



MY DISTRICT TODAY



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

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OUTCOME 4: DECENT EMPLOYMENT THROUGH INCLUSIVE ECONOMIC GROWTH

Investment summit for economic development and growth

By Reki Skosana: GCIS, Mpumalanga

Nkangala District Municipality in partnership with other stakeholders conducted a summit aimed at lobbying investors to invest in the district. The event was attended by the MEC for Economic Development, Skhumbuzo Kholwane and MEC for Agriculture, Rural Development, Land and Environmental Affairs, Andries Gamede. The Municipality's Executive Mayor Thomas Ngwenya and municipal mayors were also present.

Different potential investors showed and declared their interest of investing in the district and many entrepreneurs were delighted by the move.

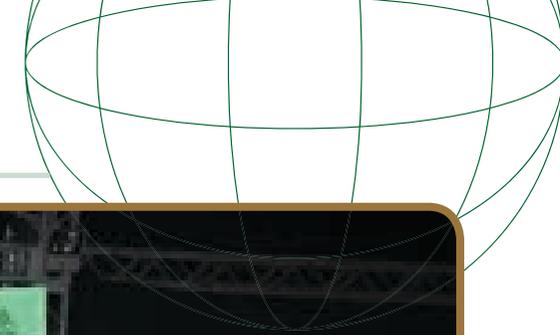


Nkangala District Municipality Executive Mayor Ngwenya addressing the audience.



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MEC Kholwane addressing entrepreneurs.

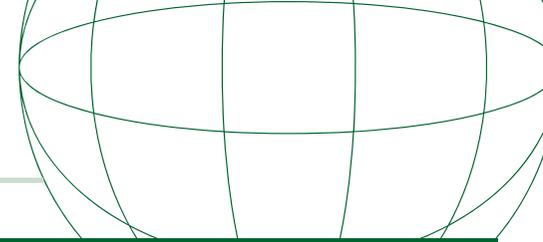


Entrepreneurs and other stakeholders listening to different presentations.



Nomsa Nkosi said:

“The event was good, especially for us as small businesses. We now know where to start when looking for financial help and other forms of assistance to grow our businesses. We thank our district municipality for putting this event together.”



Elfreda Baartman said:

“I am here to celebrate Autism Month and end it well. I came here to meet and mingle with new parents and their children. It would make me happy if nurses could be trained on how to deal or handle people with this condition.”



Arone Malebogo said:

“This is an important day for our history and for our children. We are here for our children and for all people with disabilities. The world should know about autism. We want communities to accept and welcome all children with disabilities.”

OUTCOME 2: A LONG AND HEALTHY LIFE FOR ALL SOUTH AFRICANS

Kwezi Autism Support Group celebrates Autism Month

By Masego Motshidisi: GCIS, Northern Cape

The Kwezi Autism Support Group in the Northern Cape celebrated Autism with the Disabled Children’s Action Group (DCAG) at Queen’s Park on a positive note. The organisation was established by parents of children with disabilities and operates from Tlhokomelo Thusong Service Centre in Kimberley.

The recently established non-governmental organisation invited parents, including those of children with disabilities to join in the celebrations.

The children were treated to a fun day at the park, as part of sharing the significance of Freedom Day in South Africa.

Mpho Zenani, a coordinator and an employee of DCAG, said they were celebrating and raising awareness of autism and all other disabilities. She pleaded for government and society support in ending discrimination against autism.

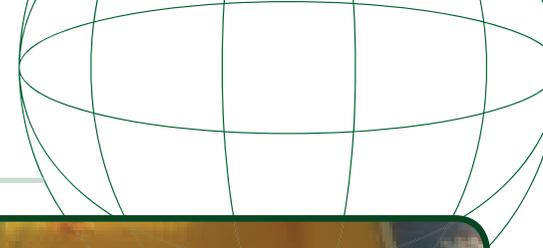
“We want the public to understand and accept us. Our children are being mocked; we want the name calling and abuse to stop,” she said.

Zenani further said there were not enough learning facilities for children with disabilities and that through their awareness campaigns, they were requesting government to accommodate them.

Celebrations continued until late afternoon, with children enjoying a variety of entertainment activities and refreshing treats.



Parents and children during the Freedom Day festivities at Queen’s Park in Kimberley.

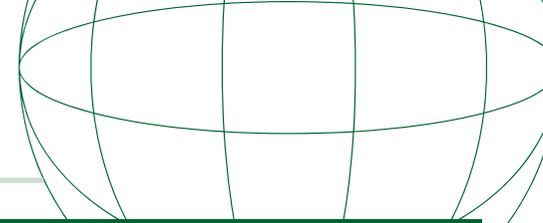


Mpho Zenani said:

“I am here as a parent. We are here to cater for all kinds of disabilities. I am here to celebrate Autism Month by saying let us raise awareness and educate those who do not know or understand this condition.”



Parents monitoring their children during the playing session.



Itumeleng Phiri said:

“I am so happy today to apply at the land claim commission, this means that the government has our best interest at heart.”

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

Commission helps people claim back their land

By Karabo Diale: GCIS, North West

Residents of Moses Kotane were provided with the opportunity to claim their land back during Freedom Month. On 29 April 2016, a mobile bus from the Commission on Restitution of Land Rights took part in a roadshow to assist members of the community to claim their land back.

The process involved officials helping beneficiaries on the process of application and also steps to be taken after applying. Beneficiaries of land claims applied to claim the land that was taken from them during the apartheid era.



Residents waiting for assistance from land-claims officials.



Beauty Mpela also lodged a claim with the commission.



Residents of Bakubung tribe during the land claim commission roadshow at Ledig in the Moses Kotane Local Municipality.



