



Pebbles
Project

CHANGING
LIVES



SANDRA'S STORY

Sandra was born in Ceres. When her family moved to Stellenbosch, she attended the Pebbles Project After School Club on Bellevue wine farm.

When Sandra fell pregnant as a teenager, she was suddenly overwhelmed by the newfound responsibility. The Pebbles Project CEO and Deputy Director offered support to Sandra: "They took my hand and helped me to go back to school. They made sure that I had all the resources that I needed. It was so comforting to know that they were there for me..."

Sandra went back to school. However, it wasn't always smooth sailing, and unfortunately Sandra failed two of her matric subjects.

Sandra dreamed of becoming a teacher or a chef one day. The Pebbles Project Social Worker assisted Sandra to get a casual position as a teacher at the Bellevue Early Childhood Development (ECD) centre to give Sandra the opportunity see whether a career in teaching is something she would enjoy. However, Sandra came to the realization that teaching is not the career for her: "A Social Worker at Pebbles saw that I was not happy and asked whether I would rather want to go study, I said yes. She guided me throughout the whole journey; she drove me to Boland College, and assisted me in applying to study hospitality."

The Pebbles Social Worker assisted Sandra in obtaining a position at Kunjani Wines restaurant where she worked as a Chef de Partie in training from 2018 to 2021. Thereafter, Sandra was offered the position of Commis Chef at Bellevue wine farm's restaurant. Sandra enjoys working as a chef: "My colleagues and I share a strong bond and I enjoy working under pressure, it's a challenge I really enjoy." Sandra's speciality is preparing gourmet platters.

Sandra is proud of her journey and of how far she's come: "Pebbles have literally changed my life. I can honestly say that I don't know where I would be today without Pebbles. I probably would have been stuck in the same place that I was during my teenage pregnancy. I would have given up on my dreams. When I got pregnant, Pebbles took my hand and said 'Sandra, it's not the end of the world. Do not lose hope. You can and will overcome this, we are here for you.'"

FOR MORE INFORMATION

*For more information or to contribute to this programme,
please visit our website: www.pebblesproject.co.za*