

Little Lihle is a true goodwill ambassador

Nokuthula Sonile

At the age of four, she made and sold multicoloured thread bracelets and necklaces – and gave the proceeds to an orphanage.

Lihle Zilwa, a Grade 4 pupil at Summit College, stunned her family when she told them she would use money from shares they bought her when she was born to buy learning material for children at a school in Olievenhoutbosch.

Lihle, with the help of her parents, gave 21 girls and nine boys from Philena School full school uniforms. A total of 560 pupils also received learning materials, which included colouring books, alphabet charts, stationery and books for the school library.

Teachers were given fans to keep the classrooms cool.

The nine-year-old said she would not have felt great if she spent the money on herself.

“I felt sad when I heard there are children whose families can’t afford a school uniform. I wanted to help.

“I believe each and every person can make a difference in the



LITTLE MISS SUNSHINE. Lihle Zilwa, front, with some pupils from Philena School. Picture: Fourways Review

lives of the many people who do not have enough food, clothes or comfortable homes. You need to look around you and see how you can help.”

Mother Sindi said: “I am still

bursting with pride and thank God for such a kind, selfless baby.”

Her father, Sva, said he was amazed by his daughter’s giving heart and thoughtfulness, and her wish to give other children

an opportunity to advance themselves in education.

Philena Primary School principal David Mogashoa said the school was thankful to Lihle. – *Caxton News Service*



Youth gets tool to find work

Ofentse Maphari

Youth unemployment is a major issue in the country, previously being recorded at a record high of 27.1% in the third quarter of 2016 – but now the Rockefeller Foundation, together with Making Cents International, launched the Demand-Driven Training Toolkit (DDT).

The DDT is a digital training framework that includes theoretical and practical components. It will be rolled out at universities and TVET colleges, to equip the youth with the necessary skill set to make them more employable.

“The Rockefeller Foundation has been working with partners to provide demand-driven skills training that prepare youth for digital jobs across multiple sectors,” said Mamadou Biteye, pictured, the foundation’s managing director for Africa.

The toolkit attempts to bridge the gap between the skills that youth acquire through formal education systems, and those required by employers.

It will also help workforce training providers, education and training institutions and employers address the ongoing global mismatch between disadvantaged youth skills and employer needs.

The DDT was developed by Making Cents International.

“The toolkit is an important step in facilitating a strong relationship between the education supply and demand sides in South Africa to promote more employment opportunities for youth,” said Dr Christy Olenik from Making Cents International.

Mugabe ‘didn’t want’ post

WHO: BODY DIDN’T TELL HIM HE WAS THE CHOSEN GOODWILL AMBASSADOR

➔ **Decision revoked on Sunday after global uproar.**

Harare

Zimbabwe’s President Robert Mugabe did not know he had been appointed World Health Organisation goodwill ambassador and would anyway have rejected the role that has since been rescinded, state media reported yesterday.

The WHO reversed its decision on Sunday to award the 93-year-old the honour to help fight dis-

ease after widespread uproar around the globe.

“The president was quite surprised that he had been appointed a goodwill ambassador by the WHO,” Mugabe’s spokesperson, George Charamba, told *The Herald* newspaper.

“There was nothing, whether verbal or written, from the WHO intimating that they wished to make the president a goodwill ambassador in respect of non-communicable diseases,” he added, saying Mugabe learned about it from the news.

“He was not going to oblige the invitation had it come his way anyway.”

Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus,

He was not going to oblige the invitation had it come his way anyway.

George Charamba
Robert Mugabe’s spokesperson

a former Ethiopian health minister who took charge of WHO UN agency in July, rescinded his decision to appoint Mugabe goodwill ambassador for non-communicable diseases in Africa after facing fierce criticism.

The appointment angered international rights campaigners and opposition parties, who also

accuse Mugabe of violent repression, election rigging and presiding over the country’s economic ruin.

Zimbabwe’s healthcare system, like many of its public services, has collapsed under Mugabe’s authoritarian regime, with most hospitals out of stock of essential medicines, and nurses and doctors regularly left unpaid.

Charamba said it would have been “awkward” to appoint Mugabe as ambassador, as Zimbabwe is a top producer of tobacco.

Mugabe, who has been in power since 1980, is in increasingly fragile health and makes regular trips abroad for medical treatment. – *AFP*





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