



INYANDA national land movement community news

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IMpuma Koloni ivuthiwe inamathuba okufuya iinyosi, utsho uMlimi uBaart

UMncedi Baart ngumfama weenyosi nemifuno ohlala eSeymour, eFort Beaufort eMpuma Koloni. Uqale ukulima ngo-2012 emva kokusokola ukufumana umsebenzi kulandela ukwenzakala okwamshiya engakwazi ukuhamba. Okuvuyisayo kukuba, wakhulela kwintsapho eyayikuthanda ukulima. Yaba zezi zakhono zokulima ekwakufuneka athembele kuzo xa wayengakwazi ukufumana umsebenzi. Ngaphandle kwemifuno kunye neenyosi, uBaart ukwanazo iinkukhu kunye neebhokhwe kwifama yakhe.

Nangona enze isicelo soncedo lukarhulumente ngokufama kwakhe, uBaart akafumani nkxaso yemali okanye naluphi na olunye uhlobo lwenkxaso kumasebe afake isicelo kuwo ukuze amncede. Endaweni yoko, uBaart usebenzisa imali yakhe yegranti yakwaSASSA uku-thenga iimveliso eziyimfuneko azidingayo njengezithole, izichumisi kunye nokuqesha abasebenzi ukuze agcine ishishini lakhe lasefama liqhubeka.

UBaart uzimisele ngakumbi ngokufuya iinyosi zakhe. "Ndingathan-da ukubona amanye amafama esandisa amashishini awo ekufuyeni iinyosi. Akunzima ukuyigcina, nabani na onokuyenza. Abantu banembono yokuba ukufuya iinyosi kokwamadoda kuphela kwaye mna ngokwam andivumelani noko.



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Abasetyhini kunye nolutsha nabo bangayenza,” utshilo uBaart.

Uhambo lukaBaart lokufuya iinyosi lwaqala ngo-2020, xa wayechongelwe ikhosi yoqeqesho lokufuya iinyosi. Umasipala wakhe wakhetha amafama alishumi kwilali yakhe ukuba agqibezele uqeqesho eFort Beaufort. Lwakuba lugqityiwe uqeqesho, umlimi ngamnye wafumana iibhokisi ezimbini zeenyosi azakuqala ngazo ukufuya iinyosi. Kumafama alishumi angenele isifundo, uBaart nguye yedwa umfama osafuya iinyosi. UBaart ude wakwazi ukunyusa iibhokisi zakhe ukuya kutsho kwiibhokisi ezilishumi elinesixhenxe. Ngelishwa, ezimbini kwezi bhokisi zeenyosi ziye zabiwa kwaye ngoku usele neebhokisi ezilishumi elinesihlanu kuphela. “Iphupha lam kukufumana iibhokisi ezingaphezulu ezilishumi ukuze ndenze iibhokisi zeenyosi ezingamashumi amabini anesihlanu ukugcina ikhonkco lokubonelela kunye nemfuno yeshishini lobu-

si” utshilo uBaart.

“Kuthatha malunga neenyanga ezintathu ukuya kwezine ukuvuna iinyosi. Nangona kunjalo, kufuneka ukwazi ukunyamekela iinyosi ngokutyala iintyatyambo ezijikelezayo kunye nokubonelela ngamanzi anggekho kude kwiibhokisi zeenyosi. Qinisekisa ukuba akukho zintshukumo zijikeleze iibhokisi zeenyosi njengezilwanyana emini ukunqanda ukuba iinyosi zizulazule” ucacise watsho uBaart. Wongeze ngelithi kubaluleke kakhulu ukunxiba iimpahla ezikhuselayo xa ujongi iinyosi ukunqanda ukuba iinyosi zikulume.

UBaart kufuneka ahambe esuka kwilali yakhe, eSeymour ukuya kwidolophu yasePeddie ukuze alungise ubusi abuvunayo kuba engenazo izixhobo zokulungisa ubusi bakhe. UBaart ukwafuneka aqeshe iveni ukuthutha iibhokisi zobusi. Kodwa ngaphandle kwemiceli mngeni kunye neendleko, akatyhafi

kwaye uhlala enomdla wokukhulisa ishishini lakhe lokufuya iinyosi.

UBaart udibene nomfama wase-Zambia owabonakalisa umdla wokuthenga ubusi kuye, kodwa ebengekakulungeli ukubonelela ngesi sikali. UBaart uthi: “Andinakukwazi ukuzithengela yonk’ into. Ngoku ucinga ngokucela amanye amafama ukuba amdibanise nokufuya iinyosi, “ukuba sibandinzi kweli shishini singathumela ngaphandle iilitha ezaneleyo ngenyanga ngaphandle kokusilela.”

