

ZAMUKUZIPHILISA SEWING AND CRAFTS

Postal Address: J1890, Umlazi 4031, South Africa
031 908 7700 (Office); 072 710 9714 (Mobile)

Zamukuziphilisa Sewing and Crafts has been a registered co-operative since 2005 (Reg. No. K6/3/9/3987), but was established in 1995, when Eunice Gambushe and her friend Gertrude Zulu built a wattle and daub structure on land in Umlazi's J Section and Eunice began to give free sewing lessons to unemployed women in the area who were supporting their extended families. In time, orders for school uniforms, track suits, traditional Zulu attire, and other articles were received and the project began to grow. The centre now comprises three rooms, including one sewing room equipped with a number of industrial and home-grade sewing machines and sergers and a room devoted to beading production.

In 2001 the Zamukuziphilisa Community Project became a registered nonprofit organisation (Reg. No. 014-534 NPO). Although Zamukuziphilisa Sewing and Crafts has not had its BEE status professionally assessed, a self-assessment indicates that it is a Qualifying Small Enterprise, employing 15-20 Black women from the Umlazi area during peak order times. Zamukuziphilisa has and will continue to be owned and run by Mrs. Eunice Gambushe, a Black woman who has been crafting and promoting handicraft skills development for nearly fifty years. Her dedicated efforts for the co-operative continue and during the last year, Zamukuziphilisa has exhibited at the Umlazi Mega City Small Business Fair (May 2007) and the Durban Exhibition Centre Small Business Fair (September 2007). She has also recently worked as a sewing instructor and consultant for the Parliamentary Millennium Programme's *Amazwi Abesifazane* (Voices of Women) project, a collaboration between Parliament and non-governmental organization, Create Africa South.

The three products Zamukuziphilisa Sewing and Crafts has selected for consideration by Tradepoint South Africa Durban represent a fusion of three values that are central to the co-operative: pride in the new South Africa, pride in Zulu tradition, and pride in the possibilities for women in South Africa today. These products are a beaded doorway curtain that depicts the Republic of South Africa's flag; a traditional Zulu *isigege* beaded skirt; and a cloth and beaded doll, Thandiwe, who fuses Zulu beading traditions with a new conception of the African woman. The latter two products are also available in different color schemes from the ones represented in the samples.

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Breakdown of Company Information for Zamukuziphilisa Sewing and Crafts:

Centre originally established in Umlazi in 1995.

Craft Centre

- Registered Co-operative #K6/3/9/3987 (25 July 2005)

Skills Development Classes

- Registered Nonprofit Organisation #014-534 (31 August 2001)

BEE Status

- A qualifying small enterprise, owned and managed by a Black woman, employing 15-20 Black women from the Umlazi area.

Recent Exhibitions

- May 2007: Small Business Fair, Umlazi Mega City
- September 2007: Small Business Fair, Durban Exhibition Centre