




MY DISTRICT TODAY



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CONTACT DETAILS OF THE GCIS PROVINCIAL OFFICES

For more information about similar programmes that are run across the country, contact one of the following provincial offices:

EASTERN CAPE

Ndlelantle Pinyana
043 722 2602 or 076 142 8606
ndlelantle@gcis.gov.za

FREE STATE

Lineo Sehlabaka
051 448 4504 or 082 722 9445
tshenolo@gcis.gov.za

GAUTENG

Peter Gumede
011 834 3560 or 083 570 8080
peterg@gcis.gov.za

KWAZULU-NATAL

Ndala Mngadi
031 301 6787 or 082 877 9420
ndala@gcis.gov.za

OUTCOME 6: AN EFFICIENT, COMPETITIVE AND RESPONSIVE ECONOMIC INFRASTRUCTURE NETWORK

Deputy Minister engages with small businesses

By Reki Skosana: GCIS, Mpumalanga



Small businesses had an opportunity to showcase their products.

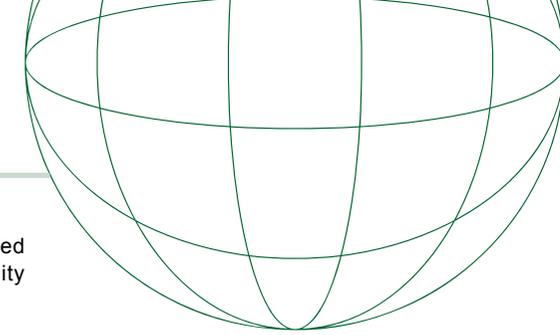
On 10 March 2017, the Deputy Minister for Economic Development, Madala Masuku, visited the community of Pieterskraal A in Dr JS Moroka Local Municipality. The event was well attended by cooperatives and small businesses from both Dr JS Moroka and Thembisile Hani local municipalities. During the event the representatives from different small businesses and neighbouring areas were afforded an opportunity to raise their concerns



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LIMPOPO

Thanyani Ravhura
015 291 4689 or 082 421 3461
thanyani@gcis.gov.za

MPUMALANGA

Jerry Nkosi
013 753 2397 or 082 316 5295
Jerry@gcis.gov.za

NORTH WEST

Kagisho Meremetsi
018 381 7071 or 084 318 9179
kagisho@gcis.gov.za

NORTHERN CAPE

Marius Nagel
053 832 1378/9 or 083 778 9179
mariusn@gcis.gov.za

WESTERN CAPE

Ayanda Holo
021 697 0145 or 061 488 0634
holo@gcis.gov.za



regarding their business development. Deputy Minister Masuku addressed them accordingly and outlined that the local municipality together with the Local Economic Development within the local municipality would work hard to ensure that their challenges are being addressed to grow the local economy.

Dimakatso Bodirwa from Seabe said, “This event is going to change people’s lives for the better provided we voice out our concerns and come up with suggestions, we need to make things to happen instead of waiting for things to change on their own. We are faced with unemployment and as young people we need to also contribute in changing what will develop our lives.”

The community also had an opportunity to access government services and information from other supporting stakeholders during the exhibitions.



The community received government services and information during the event.



David Phiri said:

“As people in the country we struggle regarding businesses and today we are here with the Deputy Minister to try to address that issue. I hope today’s meeting will yield positive results.”



OUTCOME 12: AN EFFICIENT, EFFECTIVE AND DEVELOPMENT ORIENTED PUBLIC SERVICE AND AN EMPOWERED, FAIR AND INCLUSIVE CITIZENSHIP

Minister urges community to embrace education

By Ephraim Malema: GCIS, North West



Minister Faith Muthambi addressing members of the public at the event.



A community members talking about electricity challenges in the area.



A community member thanking the Minister for coming to Moretele Local Municipality.



A community member talking about service-delivery challenges.



A community member speaking at the event.

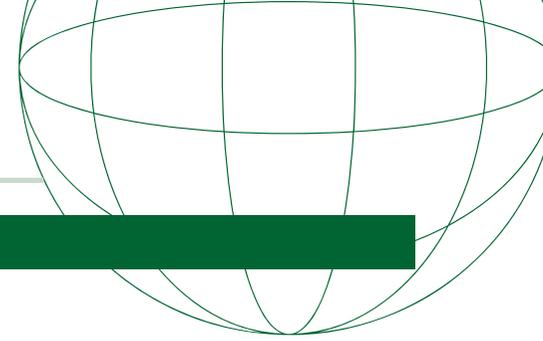


Members of the community listening to Minister Faith Muthambi.

