

07 OCT, 2022



EMPIRE PARTNER FOUNDATION

YOUTH-TECHNOLOGY-ENTREPRENEURSHIP

PRESS RELEASE

# BRING A GIRL CHILD TO WORK



**YAT** YOUNG ASPIRING THINKERS™

## IMPACTING YOUNG PEOPLE IN SOUTH AFRICA

- Lack of career development in our public school system is cited as one of the reasons for the current skills shortage amongst the youth resulting in the high rates of youth unemployment.
- Young Aspiring Achievers (YAT) is a Non-Profit Organisation which aims to provide South African high school learners with skills to unlock their future careers, and tackle the youth unemployment challenge.
- The Empire Partner Foundation in support of Young Aspiring Thinkers, hosted learners from Olivenhoutbosch Secondary School in a Bring A Girl Child To Work job shadowing program on Friday 7th October 2022 at the EPF Tech Hub premises.



- The purpose of the job shadowing exercise is to assist learners with career mentoring by linking them to professionals at the workplace and expose them to careers to develop them into future leaders.
- Twelve Grade 9 girls accompanied by their two teachers and supported by Tebogo Kopane and Thulani Masebenza (YAT) were exposed to the EPF Tech Hub ecosystem where they met with the leadership and staff of the various companies at the Tech Hub.
- The day's program was begun by Mikhial Mariemuthu who introduced EPF and set the tone for other presenters in describing the lay of the land for the learners to get an insight of the goings-on at the Tech Hub.
- The introduction was followed by a brief "pep talk" by Tebogo Kopane (YAT) to reassure the girls as they seemed to be overwhelmed by the occasion, understandably as these were young girls in a somewhat intimidating environment. Tebogo's talk helped as the girls settled and began asking questions.
- Jasmine Mokwena followed with a well-scripted motivational chat on career choices, her role at the Foundation, and a no holds barred talk on GBV+F.

Our goal as the Empire Partner Foundation is to create a lasting impact on the communities on the African continent. Our mission is to change the trajectory of the future and build a growing economy.





- The Good People Data Company enthralled the learners as JK explained what the company does and how its solution offering can help in curbing crime and rampant corruption.
- The next career guidance presentations before breaking for lunch were; TDM (Muhammed Ismail), EPF Tech Fund (Jo Govender), Zibuza (Malcolm Mooi)
- Angie Pillay (Terabit) kicked-off the afternoon session and was followed by Joseph Mokone (Hippocampus), Brenda Chetty ( Finance & Admin), Innovation Campus ( Rorisang Monatisa and Ofentse Leseilane), with Mohapi Polo ( Digital Resolve) completing the session.
- The highlight of the day was a guided tour of the EPF Tech Hub where the learners visited all the companies, interacted with other staff members and also had a chance to show their skill with the computers at the Innovation Campus.
- "The job shadowing experience was such a great success. It was nice to see the passion of the company heads and people within the EPF ecosystem, freely share their experiences with the learners. It was also the first time the learners had been at a company's offices, you could see it was a fresh experience for them, asking many questions and seeing careers like software developers for the first time. We had one learner, Dinah who spent close to 30 minutes with some of the development team because her dream is to be a software engineer and she was seeing some of the work of a software developer for the first time"-Thulani Masebenza ( Young Aspiring Thinkers)



