FCM), Sthembile works with the children.

the children on a regular basis; assisted them to apply for social grants, including a health grant and helped them to learn how to take care of the children better. Nomusa is very excited that her children have a good start in life and believes that, when they start primary school, they will be as well prepared as the other children whose parents can afford pre-school fees as well as transport to school. Nomusa told us that her children are now more disciplined as they have learnt how to greet others and say "thank you"; play with other children without fighting with them and have acquired important knowledge such as their names, family names, colours, etc. She sees their development every day and is grateful for the opportunity the children have for proper early learning and development.

Nomusa has been taking part in the programme since Kwanele was one-year old. At that time Nomusa was very ill and struggled to care for the children but she had one less thing to worry about as MCC helped with appropriate stimulation and giving them access to learning from a very young age. Sthembile visited the family and played with

Upcoming  
Events:

- Applications for the 2017 intake of the Grade 12 Maths Science and Technology Upgrade programme will open at the beginning of January 2017.

Annual Golf Day on Friday, 12 May 2017 at the Bosch Hoek Golf Club in Balgowan.

**"BELIEVE IN YOURSELF AND SERVE YOUR COUNTRY WITH HONESTY AND INTEGRITY."**

Mrs Pauline Greene (Founder of MCC)



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