



MY DISTRICT TODAY



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SAFE

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TOGETHER WE CAN BEAT THE CORONAVIRUS

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PRIORITY I: ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATION AND JOB CREATION.

Small businesses benefit from relief programme

By Lucky Sele: Mogale City Local Municipality, Gauteng

On 29 May 2020, the Executive Mayor of Mogale City, Councillor Francis Makgatho, together with members of the mayoral committee in partnership with the South African Breweries (SAB), distributed 122 bags of wheat to 13 bakeries in Mogale City.

Through their COVID-19 relief programme, the SAB offered three tons of wheat to the Mogale City Local Municipality.

One of the bakeries identified, Rise & Shine Bakers Dream, processed the wheat donated, extracting flour that was then packaged in 25kg as part of contributing to the community of Mogale City. The flour will be used by small businesses for baking cakes and fat cakes, among other food products.

"I wish that this group of small businesses can become a beacon of hope for our township economy. I further wish to express my gratitude to the SAB and Rise & Shine Bakers Dream for their contribution to the community of Mogale City during this difficult time," Mayor Makgatho said.



The wheat donated by the SAB.



Mayor Francis Makgatho delivering a message of gratitude to the SAB for the donation.



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PRIORITY 2: EDUCATION, SKILLS AND HEALTH.

Water stations to curb the spread of COVID-19

By Phoka Mofokeng: GCIS, Free State

The Executive Mayor of Maluti-A-Phofung Local Municipality, Councillor Masetjhaba Lakaje-Mosia, accompanied by mayoral committee members, officially launched one of the three EaziWash water stations in Qwaqwa on 21 May 2020. The hand-wash stations were donated by United Nations Children's Fund through the Department of Water and Sanitation.

This is one of government's interventions on hygiene to curb the spread of COVID-19 within communities as people are encouraged to wash their hands regularly for at least 20 seconds. The stations are located at Setsing Taxi Rank, Crescent Mall and Mandela Park Shopping Centre.

"We are happy that this will help our people a lot with regards to fighting COVID-19. We are aware of what the virus does and what it can do if it is not taken seriously," said the Executive Mayor. The Mayor further urged people to always observe social distancing and wear masks in public.



Mayor Masetjhaba Lakaje-Mosia receiving an official letter of the donation of water stations.



Members of the mayoral committee washing their hands at one of the water stations.

PRIORITY 2: EDUCATION, SKILLS AND HEALTH.

Maternity ward receives makeover

By Masego Mollo: GCIS, Northern Cape

Northern Cape Premier Dr Zamani Saul together with Health MEC Mase Manopole opened a newly renovated maternity ward at the Galeshewe Day Hospital in Kimberley on 2 June 2020.

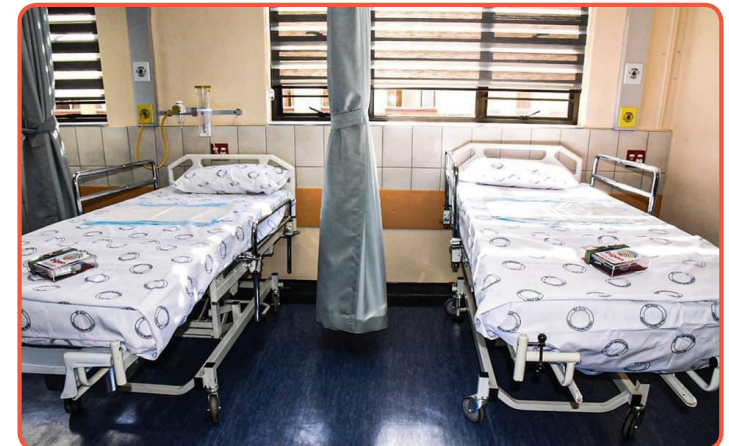
The newly upgraded 22-bed ward, presented the opportunity to increase life expectancy, reduce the burden of disease and ensure reduction in maternal and infant mortality.

The unit received new flooring, painting and plumbing. Five new toilets and showers were installed, non-functional equipment were also replaced and CCTV surveillance was connected.

In an effort to respond to the spread of COVID-19, government also installed a sanitation booth and a stand-alone infrared thermometer for the health personnel and patients.



Premier Zamani Saul, MEC Mase Manopole and Sol Plaatje Executive Mayor Patrick Mabilo officially opening the renovated maternity ward.



Two of the 22 beds in the renovated unit.



Luleka Mriba has recovered from COVID-19.

PRIORITY 2: EDUCATION, SKILLS AND HEALTH.

COVID-19 patient shares journey to recovery

By Phiwokuhle Zokufa: GCIS, Eastern Cape

Luleka Mriba resides in a tiny village called Majola at Port St. Johns in the Eastern Cape. The village has come under serious spotlight in recent times due to an unprecedented surge on COVID-19 infections alleged to have risen because of the funeral held in the village in March.

Luleka shared her journey of recovery from COVID-19 during a radio interview at Unitra Community Radio on 14 May 2020. The radio programme was organised by the Government Communication and Information System as part of its efforts to fight the stigma that has been associated with the virus, especially among rural communities.

She stated that she did not attend the funeral that was held at her village in March, but it was one of her family members who attended, which is why she decided to test for the virus. "It was a surprise for me to be told that I am positive as there were people who attended the funeral but were not found to be positive," said Luleka. She indicated that she was taken to a hospital for quarantine. Luleka said that when she tested positive for the virus she was not in any kind of pain, but she started experiencing a very painful headache after some time.

"I am glad that I am alive, people in my village still give me funny looks but I do not care because I know I do not have the virus in my body anymore," she said. Luleka further urged people to wear masks always and wash hands regularly for at least 20 seconds. "I am so used to wearing a mask such that I wear it even if I am at home. I even breath properly while wearing it," she said. Luleka also thanked the healthcare workers who treated her and also the OR Tambo District Municipality, which organised another quarantine site.

Majola village is currently a hotspot area in the OR Tambo District Municipality. The Department of Health, which was part of the radio engagement, emphasised that mass testing and screening is being prioritised in identified hotspot areas and further pleaded with the community to open their doors for these services.