



MY DISTRICT TODAY



STAY
SAFE

PROTECT SOUTH AFRICA

TOGETHER WE CAN BEAT THE CORONAVIRUS

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PRIORITY 3: EDUCATION, SKILLS AND HEALTH.

Fight against COVID-19 continues

By Ndyabo Kopo: GCIS, Eastern Cape



Mounting of COVID-19 hotspot awareness posters in Ntabankulu.

Government, through its organised COVID-19 structures, stepped up efforts to mitigate COVID-19 outbreak in Ntabankulu under Alfred Nzo District Municipality. On 27 January 2021, the Government Communication and Information System (GCIS) partnered in and coordinated a collaborated effort in partnership with Ntabankulu Local Municipality, Alfred Nzo Health Services and Alfred Nzo Disaster Management, to step up COVID-19 awareness in the area.

These efforts fed into the broader mitigating strategy of the district, led by the District Joint Operation Committee on COVID-19 but it also sought to amplify government's message on Alert Level 3 COVID-19 regulations.

Awareness through loud hailing was done in Ntabankulu town, Ndlantaka village and surrounding areas. People were encouraged to continue to wear their masks, wash hands with water and soap or sanitise regularly, keep social distance more especially in public places, and not attend unnecessary events, and funerals where they are not close family members. COVID-19 hotspot posters were placed in strategic areas in Ntabankulu to spread the message.

Speaking on The Voice of Matat FM later that day, GCIS Regional Communication Coordinator Ndyabo Kopo, alluded that government's efforts such as loud hailing are yielding positive results, because infection rate numbers are stabilising in the Eastern Cape, thanks to such awareness activities.



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PRIORITY 3: EDUCATION, SKILLS AND HEALTH.

Testing and screening outreach

By Thandinkosi Zulu: GCIS, KwaZulu-Natal



Dundee community members receiving comprehensive services during the health outreach at Emphathi Sports Ground.

As part of government's response to the second wave of COVID-19, Dundee Hospital, together with other stakeholders organised a successful testing and screening outreach on 22 January 2021 at Emphathi Sports Ground.

The programme was conducted in line with Alert Level 3 protocols and regulations. uMzinyathi Health District Manager Philisiwe Mbatha said the second wave of COVID-19 has seen an increase in COVID-19 infections, which has resulted in the district being dubbed as a COVID-19 hotspot. Areas around Umvoti and Greytown have been particularly hard hit by the infections and deaths are increasing daily in the greater Dundee area.

Community members were urged to continue to wear their masks, observe social distancing and wash or sanitise their hands as precautions to prevent further infections. Mbatha invited patients to also have their blood pressure and sugar levels checked and also be tested for HIV.

PRIORITY 3: EDUCATION, SKILLS AND HEALTH.

COVID-19 information sharing session

By Livhuwani Todani: GCIS, Mpumalanga



Zanele McDonald sharing COVID-19 information leaflets with patients at Sakhelwe Clinic.



Screening of patients at Sakhelwe Clinic.

The Government Communication and Information System (GCIS) in collaboration with the Department of Health in Emakhazeni Local Municipality, conducted an information-sharing session in Sakhelwe on 29 January 2021, as part of raising awareness about the second wave of the COVID-19.

During the event, a nurse at Sakhelwe Clinic, Zakhele McDonald, informed the patients about all COVID-19 health protocols and encouraged them adhere to COVID-19 regulations in order to minimise the spread of the virus. Patients were screened and encouraged to practise social distancing.

This session also provided an opportunity for the staff at Sakhelwe Clinic to raise their challenges, with the Department of Health. The GCIS distributed COVID-19 information leaflets and encouraged community members to visit the clinic if they experience COVID-19 symptoms.

PRIORITY 5: SPATIAL INTEGRATION, HUMAN SETTLEMENTS AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT.

MECs visit flood stricken areas

By Tebogo Monyo, GCIS Northern Cape



Mayor Neo Masegela (right) briefing the MECs and delegation at one of the affected areas in Batlharos.



Some of the houses in Seven Miles affected by floods.

The Northern Cape Provincial Government embarked on a two-day monitoring visit to the John Taolo Gaetsewe District Municipality, following heavy rains that destroyed properties, leaving many families displaced. The MEC for Cooperative Governance, Human Settlements and Traditional Affairs, Bently Vass and Roads and Public Works MEC Fufe Makatong, visited Gasegonyana and Joe Morolong Local Municipalities on 21 and 22 January 2021.

The MECs met with the mayors and councillors of the affected municipalities with the purpose of assessing the state of affairs through the assistance of the District Disaster Management Centre. They said the devastation caused by the rain required government to work speedily in resolving the challenges currently faced by the community and that their immediate needs had to be attended to as a matter of urgency.

MEC Makatong said the assessments will inform the coordinated approach by government and the immediate needs of the affected families will be attended to while plans for medium to long-term measures are finalised. One of the residents of the affected areas, Sipho Phumo, said he was happy that both the provincial and local government representatives came through to assess the situation and hoped for a solution to this problem faced by residents of John Taolo Gaetsewe District.