




MY DISTRICT TODAY



Issue no. 23 / June 2015

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:

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OUTCOME 3: ALL PEOPLE IN SOUTH AFRICA ARE AND FEEL SAFE

Child Protection Week raises awareness

By Karen Foutie: GCIS, Northern Cape



Learners from Sesheng Intermediate Mine School enthusiastically waving pamphlets condemning attacks on foreign nationals with officials from SAPS, Crime Prevention and DSD.



Grade One learners listening to officials from the DSD and SAPS.

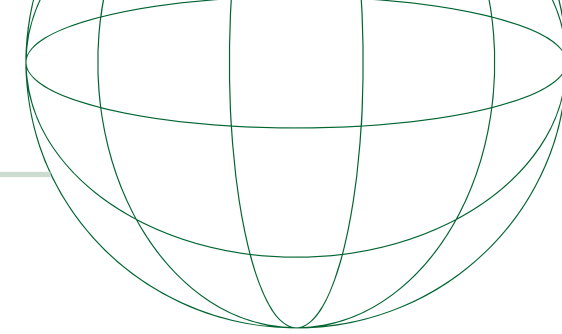
The Child Protection Week kickstarted with a bang as many social workers attempted to reach as many children as possible to share information and raise awareness about the campaign. Primary school learners in the Northern Cape were also targeted.

“The focus is to raise awareness on children’s rights and responsibilities but also to keep them safe. To many of these young learners, it is the first time that they hear about this information but others have first-hand experience of neglect. The objective is to raise awareness so that children are protected and criminal acts against them are identified and investigated. The Department of Social Development (DSD) and the South African Police Service (SAPS) work together to make the lives of all children safer,” said a social worker identified as Koti.

Mable Manshonyane, an educator at Sheng Intermediate Mine School, said the learners never understood the meaning of the information that was shared with them before. “They never understood this information before and it is a good thing that they did today. Some of them come from poor backgrounds and experience neglect or see others who are neglected,” she said.

Maletsatsi Mosegedi, a victim support worker who works in the area of Madularanch, said that learners need to get this information because they are located in rural areas where access to information is often challenging.

The Government Communication and Information System shared information leaflets condemning attacks on foreign nationals and also information about national symbols.



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Learners holding leaflets condemning attacks on foreign nationals.



A learner from Madularanch Primary School responding to a question that was asked.



Learners showing their support to a campaign aimed at stopping attacks on foreign nationals.



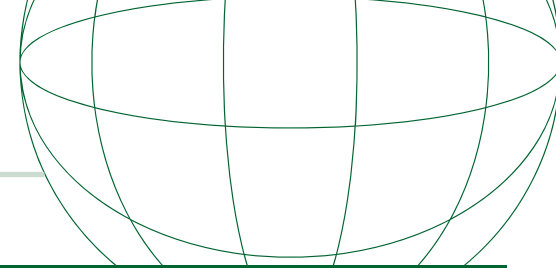
Mabel Manshonyane said:

"I was impressed that the learners know the SAPS number. And those who did not know learned about the number today. I think they all learned something today. Thank you."



Maletsatsi Mosegedi said:

"Learners in this area need this information as they are far away from various information stalls. They are based in a rural community and this makes access to information very challenging."



OUTCOME 5: A SKILLED AND CAPABLE WORKFORCE TO SUPPORT AN INCLUSIVE GROWTH PATH

Empowering youth with art

By Ephraim Malema: GCIS, North West



Youth of Moretele using art to express their views.



Moloantoa teaching young people art and sewing.

Every day after school, the Moloantoa Art Centre in Moretele village hosts young people who attend art lessons. Armed with pencils and paper, these talented young people paint a different picture of Moretele village, which is located in the Moretele Local Municipality.

The centre was started by Moloantoa Legoabe in 2014 after realising that the youth of Moretele village had nothing to do after school.

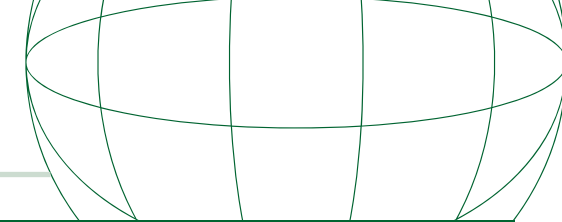
Moloantoa says he fell in love with art at a young age and he is now imparting the knowledge that he learned to the youth of Moretele. "The youth were just roaming the streets of Moretele, doing nothing. I realised that they would be exposed to drugs and invited them to this centre to learn about art," said Moloantoa.

