

PAY 2014 – 2015

Mr Yanga Ndinisa
Department of Local Government



Yanga hard a work at his desk

Yanga comes from a single parent family. He has never known a father. Born the eldest of three children in Phillippi he has lived there all his life.

When his mother died in 2009 his grandmother took care of them until her death in 2012. From September 2012 till March 2013 he looked after his siblings, but the responsibility took its toll and he began failing at school. That was when his uncle stepped in and took his two brothers under his wing and into his home. Yanga remained behind in his grandma's home and took care of himself, thanks to the government's social grant. This allowed him to once again concentrate on his studies. At the same time he ensured that his grandma's house was not vandalised.

Yanga matriculated from Good Hope College in 2013. He worked hard and was always performing in the top ten of his class. This enabled him to get a bursary for every year of his studies at secondary school.

Yanga learnt about the PAY project from the social worker when she came on her routine visit. She encouraged him to apply and he did! He applied to the Department of Local Government because he is interested in uplifting his community and he thought this was the perfect platform to start off on.

He thought that the PAY application process disadvantaged especially the youth in the townships, as they do not have easy access to computers and the internet. He, on the other hand, was fortunate because his grandma gave him a laptop before she died. He went to the local library for internet access.

Asked if the internship lived up to his expectations, he replied that it was a wonderful opportunity that he seized with both hands. He fitted in from day one. He ascribes this to the ability to distinguish between what is important and what is not. PAY offered a unique opportunity to learn new skills like IT which he lacked when he started. He also registered for the PAY skills training course which includes Office Management, Project Management and Written Communication. In addition, he enrolled for the Learner Licence Training.

He maintains that school/education is the key to solving South Africa's youth unemployment. He rewrote English Home Language in March this year to improve his results and his chances to get into a tertiary institution. And he achieved a B symbol!

Yanga applied to the University of the Western Cape in July of this year and was accepted for Library and Information studies!

His brother, who is currently in matric, has since moved back in order to prepare for the final examinations. He is following in the footsteps of his remarkable brother who took over the mantle of father from a very young age!

JE O'Connell
3 October 2014