

Creating a better country for all

JUNIOR BESTER

DR LOUISE Rhyn is the founder of non-profit organisation Symphonia, aimed at strengthening society through projects designed to encourage nation building. Through her company she does her work as a social entrepreneur, working towards creating a better life for South Africans.

What does your job entail?

I am a social entrepreneur whose mission is to strengthen the fabric of SA society, enabling us to create a country that works for all. I believe this can be done by facilitating collaboration between business, the government and civil society. Our job is to equip, inspire and support these people who are leading change in their teams, organisations, schools and even their communities. I also lead the School @ the Centre of Community project, a large-scale social change initiative to mobilise citizens and communities to partner-educators to prepare our children for active and productive citizenship.

What is your background?

I have a BSc with maths and

computer science and then spent almost a decade in the field of information technology, where I did programming, project management and change management. I then did an MBA, focusing on change management. This led to an interest in organisational development and, ultimately, to a doctorate in large-scale social change.

Describe a typical day:

We organise numerous workshops and events, so most of my days are spent either facilitating these workshops across the country, or meeting my team or my clients. We discuss various topics, such as venues, the number of people attending, along with logistics regarding the workshops or events.

What are your biggest challenges at work?

There is so much to do in our field, which means our days are packed and this can be a challenge when you need time to plan new interventions. Quite often we also encounter negativity regarding our goal, which is to radically transform education in SA. Therefore, a lot of our energy has to be dedicated towards that.

What are your major rewards?

The major reward is seeing people making a choice to become active citizens. It is so pleasing to see people not sitting back and waiting for others to create an SA that works, but to choose to get actively involved as instruments of change. A second major reward is seeing change leaders, specifically school principals, who have rediscovered their capacity to be community leaders.

What do you need to succeed as a social entrepreneur?

There are a number of characteristics, including courage, tenacity, resilience and passion. Also, you will need the ability to deal with ambiguity and complexity. A great sense of humour is vital, because it will help you connect with different kinds of people.

What are the minimum educational requirements for the job?

It helps to have a degree or diploma of some nature, but many social entrepreneurs enter the field straight out of matric. It's more about committing 100 percent to a cause, than academic learning.



PLEASING: Dr Louise Rhyn taps into people's need to help others, while also starting or running a business.

What is the basic starting salary?

Entrepreneurs generate their own income and many have to work for love and charity for a long time before being able to pay themselves a salary. However, there are a number of opportunities to work for a variety of non-profit organisations, and salaries can start at anywhere between R6 000 and R12 000.

Who's where



Michael Gibbon, chief executive, Bosch Holdings



Bill Yeo, managing director, Bosch Projects



Zodwa Velleman, legal director, brandhouse

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Oncology Management Services Business Intelligence Analyst



Head Office, Bellville, Cape Town

Oncology Management Services (OMS) provides comprehensive cancer care to patients countrywide. The above position is currently available at our Head Office in Bellville.

Minimum Criteria

- Diploma or B degree in information systems
- 2 years' working experience within a Business Intelligence Environment
- Specific experience in Microsoft SharePoint and SQL Server T-SQL
- Experience designing and working OLAP and electronic reporting packages e.g. Microsoft SSRS or Crystal Reports

The organisation offers a competitive remuneration package and other benefits. Interested parties are invited to send their applications (CV and cover letter) to:

Attention: Central Region HR Department

E-mail: applications@cancernet.co.za

Fax: 086 260 0115

Closing Date for Applications: 02 March 2012

Starting Date for Position: ASAP

Successful candidates will be contacted within 3 weeks after the closing date of this position.