Their lesson involves drawing facial features such as eyes, nose, mouth and ears. Amazing portraits of Former President Nelson Mandela, famous models and musicians are drawn by these young people.

"I always ask them to draw pictures of their role models," continued Moloantoa.

He says his biggest wish is to see the youth who benefited from his generosity transferring the skills to other young people.

He dreams of growing his art lessons to other neighbouring communities but since the lessons are free, he cannot afford to do so.



President Zuma standing next to Gauteng Premier David Makhura at the event.



Jabulani Myeni said:

“Youth Day is the time for reflection. I am looking at, and asking myself about my contribution towards youth development in my area and I realise that there is still a long way to go. Our downfall is that we are not as united as the youth of 1976.”



Spatz Motlhamme said:

“This is the time to celebrate my youthfulness and the freedom that I have as a young person. I appreciate all the opportunities that are available now because the youth of 1976 did not have access to these opportunities.”

OUTCOME 14: A DIVERSE, SOCIALLY COHESIVE SOCIETY WITH A COMMON NATIONAL IDENTITY.

Youth moving South Africa forward

By Robbie Senoelo: GCIS, Gauteng

President Jacob Zuma, accompanied by Deputy President Cyril Ramaphosa, Ministers, Deputy Ministers, Premiers and other government leaders attended the National Youth Day commemoration at the Tshwane Events Centre in Pretoria on 16 June 2015. President Zuma said the young guests he had invited to the event, a 20-year-old medical doctor and an 18-year-old pilot were “outstanding” individuals who had done well in their respective fields and were a good example that indeed South Africa has a good story to tell when it comes to its youth.

“While working to solve all the problems affecting young people, we are also celebrating the achievements of our youth,” said the President.

The event was organised by the Department of Arts and Culture in partnership with the National Youth Development Agency (NYDA) and the Gauteng Provincial Government under the theme: “Youth Moving South Africa Forward”.

Dressed in school uniforms, parents and learners came in numbers to commemorate the day.

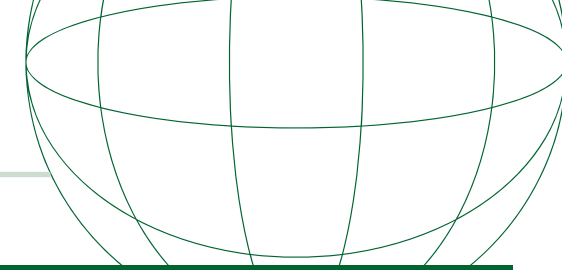
In an effort to ensure that the event was more meaningful, informative and educative to the youth, various government departments and entities exhibited and distributed information products. Delivering the keynote address, President Zuma placed the importance of education at the centre of his speech.

“Education continues to receive the biggest chunk of the national budget as our weapon for socio-economic development. We have thus made education an apex priority since the dawn of freedom because we believe it is the most effective weapon in the ongoing fight against poverty, inequality and unemployment,” he said.

The President also encouraged young people to become entrepreneurs and said that the Industrial Development Corporation has partnered with the NYDA and the Small Enterprise Finance Agency and ring-fenced R2,7-billion over the next five years for young people to take up opportunities in business. He said in the last financial year, the NYDA supported 1 043 micro and small youth-owned enterprises. President Zuma further said that the NYDA has provided non-financial business development support to 62 990 young aspiring and established entrepreneurs.



Target groups receiving information products at the Government Communication and Information System stall.



Nthabiseng Mokoena said:

"I am going to use poetry to spread the information that I received today to promote unity."



Puleng Mofokeng said:

"I am a proud African youth who would want to migrate to another African country in the near future, without any fear."



Kgotso Itebaleng said:

"Today I learned that everyone who lives in South Africa has the same rights as all of us South Africans."

OUTCOME: 14: A DIVERSE, SOCIALLY COHESIVE SOCIETY WITH A COMMON NATIONAL IDENTITY

Africa Day celebrated in style

By Ntombi Mhlambi: GCIS, Free State

The Government Communication and Information System partnered with a community development worker from Mashaeng community, Alice Motsamai, to celebrate Africa Day with Phaphama Public School learners on 25 May 2015. Some of the activities that were performed during the event included "Mokorotlo", gum-boot dance and "Ditolobonya". The children learned more about Africa and its rich heritage in customs, arts and culture. Malusi Maswili, a guest speaker from the ANC Parliamentary Constituency Office, talked to the learners about the history of South Africa before and after democracy.



Phaphama Public School learners participating in "Ditolobonya".



Malusi sharing the history of South Africa with the learners.