



**SHOP NO.8 MUTUAL PLEIN BUILDING
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FAKUDE ON COMMUNITY PROTECTION

Khanyisa, a community newspaper went out for a talent search for young entrepreneurs in Msukalegwa District Municipality.

Amos Fakude from Warberton Gracemary in Ermelo was born business minded to lead the community in safety and security.

Fakude came with a pathway to where he is today. He breathed thrice and his eyes were suddenly full of tears, when Khanyisa photo-journalist, Milton Malatse asked him to narrate about his past. "I am from a poor background where I struggled to survive. I am not used to talk about this because it makes me..." He added that, "I was raised by a single mother who was disabled. As a result, I had to drop out of school and go and look for a job in order to take care of my mother."

The man started schooling at Edovaleni Primary in Jtakastad Township in 1985 and he moved



to Litjelebube Secondary. He said that after he completed his grade 12 in 1997, he immediately started working for York Timber. Later he left to work at Haizeview in Nelspruit where he did not stay for long. He resigned and started

his solo trading spaza shop, a coal yard and a money lending scheme in Caroline.

In the year 2000, he went for a security training course in Roodepoort, Johannesburg. After completion, he got a job in an 'access control' role in Delmas. Fakude believed that his dreams remained unaccomplished if he did not own a business that is recognised in the community. He therefore, decided to come back to Ermelo to open a security training company, realising that there was a need for job creation, youth empowerment and provision of security services to businesses and the community at large.

The centre trains over 1000 per year of which 90% of these people are being employed in various economic sectors in the Mpumalanga Province. Amos emphasised that after they finish their course, he takes their Certificates to the Private Security Industry Regulator

Authority (PSIRA) where it only takes two to three months to get the accreditations.

Many of his students face financial challenges for which he offers to train them in arrears, with an understanding they would pay him back upon securing employment. He however expressed disappointment with those who failed to own up to this arrangement. Nonetheless he is not discouraged by those who do not want to pay his money; he remains positive minded in his business.

Fakude currently has 27 students enrolled but the full enrolment capacity is 30 per term. The college faces a problem with some students who lose concentration in class. These are usually students aged between 18 and 25 years, who are brought into school by their family outside of their own interest. Fakude highlighted that some people fail the PSIRA accreditation process when the

finger prints Bureau discovers that they have previous criminal records. Others are requested to appeal because in terms of the Bureau, they would have complied with the requirement that if someone is out of prison, they must stay for ten years before they train as a security guard. He added that security needs trust.

He would like to encourage all the people to come and get the best training as he offers all the courses from grade E to B as well as fire arm training. It is very cheap and comes discounted as his way of giving back to the Community. It is his desire to expand the business by having his own security guards serving under the same company name. To conclude, he said that he would like to thank the Police of Ermelo and the surrounding areas for acknowledging and respecting the security graduates from Fakude Family Security.



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