UBaart ukwakuthanda kakhulu ukuqeqesha abanye ngokufuya iinyosi, ingakumbi kumanina nolutsha. “EMPuma Koloni maninzi amathuba amafama iinyosi. Ndizimisele ngakumbi ukubaqeqesha ngolwazi nezakhono endizifumene ngokufuya iinyosi. Uqeqesho luzakuthatha iintsuku ezintathu kuphela ukugqiba.” Uthi ukuqala ukufuya iinyosi akunzima kakhulu, “Into oyifunayo kukufumana ubuncinane iibhokisi ezilishumi zeenyosi ukugcina ikhonkco lokubonelela. Akukho mfuneko yokuba ndifumane umntu ophakathi kwishishini lam lokufama iinyosi kuba bathatha phantse i-90% yenzuzo.”

Ekuqaleni kwalo nyaka, u-Baart uzibandakanye nenkqubo yamafama amancinane ukuphuhlisa ulwazi lwakhe lwamashishini amancinci kunye nezakhono. Rhoqo ngooLwezine, uphuma kowabo ngo-06h30 ukuya kufumana isithuthi esiza kumsa eFort Cox eMiddledrift apho enza khona izifundo zamashishini amancinci. Kodwa ngaphambi kokuba emke kwikhaya lakhe, kufuneka avuke kwangethuba ukuze aqale ahlole iinkuku zakhe zenyama neebhokhwe. UBaart ufunda nzima kwaye usebenza ezi yure zinde kakhulu, ngeenzame zokuqinisekisa ukuba ishishini lakhe lokufama liya kuba yimpumelelo.

UBaart ngoku ucela umntu ukuba acinge ngokutyala imali kwishishini lakhe lokufama iinyosi kwaye uyacacisa, “Ndingavuya kakhulu ukuba umSamariya olungileyo angatyala iibhokisi ezilishumi zeenyosi kwishishini lam. Ukuba nabani na ozimiseleyo ukufaka isandla okanye ukuthenga ezi bhokisi uyakwamkelwa kakhulu,” utshilo uBaart.



Eastern Cape ripe with opportunities for bee farming, says Farmer Baart



Mncedi Baart is a bee and vegetable farmer who lives in Seymour, Fort Beaufort in the Eastern Cape. He started farming in 2012 after struggling to find employment following an injury which left him unable to walk. Thankfully, he grew up in a family that loved farming. It was these farming skills he had to rely on when he was unable to find unemployment. Besides vegetables and bees, Baart also has poultry and goats on his farm.

Despite applying for government assistance for his farming, Baart does not receive any financial or any other type of support from the departments he has applied to for assistance. Instead, Baart uses his SASSA grant money to buy the necessary products he needs such as seedlings, fertilizers and hiring

labour in order to keep his farm business going.

Baart is particularly passionate about his bee farming. “I would like to see other farmers to expand their businesses into bee farming. It is not difficult to maintain it, anyone can do it. People have a perception that bee farming is for men only and I personally disagree with that. Women and youth can do it too” says Baart.

Baart’s journey into bee farming all started in 2020, when he was selected for a training course in bee farming. His local municipality selected ten farmers in his village to complete the training in Fort Beaufort. Once the training was completed, each farmer got two boxes of bees to start their bee farming with. Out of the ten farmers

who joined the course, Baart is the only farmer still farming bees. Baart even managed to increase his boxes to seventeen boxes. Unfortunately, two of these boxes of bees were stolen and now he is left with only fifteen bee boxes. “My dream is to have ten more boxes in order to make twenty-five bee boxes to maintain the supply chain and demand for the honey business” says Baart.

“It takes about three to four months to harvest bees. However, you need to be able to take care of the bees by planting flowers around and providing water not far from the bee boxes. Make sure there are no movements around bee boxes like animals during the day to avoid bees roaming around” explains Baart. He added that it is very important to put on protective

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clothes when checking the bees to avoid the bees stinging you.

Baart has to travel from his village, Seymour to Peddie town in order to process the honey that he harvests since he doesn't have the equipment to process his own honey. Baart also has to hire a bakkie to transport the honey boxes. But despite the challenges and the costs, he is not discouraged and remains passionate about growing his bee farming business.

Baart met with a farmer from Zambia who expressed interest in buying honey from him, but he was not ready to supply on this scale yet. "I cannot afford to buy everything on my own" explains Baart. He is now considering asking other farmers to join him with his bee farming, "if

there are many of us in this business we could export enough litres per month without fail."

Baart is also passionate about training others in bee farming, especially to women and the youth. "In the Eastern Cape there is a lot of opportunities for bee farmers. I am more than willing to train them through the knowledge and skills that I have gained through bee farming. The training will only take three days to complete." He says starting bee farming isn't too hard, "All you need is to get minimum of ten boxes of bees to maintain the supply chain. I do not need to get the middleman in my bee farming business because they take almost 90% of the profit."

Earlier this year, Baart joined a

small farmers program to develop his small business knowledge and skills. Every Thursday, he leaves his home at 06h30 to get the transport which will take him to Fort Cox in Middledrift where he is doing the small business course. But before leaving his home, he has to get up early enough to first check on his broilers and goats. Baart studies so hard and works these very long hours, in an effort to ensure that his farming business will be successful.

