

Unisa gives Phumelelo the gift of mobility



Pictured at the handover of the wheelchair: Christabell Madalane (Employment Equity), Sophy Mabaso (ARCSWiD), Olwethu Sipuka (ARCSWiD: Deputy Director) Pintias Nkuna (ARCSWiD), Tshekedi Mathebe (Induna to the Chief), Ohnon Mathabathe (Induna to the chief) and Phumelelo with his grandmother, during the handing over of the wheelchair donation at the child's home at Ntwane village in Dennilton.

During the Chance 2 Advance 'Disability Sensitisation and Diversity' workshop at Ntwane village in Dennilton this year, Unisa facilitators were made aware of a severely disabled 10-year-old boy, Phumelelo Mathebe, who was in dire need of a wheelchair.

Understanding the importance living the 11 Cs+1, the facilitators Christabell Madalane and Karen Redelinghuys, from Employment Equity, as well as Sophy Mabaso and Pintias Nkuna, from the Advocacy and Resource Centre for Students with Disabilities, (ARCSWiD) got CE Mobility (wheelchair and seating specialists) on board, who donated a wheelchair to little Phumelelo.

Their generosity will significantly impact on improving the little boy's life and make it easier for him to gain access and be part of his community's activities.

Dr Genevieve James and the Chance 2 Advance team have also played a crucial role in exposing Unisa staff, and other organisations, to needs such as this one in various communities.

As part of the culture of the village, the Unisa team had to first meet with the Chief of the Ntwane village, Mathebe Chaki Edison, to request permission to hand over the wheelchair donation to the family. "I'm highly impressed and pleased at the lengths that Unisa has gone to in order to help a special member of our community. As a community, we feel fortunate to have experienced such kindness and we look forward to continued support," said Edison.



Phumelelo Mathebe was in dire need of a wheelchair and Unisa gave him the gift of mobility.

Phumelelo's mother, Magomo Sharon Mathebe, is also grateful because of the difference this wheelchair has already made in her son's life.

Chance 2 Advance, its facilitators and ARCSWiD are appealing to the Unisa community to make a difference no matter how big or small.



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