

Florida Road monitor project upskills car guards

MORNINGSIDE

FLORIDA Rd UIP together with The Wellness Centre and Western Star Recruitment Agency has started the Life programme to give new hope to their pavement monitors.

Earlier this year, Florida Rd UIP initiated the pavement monitor programme to get rid of vagrants who posed as car guards to carry out criminal activities. The

street monitors now wear red and black branded uniforms to identify themselves.



The Life programme not only aims to provide current and future pavement monitors with the skills and guidance to find permanent jobs, but the drive and confidence to plan for their future.

The aim of the programme is to provide basic skills development that includes



The recently graduated street monitors in Florida Road are excited about the prospect of getting permanent jobs after completing the Life programme.

talks on health and hygiene, dealing with finances and tackling social issues. This is coupled with a mentorship course. The programme is structured to bring about job creation and allow for existing pavement monitors to obtain permanent jobs.

This will open up space for other unemployed people to become monitors and reduce unemployment in the area. Last week, 14 monitors graduated from the programme. Florida Rd UIP precinct manager Jarrod Evans told City Watch that the programme had

uplifted the monitors because they no longer saw themselves as “car guards”.

“All our current monitors were car guards on the road before we implemented the sidewalk monitor programme.”

While the UIP doesn’t employ them, it has integrated them into a managed structure, which has elevated their status, given them a strong sense of purpose and has taught them to take pride in themselves and the road.

“This is just the beginning for these monitors, who are a step closer to obtaining permanent jobs. We will now source jobs or act as references for these monitors.

“This programme will be offered to all monitors,” said Evans. Wayne Stainforth of Western Star Recruitment Agency and chairman of the Florida Rd UIP, said the programme mixed courses and work experience to allow for the monitors to be a business’s first choice when they were thinking of hiring.