

DID YOU KNOW?

July is Mandela Month and Mandela Day will be celebrated on 18 July. The objective of Mandela Day is to inspire individuals to take action to help change the world for the better, and in doing so build a global movement for good.



MY DISTRICT TODAY

Issue no. 73 / July 2013

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Outcome 12: Create a better South Africa and contribute to a better and safer Africa and World.

“Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.”
– Nelson Mandela

By Abigail Sejesho: GCIS North West



Activities for 67 minutes at the crossroad in Mahikeng on 18 July 2013.

The North West Provincial Office of the GCIS celebrated 67 minutes to inspire and taking action to change the world in making every day a Mandela Day by giving communities food for thought as part of celebrating the legacy of this icon on his 95th birthday. Two hundred *Vuk'uzenzele* government newspapers, 67 bursary forms from the departments of water affairs, and agriculture, forestry and fisheries and 95 of Mandela's favourite quotes were distributed during the cross-roads information activation in Mahikeng on the corner of Martin and Carrington streets.

The town was reverberating for 67 seconds with the sound of vuvuzelas wishing Tata Madiba a speedy recovery and a happy birthday.

In line with another favourite Mandela quote, “As we let our own light shine, we unconsciously give other people permission to do the same,” the GCIS empowered communities with information that will connect them with educational opportunities that will better their lives. The July issue of *Vuk'uzenzele* carried an application form for the South African Military Health Service and people were encouraged to apply.

Thapelo Mosiane was very excited to receive the bursary form. He said, “It is indeed a Mandela Day. I'm going to apply to the Military Health Service and one day I will take health-care to the people.”



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Archie Khuboni blames moral decay as the main cause for social ills.

Outcome 3: All people in South Africa are and feel safe

Sisonke men take a stand

By Mlungisi Dlamini & Nomzamo Zondi: GCIS KwaZulu-Natal



Inkosi Chiliza addressing Sisonke residents.

The men of the Sisonke District had a rare opportunity to have a one-on-one session with some high-profile traditional leaders to discuss issues affecting them. Among them was the Provincial Amakhosi Chairperson, Inkosi Chiliza, and government official. This auspicious programme was held at the Emadungeni Tribal Authority in celebration of Men and Moral Regeneration Month. This open dialogue session was a joint effort by the district men's sector, Sisonke District and the Ubuhlebezwe Local Municipality.

The topics of the abuse of women, raping of grannies and young children all came under the spotlight during the discussions. Delegates learned with shock about how the Sisonke district is affected by such incidents when the local South African Police Service gave statistics of these crimes. Addressing the gathering, Inkosi Chiliza con-

demned all sorts of abuse directed at women – young and old. He labelled the perpetrators as manless criminals who did not deserve to be called men. He said that the meeting had to suggest solutions to address social ills affecting the district. He also said that such engagements should be held consistently and not just be a once-off event.

He was sharing the podium with a well-known traditionalist and Senior Lecturer at the University of KwaZulu-Natal, Mr Ndela Ntshangase, who also has a programme on Ukhozi FM. He brought up topical issues such as gender-based violence, HIV and AIDS, rape and medical male circumcision, which got the men talking, raised grievances, recommendations and resolutions to alleviate these challenges. Among resolutions that were tabled, the meeting agreed that it was necessary to bring back the lost African traditions and

customs. “The country is experiencing these problems because men and traditional leaders were deprived power to impose authority at home,” said Bongani Malimela one of the delegates.

Archi Khuboni from Nokweja blamed moral decay and misinterpretation of women’s rights as contributing factors to social ills. He said it was necessary to establish youth camps where young boys are taught about positive social behaviour.

The resolutions will be continually revisited through ward gatherings and meetings lead by community leaders. All the men were urged to support programmes and initiatives to build the nation.

“Elamadoda-Elethu” chanted the men, agreeing to take a stand and make a difference.

Outcome 12: Create a better South Africa and contribute to a better and safer Africa and World.

We all have a bit of Mandela in ourselves

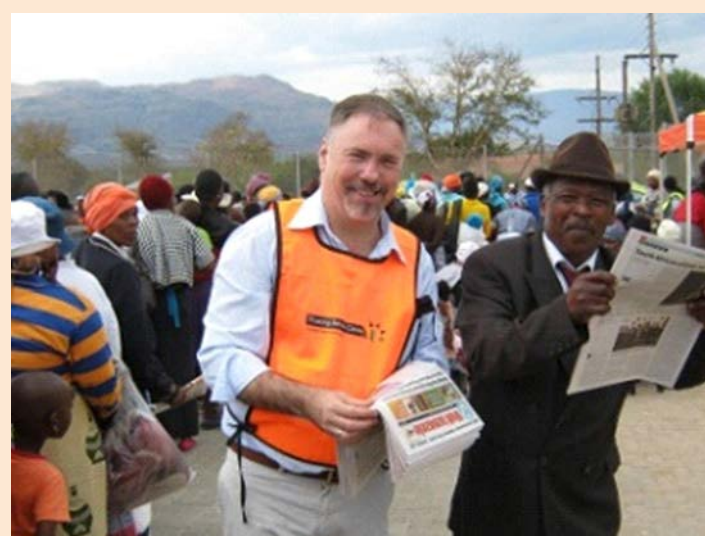
By Doctor Marebane: GCIS Limpopo



All took part in cleaning Mapodile's streets.



Senior citizens came in numbers to support the good cause and were given blankets.



GCIS Chief Director, Michael Currin had a light moment with an elderly gentleman.



Everyone received a hot cup of soup.

