

SIZANANI

Sizanani (pronounced 'see-za-na-knee') is the Zulu word for 'help one another'. This project offers basic sewing and basic pattern drafting training to enable previously disadvantaged people who are unskilled and unemployed to obtain the required skills for self employment. The growth of personal dignity, self esteem and spiritual well-being is also encouraged.

A 6 month skills course is offered, with the basic sewing skills module lasting 3 months and the basic pattern drafting module lasting a further 3 months. Up to 60 students are accommodated annually and it is estimated that since 1996 more than 400 previously unskilled people have received training. Through generous funding from various quarters, the training room is fully equipped with industrial sewing machines, large cutting tables and all fabrics and haberdashery items are presently supplied by Sizanani.



BASIC SEWING SKILLS MODULE SYLLABUS:

This syllabus concentrates on teaching basic sewing skills like seams, gathering, putting in collars, sewing in zips, buttonholes and facings.

PATTERN DRAFTING MODULE SYLLABUS:

Students are taught how to draft a basic skirt and shirt pattern, and then how to do variations like flares, pleats, puffed sleeves, etc. The students then design an outfit for themselves, which is modeled at their graduation ceremony.



ONE OF MANY SUCCESS STORIES:

Mavis Cele, who completed her training in September 2002, works under the name 'Marvellous Mavis'. She has rented a room opposite the main Post Office in Pinetown and she undertakes alterations and orders for garments that she usually has to draft a pattern for.



Liturgical stole

PRODUCTION UNIT:

Sizanani has a small production unit too, which makes a range of high quality articles with an ethnic theme e.g. shirts, tea-cosies, tray-cloths, bible covers, liturgical stoles and clerical shirts, etc.



Back view of Ladies shirt

OPPORTUNITIES FOR GENEROSITY – SIZANANI

Volunteers:

Sharing of craft skills –

fabric painting, quilting, crochet/knitting, flower arranging

Sharing of life skills -

1st Aid, business skills, AIDS workshops, applications for Identity Documents/grants, health issues, relationship skills, parenting skills, nutrition, market gardening, computer literacy

Sharing in student's lives –

Mentoring individuals, ministering and meeting needs, counselling

Funding:

Sponsoring of individuals (approx. R4 250.00) or groups (15 students in a group – approx. R63 750.00) or whole year's costs (4 courses a year – approx R255 000.00)

Donating sewing machines to graduates on completion of course (approx. R2000.00 per machine)

Presenting each graduate with a Zulu bible (approx. R40.00 each)

Other:

Prayer

Donation of reasonably sized pieces of fabric to make skirts or shirts

Donation of larger pieces of scrap fabric for sample work

Donation of thread, scissors, pins, tape measures, and other haberdashery items

Bank details:

Account Name: PMCMA – Sizanani
Account Number: 133 947 6681
Bank Name: Nedbank
Bank code: 133 926