Baart is now appealing for someone to consider investing in his bee farming business and explains, "I would really appreciate if a good Samaritan can invest ten bee boxes in my business. If anyone is willing to contribute or buy the boxes it will be highly welcomed" says Baart.

"Die Rural Legal Centre is die oë van die werkers"



Gestig deur die Trust for Community Outreach and Education (TCOE), Mawubuye Land Rights Forum en CSAAWU, is die Rural Legal Centre die afgelope vyf jaar aan die voorpunt van kwesbare werkersstryd.

"Die Rural Legal Centre tree namens arm werkers op en is 'n sentrum waar werkers hul klagtes oor arbeidskwessies kan kom lê.

Ons neem elke arbeidskwessie op wat moontlik is om op te neem," verduidelik Denia Jansen van die Rural Legal Centre. Die sentrum is in Robertson in die Wes-Kaap gesetel en verskaf dienste gratis aan werkers. Die Rural Legal Centre help ook werkers met toegang tot regsverteenvoording en werk dikwels saam met ander organisasies soos die Socio-Economic Rights Institute of South Africa (SERI) in sommige gevalle.

Jansen verduidelik dat sommige van die probleme maklik is om op te los en dalk net 'n telefoonoproep na 'n werkgewer oor 'n werknemer se klagte behels. Vir meer ingewikkelde sake, soos onbillike afdankings, werkbewerings, uitsettings of onbillike arbeidspraktyke, word hierdie sake na die Commission for Conciliation, Mediation and Arbitration (CCMA) verwys. Sy sê dit is veral moeilik om die sake wat

deur plaaswerkers wat op plase in kommersiële besit gebring word, op te los.

“Ons het nou meer as twintig uitsettingsake en die meeste van hierdie sake kom uit gebiede in die Langeberg Munisipaliteit. Dit is alles uitsettings van plaaswerkers en die meeste van hierdie plaaswerkers het 'n leeftyd op hierdie plase gewerk,” sê Jansen. Sy sê wanneer plaaswerkers van plase afgesit word, weet hulle dikwels nie waarheen om te gaan nie, maar die Rural Legal Centre is daar om ondersteuning en dienste te verskaf om te verseker dat plaaswerkers nie onregmatig van plase afgesit word nie.

Daar is nie baie regeringsondersteuning vir werkers wat met arbeidskwessies in die gebied te doen het nie. Die naaste kantoor van die Departement van Indiensneming en Arbeid om werkers by te staan, is in Worcester, wat sowat 50 km van Robertson af is. Die afstand maak dit duur vir werkers om na die departement se kantore te reis om klagtes te lê. Werkers moet ook dikwels in óf die warm son óf reën wag om bystand te kry weens die lang toue buite die departement se kantore. Jansen sê soms verwys die departement se kantoor in Worcester selfs sake na die Landelike Regsentrum. Jansen sê dat die regering se besnoeiings aan die CCMA begroting dinge selfs meer uitdagend vir werkers gemaak het en dit is die “werkers wat sal ly as gevolg van hierdie begrotingsbesnoeiings.”

“Ons moes veg om te praat!”

Jansen, wat die Rural Legal Centre verteenwoordig het, het 'n vergadering van belanghebbendes bygewoon wat deur die Portefeuljekomitee oor Landbou Grondhervorming en Landelike Ontwikkeling en die Portefeuljekomitee oor Indiensneming en Arbeid aangebied is oor die lewens- en werksomstandighede van plaaswerkers, plaasbewoners en boerderygemeenskappe. Die vergadering is op 22 Julie by die Hexvallei Sekondêre Skool in De Doorns gehou.

Aanvanklik het die voorsitter van die vergadering onwillig gelyk om vrae en voorleggings te neem van diegene in die vergadering wat nie op die program was nie. Eers nadat 'n paar van die aanwesiges, insluitend Jansen, die vergadering onderbreek en aanhoudend hard gekla het, is hulle die geleentheid gebied om te praat – maar net vir twee minute elk. “Daar was 'n behoefte om die vergadering te ontwrig om seker te maak dat ons stemme gehoor word,” verduidelik Jansen. Sy voeg by, “die manier waarop hulle die vergadering hanteer het, wys dat hulle geen agting het vir die lot van plaaswerkers nie.”

Jansen het toe die geleentheid gebruik om die saak te stel van Isaak Visser en sy vrou wat vroeër die maand namens die plaaseienaar gewelddadig uit sy plaaswoning gesit is deur 'n private

sekuriteitsmaatskappy. Visser en sy vrou het sedertdien buite in die ysige koue geslaap, hul besittings is buite 'n ander werker se huis gelos. “Die werkers het geen verweer teen die kommersiële boere en private sekuriteitsmaatskappye wanneer hulle uitgesit word nie. Dit is dus maklik om hulle uit te sit en op hul regte inbreuk te maak. Die alliansie tussen die polisie, die munisipaliteit en die boere is baie sterk,” sê Jansen. Sy voeg by, “maar die Rural Legal Centre is die oë van die werkers.”