Minister of Communications, Faith Muthambi, took part in an educational Imbizo at Lefathheng village in Moretele Local Municipality on 12 March 2017.

During the Imbizo, the Minister and other political principals from the province engaged in a face-to-face interaction with members of the community to address their challenges. Minister Muthambi emphasised the importance of education and also encouraged parents to support their children in their studies. "Education is very important and you need education to be successful. We must together to make sure that the pupils take their education seriously because without education there is no future," she said.

The Minister also visited the houses of members of the community where set-top boxes were installed in order to roll out the digital migration project in the village. In July 2015, the department launched public-awareness campaigns to educate citizens about the need to migrate and the benefits of the broadcasting digital migration programme. The launch was followed by a series of digital migration Izimbizo that the Minister leads across the country.



OUTCOME 1: IMPROVED QUALITY OF BASIC EDUCATION

Career Expo for Grade 12 learners

By Thandinkosi Zulu: GCIS, KwaZulu-Natal



Thandolwethu Mtshali with learners from Gordon Memorial High School.



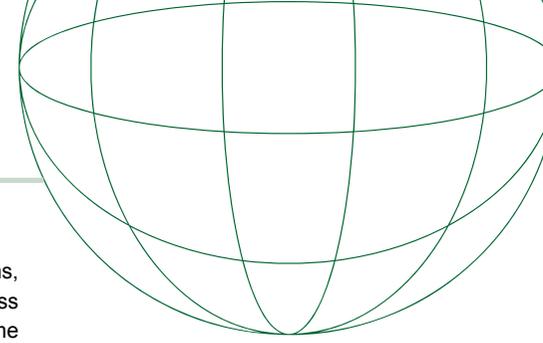
Phindile Hadebe said:

"I have learned a lot about bursary applications and job opportunities available at various institutions in various fields of study. My career of choice is Human Resource Management and I have already applied. Today's programme is very helpful to us as Grade 12 learners since we have received a lot of information at our doorstep without having to travel long distances."



Learners visiting information stalls during the career exhibition.

Thousands of Grade 12 learners attended the Youth Development and Career Expo at Dundee Moth Hall, which was part of government's intervention on education as a fundamental human right. It also served as an essential ingredient for nation-building and to ensure that young people become successful in their studies.



Learners from various schools listening to presentations on career information.



Zethembe Dlamini said:

"I came for career advice more especially on programming, which is one of my careers of choice. I have already applied through CAO. I wish government can reduce the amount of fees that are paid in tertiary institutions since some of us cannot afford."

The expo was convened by the Department of Education within Umzinyathi District where tertiary institutions, Technical Vocational Education and Training colleges, National Youth Development Agency, and business organisations beefed up their stalls with information about career opportunities available for learners to become successful individuals.

Thandolwethu Mtshali, a career development practitioner for Umzinyathi District Department of Education, outlined that the purpose of the career expo was an instrument to promote and develop the right of every young person to enjoy access to quality education, without discrimination or exclusion. He added that it is important for the Department of Education to create platforms where young people can have broad career choices to lift themselves out of poverty and to fully participate economically as South African citizens.

"We want to empower learners with knowledge that will sharpen their careers. Today's presentations were aimed at strengthening the individual's knowledge and prepare them academically to deal with the corporate world," said Mtshali.

High-school learners were exposed to various career opportunities. They believe the expo will help them make right choices regarding their careers. Learners who attended the expo were inspired by leaders from government on how they can be successful in their studies.

Slondiwe Khumalo from Phathizwe High School said, "I am hoping to be well informed about the career choices that I have already made and to seek guidance so that I will be well informed when I finish matric."

