



# BUFFALO STATE

The State University of New York



## Meet Rubens Mukunzi, President and Owner of Madiba Janitorial Services L.L.C.

Rubens Mukunzi, entrepreneur, president and owner of **Madiba Janitorial Services L.L.C.** is a quintessential American success story. Today he holds a Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) Certification from Erie County and the City of Buffalo and recently secured a contract with the Buffalo Niagara Medical Campus. Born and raised in Rwanda, Mr. Mukunzi became a renowned Rwandan journalist. Highly disruptive conditions ended all aspects of his life in Rwanda. In 2012, he emigrated to the U.S. Here, he had to rethink what he could do to support family. He drew upon his investigative skills to better understand how to launch and sustain an American enterprise. One of his early contacts was Sherri Falk of the Excelsior Growth Fund. Ms. Falk referred him to the Small Business Development Center, (SBDC). Guided by the SBDC, Mr. Mukunzi completed his MBE application. He also benefited from the SBDC's one to one strategic counsel. Further, his SBDC business advisor, Mauricio Canton Diaz, introduced him to Mr. Jesse Burnette and his team at the Division of Equal Employment Opportunity of Erie County. This group plays a key role in the County/City certification process and serves as a bridge to Erie County procurement opportunities. Mr. Mukunzi is continuing to work with Mr. Diaz to design and implement his growth strategy and his capacity to secure New York State MWBE certification.

To learn more about the MWBE certification process, visit :

<https://sbdc.buffalostate.edu/minority-and-women-owned-business-enterprise> and to meet with SBDC Business Advisor, Mr. Mauricio Canton Diaz, call 878-4030.