Die voorsitter van die vergadering het Jansen en die Visser-gesin onmiddellik met die betrokke staatsamptenare in verbinding gestel om die egpaar by te staan. Die volgende dag is 'die regte van die gesin herstel en hulle kon terugtrek huis toe. Die plaaseienaar het 'n R4 000 bygedra. Maar die vraag is, moet ons altyd so moet baklei vir die departemente om op te tree? Die Landelike Regsentrum is 'n kragtige hulpmiddel vir werkers. Ons het as 'n span gewerk om seker te maak dat die regte van werkers beskerm word. Saterdag toe die prokureurs my bel, was ek so oorweldig oor die oorwinning.”

Jansen voeg by, “Werkers sien politici net wanneer dit verkiesingstyd is. Maar ná verkiesings sien plaaswerkers geen politici nie. So by hierdie soort belanghebbende-vergaderings moet ons seker maak dat ons elke keer ons stemme verhef en hierdie pligsdraers en al hierdie departemente blootstel wat beweer hulle is aan die kant van plaaswerkers.”



“The Rural Legal Centre is the eyes of the workers”



Established by the Trust for Community Outreach and Education (TCOE), Mawubuye Land Rights Forum and CSAAWU, the Rural Legal Centre has been at the forefront of vulnerable workers struggles for the last five years.

“The Rural Legal Centre acts on behalf of poor workers and is a centre where workers can come and lay their complaints about labour issues. We take up every labour issue that is possible to take up” explains Denia Jansen from the Rural Legal Centre. The centre is based in Robertson in the Western Cape and provide services to workers at no cost. The Rural Legal Centre also assists workers with access to legal representation and often partners with other organisations such as the Socio-Economic Rights Institute of South Africa (SERI) on some cases.

Jansen explains that some of the issues are simple to resolve and may just involve a phone call to an employer about an employee’s complaint. For more complicated matters, such as unfair dismissals, work injuries, evictions or unfair labour practice, these cases are referred to the Commission

for Conciliation, Mediation and Arbitration (CCMA). She says that it is particularly hard to resolve the cases brought by farmworkers working on commercially owned farms.

“We now have more than twenty eviction cases and most of these cases come from areas in the Langeberg Municipality. These are all farm worker evictions and most of these farm workers have worked a lifetime on these farms,” says Jansen. She says that when farm workers get evicted from farms they often don’t know where to go, but the Rural Legal Centre is there to provide support and services to ensure that farm workers are not unlawfully evicted from farms.

There is not a lot of government support for workers dealing with labour issues in the area. The closest Department of Employment and Labour office to assist workers is in Worcester, which is about 50 kms away from Robertson. The distance makes it costly for workers to travel to the Department’s offices to lay complaints. Workers often also have to wait in either the hot sun or rain to get assistance because of the long queues outside the Department’s offices. Jansen says

that sometimes the Department’s office in Worcester even refers cases to the Rural Legal Centre. Jansen says that government’s cuts to the CCMA budget has made things even more challenging for workers and it is the “workers who will suffer as a result of these budget cuts.”

“We had to fight to speak!”

Representing the Rural Legal Centre, Jansen attended a stakeholder meeting hosted by the Portfolio Committee on Agriculture Land Reform and Rural Development and the Portfolio Committee on Employment and Labour about the living and working conditions of farm workers, farm dwellers and farming communities. The meeting was held on 22 July at the Hex Valley Secondary School in De Doorns.

At first, the chairperson of the meeting seemed reluctant to take questions and submissions from those in the meeting who were not on the programme. Only after a few of those in attendance, including Jansen, interrupted the meeting and persistently complained loudly were

they given the opportunity to speak – but only for two minutes each. “There was a need to disrupt the meeting to make sure our voices were heard” explains Jansen. She adds, “the way that they handled the meeting shows that they have no regard for the plight of farm workers.”

Jansen then used the opportunity to present the case of Isaak Visser and his wife who had been violently evicted from his farm dwelling by a private security company on behalf of the farm owner earlier in the month. Visser and his wife had since been sleeping outside in the freezing cold, their belongings had been left outside another worker’s house. “The workers

have no defense against the commercial farmers and private security companies when they are being evicted. So it is easy to evict them and infringe on their rights. The alliance between the police, the municipality and the farmers are very strong,” says Jansen. She adds, “but the Rural Legal Centre is the eyes of the workers.”

The chairperson of the meeting immediately put Jansen and the Visser family in touch with the relevant government officials to assist the couple. The following day, ‘the rights of the family was restored and they were able to move back home. The farm owner contributed a R4 000. But the

question is, should we always have to fight like this for the departments to act? The Rural Legal Centre is a powerful tool for workers. We worked as a team to make sure that the rights of workers are protected. Saturday when the lawyers called me, I was so overwhelmed about the victory.”

