




MY DISTRICT TODAY



Issue no. 12 / April 2017

Special edition: Social grants

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OUTCOME 13: A COMPREHENSIVE, RESPONSIVE AND SUSTAINABLE SOCIAL PROTECTION SYSTEM

Conversation with social-grant beneficiaries

By Ntombi Mhlambi: GCIS, Free State



Interview with Nosithile Mnyande

How did you feel about the rumour that you may not receive your social grant?

I was worried about how I was going to pay for my funeral policies as they lapse if you skip payment.

How do you feel now that you have received your social grant?

I am happy as I managed to buy food for my grandchildren.

What would you like to say to government?

I am proud of government and I know it will not disappoint us as we depend on the social grants to survive.



Interview with Tselane Qokela

How did you feel about the rumour that you may not receive your social grant?

I was worried about how I was going to pay school fees for my children.

How do you feel now that you have received your social grant?

I am happy though that I received my grant although I was not sure anymore because of the rumours.

What would you like to say to government?

Government must continue to give us social grants and ensure that no insecurity is ever created.



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OUTCOME 13: A COMPREHENSIVE, RESPONSIVE AND SUSTAINABLE SOCIAL PROTECTION SYSTEM

Beneficiaries receive their grants

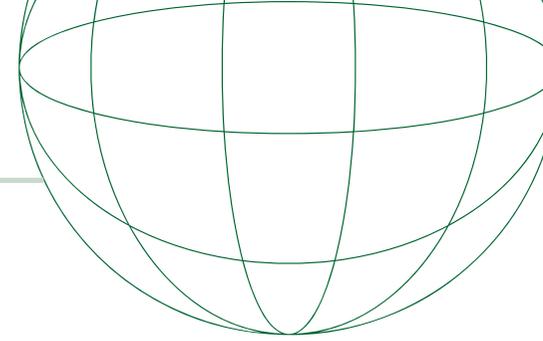
By Lehlohonolo Manoto: GCIS, Free State



The community received government services and information during the event.

“The government’s intention was to ensure that all social-grant beneficiaries are paid on 1 April 2017, indeed this was realised in the province of the Free State with a resounding success and joy to the beneficiaries in the province,” said South African Social Security Agency (SASSA) Acting Regional Executive Manager Sibongile Setlaba. She confirmed that 335 000 beneficiaries had received what is due to them from the ATM and merchandisers by the end of the second day of April. As from 3 April, beneficiaries were invited to visit their paypoints in their respective communities to access their cash payments.

SASSA Local Office Manager at Botshabelo, Sechaba Shabe, indicated that everything went well at the paypoint and also emphasised that all the 11 000 beneficiaries from Kaizer Sebothelo Stadium received their grants. The fluent way in which the payout of social grants happened in the Free State showed that government continues to better the lives of the people.



Stephen Khuze said:

“We were surprised and scared as senior citizens about the rumours of receiving our grants on the 1 April 2017. The grant assists me a lot and I depend on it entirely.”



Sechaba Shabe said:

“Every thing went well at the paypoint.”



Sibongile Setlaba said:

“All 335 000 beneficiaries have received their money from the ATM and merchandisers.”



Zachariah Modise said:

“I am very happy to have received my grant today. I did not know anything about the rumour that we would not get paid. The money helps me to buy food and other necessities.”



Social-grants beneficiaries receiving their grants at Kaizer Sebothelo Stadium paypoint.



Ester Matima said:

“I am very happy as I have received my grant. I use the money to consult the doctor and also buy food.”



Maria Leoka said:

“We are grateful to have received our grants as this plays a very important role in our lives. We depend on the grants for survival.”



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

Western Cape residents receive their grants

By Jennifer Wenn: GClS, Western Cape



Sylvia Mantanga said:

“I am very happy to have received my pension grant contrary to the rumours that we would not get the grant this month. I have confidence in our government that they will continue to provide grants every month.”



Mbatyothi said:

“I believe that government cares about the elderly and people with disabilities. This grant assists our families, we look after our unemployed children and grandchildren. It is making an amazing contribution to the rest of families.”



The community received government services and information during the event.

Social-grant beneficiaries were delighted and displayed their confidence on their government’s ability to continue to provide this essential service to the needy citizens of the country.

This was demonstrated by the views expressed by beneficiaries throughout the communities of the Western Cape. All beneficiaries who were interviewed confirmed that they have been following the rumours and media reports about the possibility of them not receiving their grants. Although some have had fears that they might not receive their grants, they strongly believed government leaders when they assured all beneficiaries that they would receive their grants on April 2017.

All paypoints were also operating without interruption and with no incidents reported.



Masivuye Ncedo said:

“I am happy that every thing that was said about the grant was not correct. I was worried that my son, Khami, would suffer this month if I do not receive my child’s grant. Both myself and his father are unemployed and we rely on government grant to feed him. I am going to buy food for the child and thanks to SASSA that we still receive the money without any hindrance.”