Responding to the Nelson Mandela Foundation's call to volunteer 67 minutes on Mandela Day. On 18 July, Nelson Mandela's birthday, the community of Mapodile gathered at the Mapodile Thusong Service Centre to honour Madiba's birthday, leadership and humanitarian legacy by supporting their senior citizens.

The event was organised by the Helping Hand Food Bank, which is based in the centre, in conjunction with the GCIS. It was characterised by a lot of activities including street cleaning, cooking meals for senior citizens and distributing blankets. Other activities included music, dancing and a local musician, Pebetse Makgamatha, who is making a name in the gospel industry, graced the event.

Among the guests were the Greater Tubatse Mayor, Josias Nkosi Mahlake; Member of Parliament, Dalida Boshego; GCIS Chief Director, Michael Currin; Pick n Pay management; the Limpopo Office of the Premier; local councillors; local mine representatives; other government departments such as Home Affairs; and private companies such as the Aurum Institute.

In his speech, the Greater Tubatse Mayor applauded the Mapodile Thusong Service Centre management for their hard work. He also thanked Helping Hand Food Bank, Pick n Pay Steelpoort, Supa Save, Steelburger News and Burgersfort Toyota for donating 225 blankets for the elderly.

More than 600 people attended the event and took part in cleaning the Mapodile Township for 67 minutes. Khomanani Home-Based carers also took part in the event. They prepared meals for all the guests, senior citizens and disabled people and everyone who came, had something to eat.

Mr Michael Curren distributed government publications and interacted with members of the community who said they are happy with the Mapodile Thusong programmes.



Members of the Community Work Programme cleaning the yard of the Ntabiseng Special School in Namakgale.



After the hard work, a celebration cake was cut.



Councillor Maphuta Malatji, Mr Onnie Rammalo and his colleagues doing their 67 minutes.

Outcome 12: Create a better South Africa and contribute to a better and safer Africa and World.

More than 67 minutes to make a difference in the lives of the less fortunate – 18 July 2013

By Eunice Nkuna: GCIS Limpopo



The Deputy Principal of Ntshunshakani Primary School addressing learners during the handover of paints and painting material by Foskor Mine and Komatsu Company at Lulekani in the Ba-Phalaborwa municipality.



Members of SANDF 7 SAI BN volunteering their time at Ntabiseng Special School.

The United Nations declared the birthday of the ever-popular former State President, Nelson Mandela, as International Mandela Day and each year people across the world participate in various activities to celebrate the day. Mandela Day creates a platform for people to lend a hand in dealing with, among other things, poverty, unemployment and inequality. The Ba-Phalaborwa community lined up various activities such as:

- The SANDF 7 SAI BN, members of the Community Work Programme and members of the community cleaned the yard and worked in the garden of the Ntabiseng Special School for learners with intellectual impairments.

- The Mopani Further Education and Training College, Maphuta Malatji Hospital staff and a local politician volunteered at the hospital.
- The Namakgale South African Police Service spent their 67 minutes at the Selematsela drop-in centre at Namakgale, in Honeyville Village. Captain Elphius Maake and Ward councillor Merriam Malatjie planted two trees and the children were given sweets.

The objective of Mandela Day is to inspire people to take action to help change the world for the better, and in doing so build a global movement for good. Madiba was politically active for 67 years, and on Mandela Day people all over

the world – in the workplace, at home and in schools – spend at least 67 minutes of their time doing something useful in their communities, especially among the less fortunate.

The theme says it all: “Take Action; Inspire Change; Make Every Day a Mandela Day.”



Team captain Lucky Lekgwathi and PRO Mickey.



Ace goal scorer, Collins "Ntfontofo" Mbesuma Modisane giving a speech.



Pirates donated blankets and food parcels to the elderly.

Outcome 12: Create a better South Africa and contribute to a better and safer Africa and World.

Orlando Pirates celebrate with the elderly on Mandela Day

By Itumeleng Bogatsu: GCIS Gauteng



The captain, Lucky Lekgwathi, introducing his team.

The 2013 Mandela Day will linger in the minds of the elderly people at the Tembisa Care of the Aged Centre, because Orlando Pirates Football Club made their day.

During Mandela Month special emphasis is placed on the former President's birthday. This year he was celebrating 95 years while lying at the Medi-Clinic Heart Hospital in Pretoria, with a lot of well wishes and prayers being offered for his speedy recovery by the community across the country.

The Government encourages South Africans to give 67 minutes of their time to help change their communities and the country for the better. The theme for Mandela Month this year is: "Take Action, Inspire Change. Make Every Day a Mandela Day."

As part of reaffirming Madiba's ideals, including his unwavering commitment to justice, equality

and a non-racial South Africa, the programme started with the planting of 101 fruit trees everywhere in the township; the event proceeded to the Tembisa Care of Aged Centre. There the gogos and mkhulus had the opportunity to rub shoulders with the entire team of the Orlando Pirates Football Club – the players, coaches and the management staff. Mickey Modisane, the team's public relations officer (PRO) introduced the club's captain, Lucky Lekgwathi. He in turn introduced the players and management. The two locally based players, Thabo Festival Matlaba and Bheki Nzunga, received a standing ovation.

The team donated blankets both unbranded and branded in the team's logo as well as food parcels. In thanking the team, 71-year-old granny, Emily Motsewabone, said they were all grateful for the wonderful gesture from the team. "At 71 years it is obvious that there's only one team I could support and that's the Mighty Amabhakabha-

ka. Today I am happy to see the entire squad. I always see them on TV. In real life, boys, you look young and smart. Please go and win us trophies this year," she concluded.

Among other donors were MMC Mining Company as well as Woolworths.



Some of the choir members rendering musical items to entertain the crowd.