Jansen adds, “Workers only see politicians when it is election time. But after elections, farm workers don’t see any politicians. So at these kind of stakeholder meetings we should make sure that every time we raise our voices and expose these duty bearers and all these departments that claim they are on the side of farm workers.”

linyanga ezintandathu zeDay Zero kubahlali baseChris Hani kumasipala waseNelson Mandela Bay



Kwintlanganiso ebingoJulayi eChris Hani, uluvo lwabantu bonke luthi “isono sethu kukuba mnyama, sihlwempuzekile kwaye asiqeshwa.” Yiyo le nto umasipala kunye nesebe elingenelelayo likarhulumente kazwelonke lingasihloniphanga isimemo sethu sokuzimasa le ndibanapho besithe sabelane ngenkxalabo nemibuzo yethu malunga nale

ngxaki yamanzi. Kuthi, amagosa kamasipala wethu kunye nezopolitiko abonakala kuphela xa ethetha kumabonakude. Akakho umntu owakhe weza kuthetha nathi ngeDay Zero esijongene nayo iinyanga ezintandathu ngoku.

Ukuba sinethamsanqa sifumana iilitha ezi-1,2 zamanzi ngosuku xa ilori yamanzi isiza kwindawo yethu.

Nangona ngaphambili kwakukho amaxesha amaninzi apho i-tank yamanzi yayiza kube kanye ngeveki. Ebudeni baloo maxesha, iilitha ezi-1,2 zamanzi esasizifumana kwilori yamanzi yayikuphela kwamanzi esasinawo iveki yonke. Uninzi lwethu lunezigulo zempilo ezifuna ukuba sithathe amayeza esinyanzelise ukuba le ngxaki siyeke ukuwasela amayeza kuba asinamanzi. Kufune-

ka sibe namanzi esiwasebenzisela izindlu zethu zangasese, kodwa ngaphandle kwamanzi ilindle lethu alinandawo yokuya. Ngoku sithe-thayo, izindlu zethu zinuka inkunkuma eninzi. Sinyanzelwa ukuba sinxibe iimpahla ezimdaka. Abo kuthi baphangelayo baye emsebenzini benxibe iimpahla ezimdaka kakhulu. Ngengxaki yamandla eqhubekayo kweli lizwe, ngamanye amaxesha asikwazi noku-ayina iimpahla zethu zokusebenza.

Ukuphinda-phinda, siye safumana iDay Zero eChris Hani iinyanga ezintandathu. Iyaxaka into yokuba sihleli namatyala amakhulu amanzi, amanye amalunga nama-R20 000, ukanti sijongene nale nkqubo yamanzi isilelayo. Akukho ngcaciso kumasipala ukuba kutheni sihlawuliswa ngolu hlobo ekubeni uninzi lwendawo yethu ingenawo amanzi. Sijijisana sodwa kuba ziz-

indlu ezine zodwa kula ngingqi inye eChris Hani ezinamanzi angaphazanyiswa. Ngenxa yamatyala aphezulu kakhulu amanzi abawafumanayo; abasivumeli ukuba si-fumane amanzi kwiiyadi zabo. Oku kubangela ukuba abanye bethu bangene kwiiyadi zabo ngaphandle kwemvume yabo kwaye bagalele amanzi. Ukruthakruthwano luphezulu kuluntu lwethu kwaye ngamanye amaxesha lukhokelela kwiingxabano ezinzulu phakathi kwabahlali. O. Xa sibuzwa umqhubi ukuba ezi lori bezisenza nto ni phambi kokuba zizise la manzi, nto leyo enokuchaza umgangatho ophantsi wamanzi, asinikwa mpendulo. Lo mbuzo ukwahlileli ungumnqa kuceba wethu.

Sibona ingxaki yamanzi eChris Hani njengengxaki esekelwe kudidi. Unikezelo lwamanzi oluya kwiindawo ezikumgangatho

ophakathi e-Uitenhage lusahleli lungaphazamiseki. Ekuphela kwen-to ebachaphazelayo yile ichaphazela wonke umntu kweli lizwe, loadshedding. Oku kusikhumbuza kwakhona ukuba “ekuphela kwesono sethu kukuhlwempuzeka, ukuba mnyama, nokungaqeshwa.”

Kungeso sizathu ke thina singabahlali ba kwanobuhle sithathe isigqibo sokuba masithi dolo phe-zulu sibonise ukukhathazeka de kuze amagosa kamasipala nakazwelonke bazosabela izikhalazo zethu. Siyazi ukuba bonke bazakuba nobubele kwaye babhiyozele uSuku lukaMandela - kungoko si-funa ukusebenzisa olu suku ukuba bazi ukuba akunakubakho usuku lweMandela oluqhelekileyo eNelson Mandela Bay ngeli lixa thina besijongene noDay Zero ngokungaphaya. ngaphezu kweenyanga ezintandathu ngoku.

