

SEIZE THE DAY AND DISCOVER NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR



It is astounding to comprehend that 2021 marks the 45th year since the Soweto Uprising when scores of young people lost their lives while taking a stand against the oppressive regime of the time and fighting for their rights to quality and equal education.

Youth Month, is of particular significance for us as a Health and Welfare Sector Education and Training Authority, whose mandate is to create an integrated approach for the development and provision of appropriately skilled, health and social development workers, with a specific focus on young people as a key area.

It is a time for us to lend our voices to the nationwide dialogue around various issues that affect young people in our country. Specifically where education, training and skills development is concerned. Youth Month is a significant time for businesses, educators, government and other stakeholders to reflect on and consider our efforts to upskill young people for the workplace.

The youth unemployment statistics in our country are staggering, and more worrying is that it is on the increase. So it is incumbent on us to play an active role in guiding young South Africans to have access to all the necessary resources that will help them to comprehend the vast opportunities that exist for them to become productive citizens in our nation.

From our perspective as a the HWSETA, the pandemic landscape has also afforded us the chance to reflect on how we can better deliver on our mandate in response to this new world that we are all facing today. As the pandemic wreaked havoc on our economy, it's unimaginable the impact it has had on the socio-economic wellbeing of all people, but especially young people in our nation.



In 2021, it has been our privilege to help more young people to find opportunities for self-improvement, skills development and training within the Health, Social Development and Veterinary sectors. To this end, in the first quarter of 2021, we were able to offer two young people the chance to win a fully-funded undergraduate bursary to further their studies. What is great about this bursary opportunity is that it is renewable on an annual basis, for a diligent student who passes their respective courses within that year. Furthermore, we have given another two young people fully funded learnerships to get training and skills development in the field of Phlebotomy. This is just the tip of the iceberg for us as the HWSETA.

I am proud to announce, that for Youth Month 2021, we will be giving away 14 learnerships to deserving young people who are ready to take the essential first steps to change their lives.

By acquiring the skills necessary for carving a successful career path in our related sectors. To find the right candidates, we will be running competitions through our social media networks that are open to any individuals who are interested in the learnerships on offer.

The Health, Social Development and Veterinary fields are noble professions that require a certain type of individual whose core motivation in life is to help others. They may not always be glamorous industries, but they can be very fulfilling and rewarding for those individuals who are called to serve. I want to encourage all young people who have a passion for helping others and who would relish the chance to build a career in our related sectors to seize this opportunity. Our learnership competition, will be primarily driven through social media, so please keep a close eye on all our social media platforms for the official launch of our Youth Month Learnership competition.