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**LOVE AND LAUGHTER ALWAYS!**

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## PONTSHO MANZI'S BIOGRAPHY

Pontsho Manzi is Executive Chairman and CEO of Bothokwa Group; a holding company for three subsidiary companies called Recrutrain, FabImage and Bonisa Media. A human Resource Degree Graduate, Pontsho is a qualified HR practitioner by training, an author, a nationally and internationally recognised professional business and inspirational speaker, facilitator, coach and image consultant. She is the founding editor and publisher of Fabulous Woman magazine and author of arguably the first South African black female created and owned annual inspirational diary for women called Diary for Fabulous You.

Passionate about women empowerment, youth development and leadership, Pontsho is also a Founding Director and Chairman of non-profit initiatives, Fabulous Girls Foundation and FabWoman Awards. Pontsho realised that no awards exist that recognise the ethical values that are embodied in her campaign for women upliftment and empowerment, and women unity. It is for this reason that she launched the Fabulous Woman Awards in 2013 to recognise and celebrate the foundational principles of ethical womanhood. These are first awards in South Africa that recognise both girls and women in an effort to engender the spirit of sisterhood and cross generational bonding for all women of South Africa.

Pontsho formed Recrutrain, an HR consulting and training company in 2004 to deliver innovative staffing and training solutions to both private and public sector organisations in South Africa and the SADC region. It was during her formative years in recruiting and training that she saw a need to link her business with image consulting as most of her candidates consulted her for advice on self-image and image management.

The feedback from workshops propelled her to delve into the image consulting business and later qualified as an image consultant with The Image Academy of South Africa (A Member of the Institute for Colour and Image Consultants for Men and Women in California, USA) in 2006. With her business acumen, Pontsho launched FabImage in 2007 as a separate company to offer image consulting services to companies and individuals in South Africa and the SADC region. She has delivered talks in companies such as GIBS Business School, MTN, Multichoice, HPCSA, Old Mutual, SASRIA, Kumalo Green, Sasol, MAN, Transnet, Department of Labour, Vodacom, CellC etc.

As part of the image consulting business, she identified a need to work with women and build their self-esteem through empowering workshops on image management.

Pontsho founded a non-profit organization called FabGalz Foundation in 2009 with the sole aim to empower young women and girls. Despite a demanding business schedule, Pontsho still trains and coach young girls and women on character building, leadership skills, self-esteem, Personal branding and impression management throughout South Africa. She sits on the board of VK Foundation and Young Women in Business Forum.

In 2011 she created and launched an annual inspirational diary for women called Dairy for Fabulous You through her newly formed publishing company called Bonisa Media. The publishing company is her bold foray into the media world and another platform to discuss more evocative issues that concern women. While working on the sequel to the diary, the feedback she received from women was overwhelmingly in support of a more frequent interaction or publication with the women whose lives she had touched through the diary. In response to that need, Pontsho launched Fabulous Woman Magazine in 2012 to offer inspiration to women on a quarterly basis and was amazed by the reach that magazine as a medium could give her in her quest to address women's issues. Through both the diary and magazine, Pontsho has come full circle back to her original purpose and business to encourage dialogue amongst women and strive for a cause that is very close to her heart: women empowerment, women's unity and the forging of an authentic sisterhood that encompasses beautiful clothes, confidence, self-esteem and mutual empowerment without competition or envy.

A devoted Christian and philanthropist at heart, Pontsho scooped two awards at the 2014 DTI South African Premier Business Awards, Young Entrepreneur Award and Play Your Part Award. A finalist in the 2014 Women for Africa Awards: International Media Woman Category. In 2011, she was the Winner of Anne Dreyer Rising Star Award. A nominee for South African Most Influential women 2012 and Shoprite Woman of the year Award 2012 -Heroine Category. Pontsho was also a Finalist in the Heroine Category of Feathers Awards 2013.

She has been featured on media shows like SABC 3, ETV, CNBC Africa, Good Morning Africa, SAfm, Radio 2000, Kaya FM and many more. She has also been featured and profiled in many print media publication local and abroad.

Her Motto: Love and Laughter Always!

Pontsho ke setlogolo sa kgoshi Modungwe, a daughter to Tina and Pastor Selomane. She grew up in the beautiful township of Soshanguve!