Sifuna:

- Ukucuthwa kwamatyala kamasipala ngamanzi kubahlali de lo mba ube usonjululwe
- Sinyanzelisa ukuba inkqubo yokuncedwa abasweleyo mayisetyenziiswe.
- Njengomasipala, kufuneka uphucule izakhono zakho zokunxibelelana nabahlali
- Buyekeza abantu abathe baphathwa zizigulo ngamanzi angcolisekileyo
- Vala konke ukuvuza kwamanzi kwaye uphendule kwiingxelo ngexesha
- Yiza nobungqina bokuba amanzi ngoku akhuselekile ukusela
- Sibanga i-One House One Water Tank
- Iilori kufuneka zibonelele ngamanzi yonke imihla
- Yenza iindawo ezahlukeneyo apho izilwanyana zisela amanzi awohlukileyo kulawo awabantu
- Yeka ukuqikelela amatyala amanzi. Funda ngokuthe ngqo kwinto ekwimitha
- Kufuneka kubekho iiTanki zaManzi kuzo zonke izikolo.

Inqaku lomhleli: Le Jona ibhalwe yiKomiti yeNgxaki yaManzi yeNelson Mandela Bay

Six months of Day Zero for residents of Chris Hani in the Nelson Mandela Bay municipality

At a meeting during July in Chris Hani, the sentiment shared by everyone is that “our sin is being black, poor and unemployed.” This is why the municipality and the

intervening national government department did not honour our invitation to attend this meeting where we shared our concerns and queries about this water crisis. To us, our municipal and political

officials are only visible when they are talking on TV. No one has ever come to address us about the day zero we have been facing for six months now.



If we are lucky we get 1,2 litres of water a day when the water truck comes to our community. Although in the past there were many periods where the water tanker would come only once a week. During these times, the 1,2 litres of water we received from the water truck was the only water we had for the whole week. Many of us have medical conditions that require us to take prescriptions for which this crisis has forced us to stop taking our medicine because we have no water. We must also have water to use for our toilets, but without water our sewage has nowhere to go. As we speak, our houses are smelling with a greater volume of waste. We are forced to wear dirty clothes. Those of us who do have a job go to work with very dirty clothes. With an ongoing energy crisis in this country, we sometimes cannot even iron our work clothes.

To reiterate, we have experienced Day Zero in Chris Hani for six

months. It is quite puzzling that we sit with huge water bills, some are about R20 000, and yet we are faced with this failed water system. There is no explanation from the municipality as to why we are being billed like this when most of our area is without running water. We are fighting with each other because four houses in the same area of Chris Hani have uninterrupted running water. Due to the astronomical water bills they are subjected to; they do not allow us to get water from their yards. This results in some of us entering their yards without their consent and pouring water. Tensions run high in our community and sometimes leads to serious arguments among residents.

The water that is delivered by the water tankers is of poor quality. When we ask the driver what these trucks were doing before delivering this water, which might explain the water's poor quality, we are presented with no answers. This question also

remains a mystery to our councillor.

We see the water crisis in Chris Hani as a problem that is class-based. The water supply running to the middle-class areas of Uitenhage remains uninterrupted. The only thing that does affect them is what affects everyone else in this country, loadshedding. This reminds us again that "our only sin is being poor, black, and unemployed."

For the reasons mentioned above, we have decided as working class residents of Kwanobuhle to go to the streets and show our emotions until officials in the municipality and the national government arrive in our communities to address our concerns. We do know they will all be charitable and in celebratory mode on Mandela Day - this is why we want to use that day for them to know that there cannot be a normal Mandela Day in Nelson Mandela Bay while we have been facing Day Zero for over six months now.

We demand:

- Cut municipal bills on water to residents until this issue has been sorted out
- Indigent policy must be enforced
- As the municipality, you must improve your communication skills with residents
- Compensate the people who have suffered from illnesses from the contaminated water
- Close all water leaks and respond to reports on time
- Bring proof that water is now safe to drink
- We demand One House One Water Tank
- Trucks must supply water everyday
- Create separate spaces where animals consume different water from that of human beings
- Stop the estimation of water billings. Read straight from what is on the meter
- There should be Water Tanks in all schools

Editor's note: This article was written by the Nelson Mandela Bay Water Crisis Committee

Ashton 'inmaak' fabriek sal oop bly vir die komende seisoen



Die Ashton gemeenskap in die Wes-Kaap was onlangs in 'n krisis oor die toekoms van die Langeberg en Ashton Foods 'inmaak' fabriek. Meer as 4 000 seisoenwerkers en sowat 250 permanente werkers het moontlike werkverliese in die gesig gestaar nadat Tiger Brands in Junie aangekondig het dat hy die fabriek gaan sluit. Die fabriek verskaf werk en is 'n noodsaaklike bron van inkomste in 'n gemeenskap wat deur baie hoë werkloosheid geteister word. Tiger Brands het die afgelope twee jaar probeer om 'n koper te kry met genoeg geld om die fabriek te koop.