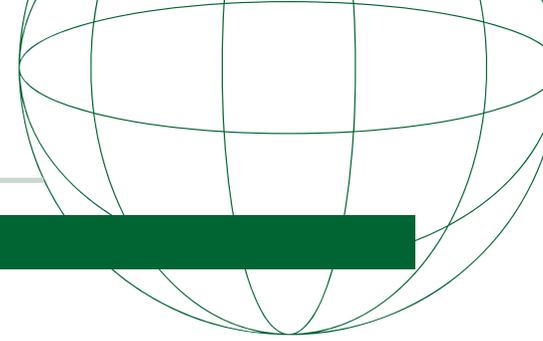
Taking good career choices was not the only subject for the day but the scourge of social ills such as HIV and AIDS, teenage pregnancy and substance abuse was also discussed with learners under the campaign: "My Life, My Future".

Nokuthula Mahaye, one of the uMzinyathi HIV activists, told learners that it is important to rise above the challenges of HIV and AIDS, teenage pregnancies and substance abuse. She told learners that education must be their greatest priority and the acquisition of skills was the best way to get out of poverty and reach their goals.



Shadile Madonsela said:

"I want to be a teacher and have not yet applied since I have not received my first progress report for the March term. It was exciting to get clarity from various institutions about different careers in one area. The department has helped us as matriculants to bring all institutions under one roof for our career advice and guidance."



OUTCOME 1: IMPROVED QUALITY OF BASIC EDUCATION

Deputy Minister urges learners to get out of their shells

By Jacob Molete: GCIS, Gauteng



Deputy Minister Stella Ndabeni-Abrahams said:
 “We all should respect each other’s rights, speak out against and report any incident of abuse regardless of who the victim is or whether you are a man, woman, a child or a person with disabilities.”

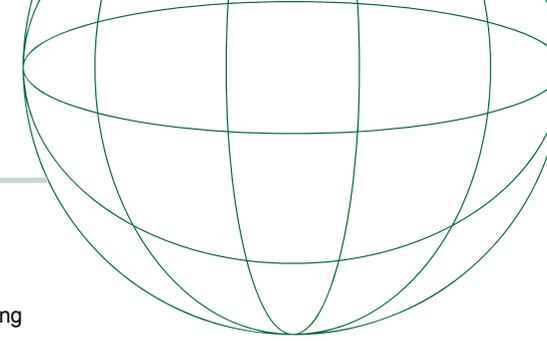


Nomsa Langa said:
 “I believe that with hard work and determination one can achieve greatness”.
 said Ms. learner at Ponelepele Oracle Secondary School”



Deputy Minister Stella Ndabeni-Abrahams being interviewed at the Voice of Tembisa FM.

Deputy Minister of Communications, Stella Ndabeni-Abrahams, in partnership with Kuzondlula Motivational hosted learner motivational talk under the theme: “It’s possible, I can do it” at Ponelepele Oracle and Allendridge secondary schools respectively. The event took place on 24 March 2017.



Katleho Ncala said:

“Hard work, determination and believing in yourself will make you succeed irrespective of your background; it is possible, if I can do it, you too can do it.”



Ntombi Ngcobe-Mzolo said:

“I am destined for greatness, you too are destined for greatness, stay away from drugs, blessers and/or hand outs that can be taken away from you, focus on your studies and education, no one can take it from you because it is yours, a passport to great life and better future, focus on your future, decisions you make today will determine your future.”

The tour began at Voice of Tembisa FM where the Deputy Minister engaged with the listeners of mid-morning programme on prevention of gender-based violence (GBV) in families and the community at large.

She encourages families and the community to speak out against abuse and report all incidents of GBV.

Furthermore, she urged communities to guard against gender stereotypes. “We should educate both boys and girls to respect each other’s rights and on the negative impact of gender-based violence, same goes to perpetrators of abuse, they must be educated to stop abusive behaviour,” added the Deputy Minister.

Phase two of the programme was motivational speaking at both Ponelepele Oracle and Allendridge secondary schools.

Metro FM presenter, Ntombi Ngcobe-Mzolo informed learners that they are destined for greatness and should never allow anyone to define who they are or mess with their future.

In her keynote address, Deputy Minister Ndabeni-Abrahams reminded learners that it is what they can do for the country and not what the country can do for them. “South Africa awaits your contribution and innovation, you are the only person who is responsible for your future, it is your responsibility to maintain your dignity and contribute towards South Africa’s success by making right choices,” she said.

Education is government’s first priority; therefore, doing good and succeeding means the country will be on the right track towards achieving its skills-development goals. It plays an important role towards improving the quality of life, socio-economic development and building a prosperous and democratic South Africa.