



ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE WINNERS OF THE ACTIVATE ACTIVE CITIZENS AWARDS

For Immediate Release, August 2022

Within a week of the opening of the ACTIVATE! Active Citizen Awards, 100s of applications were submitted and the journey to finalising the top 10 was both tough and inspiring to learn of the dynamic interventions young people are implementing in their communities with very little assistance let alone a thank you.

These awards were created as part of the ACTIVATE! 10-year anniversary campaigns, in recognition of the individuals and organisations who do work in their communities and often go unnoticed and with little to no thank you.

The 'doers' in their communities who have chosen the proactive approach by being answerable to the status quo found in their communities.

These individuals are not just saviours but relate to the realities found in their communities and have stood as leaders, survivors of unjust systems, solution bearers and beacons of hope who have created a legacy worth continuing. These individuals are a great inspiration to their communities, our society and us at ACTIVATE!

All 112 applications we received shared inspiring stories, moving at different levels. The decision on the 10 was based on a three-person board that voted and finalised the names, against a strict criteria, we considered as a priority, individuals who not only have done remarkable work, but continue to and have not received any recognition in the form of an award, or public applause.

These individuals will each receive a gift prize to the value of R2500. We hope receiving this award will serve as motivation to keep going.

To the 111 whose applications were not successful this time, please remember this is not a measure of your worth, time and chance happen to all.

As ACTIVATE! We see you, we celebrate you, and we hope we can still share your story and work and connect with you, as we continue our mission to establish a youth network in South Africa and Africa, that is proactive in realising meaningful change one person, one house, one community, one village, one town, one city and one province at a time.

To every; sir/madam/he/she/they/them/girl/boy – child. Your dreams, your passions and your resolute nature are needed in this lifetime. Keep going.

Regards

ACTIVATE! Team

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For more information on our Anniversary campaigns follow us on our social media's using the hashtags:
#activatedecade

#activateturn10

end of release

Top 10. In alphabetical order

1. Jesse Maart
2. Kgopotso Pearl Sekwati
3. Ntombozuko Jafta
4. Nonhlanhla Dube
5. Nqubeko Shezi
6. Smith Deonath
7. Themba Godfrey Nkosi
8. Tshepo Lekwape
9. Thandiwe Buka
10. Vicky Denise Chilli

Details of the winners and their categories.

Name ==	Province	Category	About Their Initiative
1. Kgotso Pearl Sekwati	Limpopo	<i>STEAM ambassadors club, education of young children in disadvantaged backgrounds</i>	The organization helped school children to improve their school work, literacy and numeracy. Also expose them to coding, robotics, aviation and other stem field careers.
2. Nonhlanhla Dube	Gauteng	<i>Early Childhood Development, art and healing sessions for children.</i>	Imibala Foundation NPC is a community development organisation that was founded back in 2017. They run a learning support programme called iMibala lit & art club is, which seeks to prepare grade RR & R learners for big school and stabilize them socially and emotionally through the literacy programmes and the art healing classes. The organisation is based in Tembisa.
3. Themba Godfrey Nkosi	North West	<i>Zenzele iAfrika Farming</i>	Zenzele Afrika Farming Initiative, a farming project aiming to commercialise backyard gardens to create jobs and ensure security for the community and surrounding areas.
4. Jesse Maart	Gauteng	<i>Fighting substance abuse through mental health awareness and sports activities in a community known for substance abuse and gangs.</i>	The initiative seeks to use sport, psychology, the arts and other means of confidence building to eradicate substance abuse, domestic violence, poverty and other socioeconomic disparities; all of which are rife in their community.
5. Nqubeko Shezi	Gauteng	<i>Supporting Pregnant Moms pre, during and after birth.</i>	This activist aims at reducing stunting and ensuring that pregnant moms are healthy and are aware of stunting and how to avoid it. As a franchisee, she holds antenatal and postnatal sessions with moms where we cover multiple topics like nutrition, mental health, preparing for the birth day 200 have gone through this with her to date.
6. Smith Deonath	Kwa Zulu Natal	<i>Innovation during natural disaster and crisis management during fires and floods in KZN</i>	His organisation created an Emergency Evacuation Plan for the first time in South Africa's history. This is to deal with natural and man-made disasters. We also created GO BAGS for every resident to know what to pack and leave within an emergency. We created DNA kits for kids and older people who may go missing especially in view of human trafficking. We have a database of people who are frail, handicapped, in wheelchairs, and need oxygen so that first responders can evacuate them before others.

7. Vicky Denise Chilli	Kwa Zulu Natala	<i>African Arts and Culture</i>	Cinema screening of African films. Literacy and role play and reflections on African content for youth and children.
8. Thandiwe Buka	Northern Cape	<i>GBV, survivors network</i>	Group Counselling for Victims (Support Groups) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One-on-one counselling with trained counsellors. • Child abuse prevention programmes at schools in Foundation Phase • Psychosocial intervention programmes for learners in High school. • Mediate between victims, families and abusers to bring healing, closure and reconciliation. • Liaise with specialized support centres to help victims and abusers with rehabilitation.
9. Tshepo Lekwape	Gauteng	GBV conversations among young and old men.	Soweto Young Men United, an Inter-generational platform for men of all ages to share, and discuss all the pressing issues of the day, with an emphasis on creating a better man, amidst the high level of GBV cases that we have in the country, and perpetuated by men in the majority.
10. Ntombozu ko Jafta	Eastern Cape	Substance abuse, education and mental health awareness.	Changing Lives We are a registered NPO with its objectives is to empower and equip young people who are on substance abuse. We place them at rehab centres and when they are discharged we do aftercare programs so that they don't relapsed. Once we see them they are fit enough to go back to school we place them in different SETA's or make sure other finish their high school grades. We also champion social cohesion from grass root level from child headed households, displaced youth and vulnerable women GBV victims.