Die Wes-Kaapse Rural Women's Assembly, Mawubuye Land Rights Forum en CSAAWU 'n dialoog met geaffekteerde fabriekswerkers en seisoenale plaaswerkers aange-

bied om te bespreek hoe die sluiting van die fabriek vroue sal raak. Seisoenwerkers is vir ongeveer ses maande van die jaar afhanklik van werk vanaf die fabriek. "Die vroue was hartseer om te hoor dat die fabriek permanent kan sluit omdat dit hulle die geleentheid gebied het om finansiële onafhanklik te wees," verduidelik Sheriff Ramaobi van die Rural Women's Assembly.

Daar was ook 'n vrees dat geslagsgebaseerde geweld kan toeneem aangesien armoede een van die bydraers tot geslagsgebaseerde geweld is. Baie van die vroue het gevrees dat hulle nie ander werk sou kon kry nie, gegewe die hoë werkloosheidsyfer in die gebied. "Hierdie onsekerheid het baie emosies by die vroue na vore gebring, aangesien hulle vrees dat hul kinders gedwing kan word om skool te verlaat om hul ma's te

help onderhou om 'n inkomste vir die huishouding te verskaf." voeg Ramaobi by.

Maar in Julie het Tiger Brands aangekondig dat die fabriek vir ten minste nog een seisoen oop sal bly. "Mense is bly dat die fabriek vir nog 'n seisoen oop is, maar hulle is steeds baie bekommerd." sê Denia Jansen van die Mawubuye Land Rights Forum.

Jansen het vakbonde en werkers aangemoedig om georganiseerd te bly en gesprekke oor die toekoms van die fabriek voort te sit, "Dinge kan drasties verander as hulle steeds besluit om die fabriek te sluit. Sy waarsku dat, "daar geen alternatiewe vir ander werk in die area is nie. Die veldtog moet deur vakbonde gelei word, want dit is hul lede en hulle is verantwoordelik om die reg van werkers te beskerm."

Ashton 'canning' factory to remain open for the upcoming season

The Ashton community in the Western Cape was recently in crisis over the future of the Langeberg and Ashton Foods 'canning' factory. More than

4,000 seasonal workers and about 250 permanent workers faced possible job losses after Tiger Brands announced in June that it would close the factory. The factory provides jobs and

is a vital source of income in a community plagued by very high unemployment. Tiger Brands has been trying to find a buyer with enough money to buy the factory for the past two years.

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The Western Cape Rural Women's Assembly, CSAAWU and Mawubuye Land Rights Forum hosted a dialogue with affected factory workers and seasonal farm workers to discuss how the closure of the factory would affect women. Seasonal workers depend on work from the factory for about six months of the year. "The women were sad to hear that the factory might permanently close because it gave them opportunity to be financially independent" explains Sheriff Ramaobi of the Rural Women's Assembly.

There was also a fear that Gender-

Based violence might increase as poverty is one of the contributors to Gender-Based violence. Many of the women feared that they would not be able to find other work given the high rate of unemployment in the area. "This uncertainty brought out many emotions for the women since they fear that their children might be forced to drop out of school to help support their moms with providing an income for the household." adds Ramaobi.

But in July, Tiger Brands announced that the factory would remain open for at least one more season.

"People are happy that the factory is open for another season but they are still very worried." says Denia Jansen from the Mawubuye Land Rights Forum.

Jansen encouraged unions and workers to stay organised and continue discussions about the future of the factory, "Things could change drastically if they still decide to close the factory. She warns that, "there is no alternative for other work in the area. The campaign should be led by unions, because these are their members and they are responsible to protect the right of workers."

Hlangana na nghwazi ya ntirhovutomi(career)



Brenda Mlambo I muntshwa wa malembe ya makumenharhu mune (34) loyi a nga tinyiketela ku korhokela vantshwa eka muganga lowu a tshamaka kona etikweni ra ka Matsot-sosela ehansi ka hosi Dzumeri a xifundzheni xa n'walungu(Limpopo). U yisile tidyondzo ta yena emahlweni edorobeni ra pitori, laha anga pasa (electrical engineering) eUNISA.

Loko a vuya ekaya I khumbekile ngopfu hiku pfumaleka ka vanhu vaku pfuna machudeni hi swa ntirhovutomi(career guidance)." Ndzi khumbeke ngopfu hi xiyimo lexinga kona emakaya hi swa tidyondzo, ndzitwa ingaku ndzhova etikweni rin'wana ro hambana" ku vula Brenda.

