

# Scoot along to success

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**U**nemployment is rife but some youth are still hopeful, believing there are a lot of opportunities for them in the business world.

One of these optimists is Recardo Swail (27) from Grassy Park who has been given an opportunity to do his delivery business on a scooter.

Relate Bracelets has partnered with Scully scooters to enable three young South Africans to start, and run, their own small businesses. All three beneficiaries will work for Uber, using their new scooters to operate as delivery riders for Uber Eats.

Relate is a 100% not-for-profit social enterprise, which sells handmade beaded bracelets to raise money for charities globally while creating jobs for South Africans.

Swail says he has been delivering medication by foot in his area for a number of years. The new scooter he got will change his life forever.

“I would go to the day hospital, get medication and walk door-to-door and do deliveries and I would get a R10. Through the training I got from Scully and Relate I now have a scooter which will make me a much better business person and earn a little bit more than what I was getting. I will also be allowed to do work with other companies as well which will be a great help to earn more,” he says.

Scully’s vision is to “get South Africa moving”, one scooter – and one job opportunity – at a time. To date, the organisation has put more than 800 previously disadvantaged youth into either work or their own business.

“The work that Scully scooters does, in terms of job creation and enterprise development, is very much in line with what we believe at Relate: That it is essential to create opportunities for South Africans to grow and succeed to enable a better future for our country,” says Neil Robinson, CEO of Relate.

“We have selected one of Scully’s many solutions that enables three new opportunities for employment and business creation. Our R100 000 investment will equip three previously disadvantaged youth with everything they need to run a business-on-a-bike. They enter a Scully scooters programme, which includes them learning the attitudinal and behavioural skills to ride a scooter safely as well as how to run their small business. We’ve provided them with 150cc scooters along with all necessary safety accessories for them to commence their business immediately after training,” he says.

Robinson adds that with more than a quarter of South Africans currently unemployed, it is vital that non-profit organisations and businesses alike work together to come up with solutions to this problem.

“They’re using these scooters to start and build their own businesses for themselves as



**Recardo Swail (27) from Grassy Park is grateful for the scooter that will change the way he does his delivery work.**

Uber Eats riders, but it’s also a gateway for them to enter the very many opportunities opening up in the scooter delivery, courier and business-on-a-bike space,” Robinson explains.

Swail says there should be more employment opportunities like this one for youth.

“This opportunity means that myself, and other youth, will be able to enter into the job market and secure a job in the long-term,” says Swail.

Fellow recipient Kelly du Plessis from Hillview says her new business-on-a-bike is an “awesome opportunity” for her to move forward in her life.

“The rate of unemployment is so high and right now I can’t afford to stay at home doing nothing. I’m used to working and I love being on the road. I feel excited about this opportunity. Being in a car can be expensive and takes time but the scooter eliminates all that,” says Du Plessis, adding that the opportunity is a major stepping stone to success for her.

The recipients also receive the guidance and mentorship they need to succeed in their new business venture.

“We believe that more people should have the opportunity to earn a living for themselves. We have been providing platforms of opportunity to our students since 2012, and we remain the industry leaders when it comes to the training of young people in the skill of riding a scooter safely, with the express intention of getting them an income-earning opportunity,” says Linlee Solms, Cape Town GM of Scully scooters.

► For more information on Relate Bracelets visit [www.relate.org.za](http://www.relate.org.za).