Martha Matlhaba was all smiles to be one of the first in line because she had all the necessary documents.



Celimpilo Thabethe said:

“Young people perish due to lack of information. During the programme I have learned how hard it is to look after a baby. My mother was not helping me at home, as a result I missed out on soccer practice sessions, had to wash clothes and provide for the child. More than anything, I had to monitor growth on the chart given. I do not want to have a baby while still at school.”



Nonhle Fakude said:

“I have taken a decision not to have a baby while still at school. Parents were not helping out even when I had to do household chores. My mother could not provide money to buy things for the doll, saying it was my choice to have a baby. I was given two baby dolls, so it was not easy.”

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

Learners encouraged to behave responsibly

By Jacob Mkhize: GCIS, KwaZulu-Natal

Social ills among learners are becoming a problem and this has resulted in an increase in the number of school drop-outs. This is caused by the fact that learners are not taught at an early stage about the dangers of engaging in sexual intercourse at a young age, drug and alcohol abuse, teenage pregnancy, sexually transmitted diseases, HIV and AIDS, and early parenthood.

Grade 9 learners from Madlaka High School were given a baby doll that they had to look after it for two weeks and had to treat it as a real child. During the two-week programme, learners had to take good care of the doll when at home and at school. On 26 April 2016, learners had to give feedback and also share their experiences on the effects of having babies at an early age and how it affected their schooling. During the dialogue, learners agreed that having children while still at school was not a good idea at all.

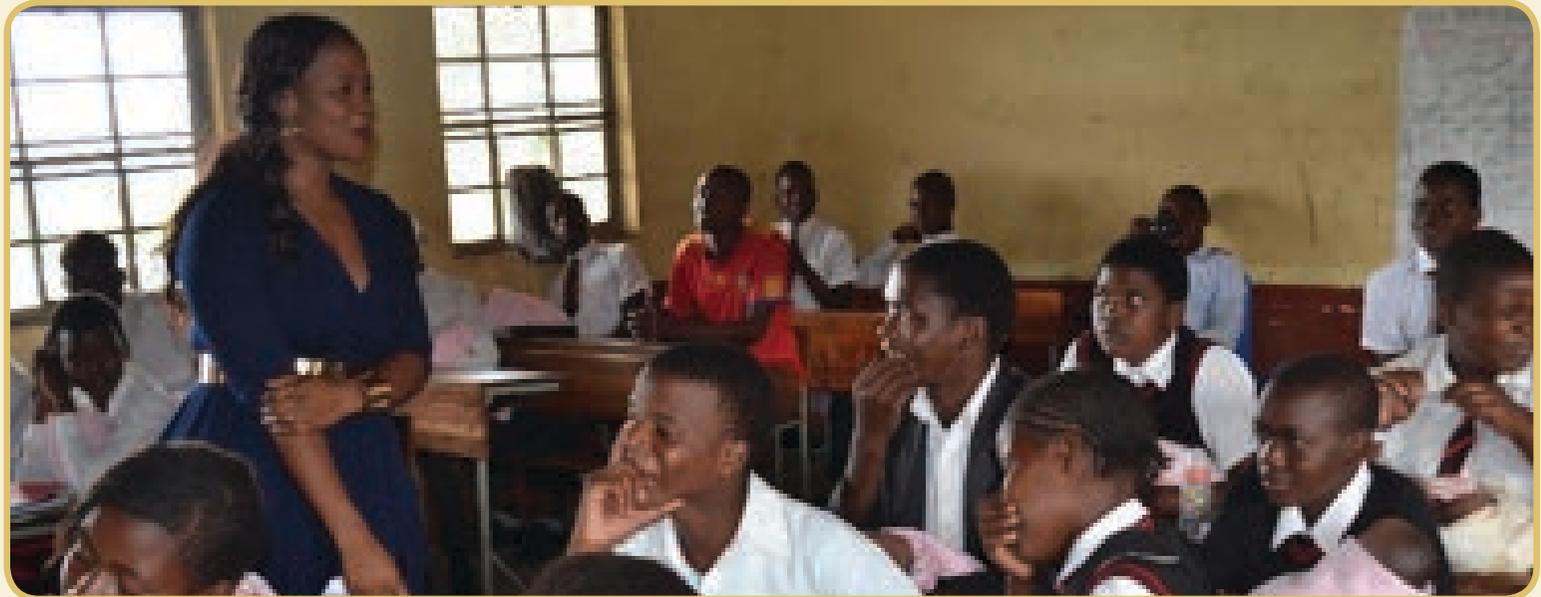
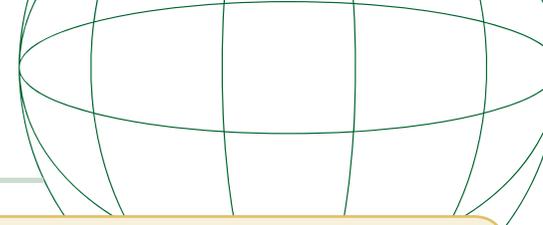
The programme was then seen as a solution for learners since they were given the opportunity to experience the life of having a baby at a young age.

The behavioural change brought some sense to learners as some said their parents were not helping with family chores at home. Learners acknowledged that the misfortune of having babies at an early age may be caused by peer pressure and alcohol and drug abuse.



Banele Nkambule said:

“I do not think having a baby while at school is the right thing. It is difficult to raise or look after a baby doll. Indeed it is impossible to raise a child while doing school work.”



An official from the KwaZulu-Natal Liquor Authority advising learners about the dangers of drinking alcohol.



Jacob Mkhize of the Government Communication and Information System interacting with learners.