Brenda u vilerisiwile ngopfu hikuva vadyondzi votala va sungula tidyondzo ta vona ku sukelala eka ntangha n'we(grade 1) ku fikela eka ntangha khume-mbirhi (grade 12) va nga tivi gondzo ra swa tidyondzo leri va faneleke kuri landzelela, endzaku ko heta nthangha khume mbirhi(grade 12), hikuva va pasa exikolweni hi ndlela yo saseka ngopfu, kambe a va switivi kuri emahlweni va ya endlisa ku yini kuti tsarisela eka ti (university). Vahetelela va tib-yela leswaku ku ti tsarisela eswikolweni swa le henhla(university) aswi lulamelanga vanhu lava vanga swela emindyangwini. Eka swiyimo swin'wana leswi vana va dyondzaka swona exikolweni a swi fambelani na leswi va tsake-

laka kuya dyondzela swona eUniversity, leswi endlaka leswaku vana vanga koti ku ti tsarisa eswikolweni swale henhla(University) leswi swi hetelelaka swi endlala leswaku va siya mpfhuka(gap year). Uhlamusela leswaku etindzhawini tale madorobeni machudeni va rhumeriwa vanhu ku suka eka ti university kuta vapfuna hiswa ntirhovutomi ku sukela eka ntangha nhungu(grade 8)".

utekile goza ro sungula pfhumba ro pfuneta vadyondzi ku titsarisela no yisa tidyondzo ta vona emahlweni, ku sukela eka ntangha nhungu. Vadyondzi va fanele kuta va khomile mbuyelo wa ku hela ka lembe leswaku a ta kota ku vona vuswikoti bya vona eka tidyondzo

leti va faneleke kuya emahlweni na tona. U tlhela ava pfuneta ku endla swikombelo swa mpfuneto wa swa

timali(bursary) ku yisa tidyondzo ta vona emahlweni na swiyenge swa swivandla swa mintirho.

Meet Limpopo's Career Guidance Champion!

Brenda Mlambo is a 34-year-old activist who lives in Matsotsoela Village, which is under Chief Dzumeri, in Limpopo. Brenda completed her schooling in Pretoria and her tertiary studies through UNISA. Following the completion of her own studies, she noticed that there was very little career guidance counselling for school learners. "I was flabbergasted by the situation back home as far as education is concerned" explains Brenda.

Brenda was concerned that many learners went from grade one to grade twelve without knowing their career path once they finished school. "They pass with flying colours in matric but still fail to go to university because they don't know the relationship of their subjects with their intended tertiary studies. In some cases, you find that their school and tertiary study courses don't even correspond, and this might even result in omission from university." Brenda says that this is unlike in urban areas where universities often send teams to various schools, sometimes as early as grade eight, to assist students with their career choice. She says that some students were failing to register at universities due to lack of information.

Brenda took it upon herself to begin a campaign of helping learners to

apply and pursue tertiary studies, starting with grade eight learners. Learners come to her with their final report, and she checks the subjects the learner has passed well in and suggests tertiary studies that are suitable for them to pursue. Brenda also assists with bursary applications and, if needs be, advises on opportunities for postgraduates.

Brenda has a Facebook and WhatsApp account which she uses to engage learners when assisting them with their academic struggles and says that both platforms have been effective so far. Since she started, Brenda has assisted more than 50 learners. She also visits schools to give talks to encourage the learners.

Since she is unemployed, Brenda says she is experiencing some challenges with her campaign. Some of the schools is located far from where she stays so she finds it hard to move around to do what she enjoys most doing. Buying enough data is another obstacle which hinders her project. Brenda says government is doing little to help the youth and encourages learners to form their own groups to assist each other. She says it is easier to assist students when they are already in self organised groups. "If I help one student, you must be able to help three other students for us to conquer" adds Brenda.

Inyanda Community News aims to support the culture of reading, writing and political education. Stories featured in the Inyanda Community News is proudly produced by a collective of young activists from movements and community organisations across the country:

Asanda Magadla (Ilizwi Lamafama); Ashwin Jeneke (Mawubuye Land Rights Forum); Moeketsi Diba (Botshabelo Unemployed Peoples Movement); Mziwoxolo Sume (Makukhanye Land Rights Movement); Nandipha Nogwina (Coastal Links) and Rhulani Zitha (Mopani Farmers Association)

INYANDA

National Movement:

Community News

Vision

Working towards an egalitarian countryside of productive, food secure, self-reliant and active citizens that know and protect their rights.

Mission

Inyanda is the voice of the poor that exerts pressure for policy changes and transformation of the countryside in order to improve the socio-economic conditions of its members and of rural people in general.

Value and Principles

The movement shall be based on the following values:

Egalitarianism

Gender Equality

Anti-racism and anti-ethnicism

Non-sectarianism: tolerance and encouragement of sober debates of different views

Participatory democracy

Co-operation as opposed to competition

Anti-capitalism

Non-party political aligned

We would love to hear from you!

To contact the Inyanda Community News team, please email media@tcoe.org.za

Visit www.tcoesa.org/inyanda-community-news for more information

