



MY DISTRICT TODAY



STAY SAFE

PROTECT SOUTH AFRICA

TOGETHER WE CAN BEAT THE CORONAVIRUS

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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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PRIORITY I: ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATION AND JOB CREATION.

Youth mobilised to get identity cards

By Jetrho Grootboom: GCIS, Western Cape

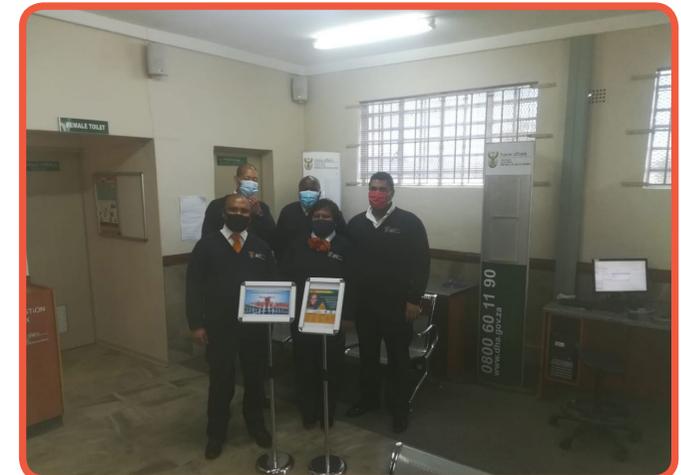
As part of celebrating Youth Month, the Department of Home Affairs in Oudtshoorn opened its office on Youth Day, 16 June 2020 to service the youth for the application and collection of smart identity cards.

The application of identity cards is a service not supposed to be rendered by the department under Level 3 lockdown, however, this was done in commemorating Youth Month. The local Home Affairs office targeted young people from the greater Oudtshoorn area, matriculants in particular to ensure that they have smart identity cards for matric exam registration.

Applicants were mobilised to visit the office from 09:00 to either apply or collect their cards.



Young people queuing to apply and collect their identity cards.



Oudtshoorn Home Affairs officials ready to serve the youth.



government communications

Department: Government Communication and Information System
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



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Mario Conrad said:

“I would like to further my studies to become a teacher after completing my Grade 12. It is important for us as Grade 12s to have smart identity cards in order to register for matric exam.”



Ivenio Monies (right) said:

“I want to become a firefighter. I understand that one needs to be fit, not smoke or consume alcohol. I am grateful for the Department of Home Affairs for allowing us to apply for smart identity cards.”



Nesville Peterse said:

“Thanks to the officials of Home Affairs for opening on a public holiday. Today is Youth Day, and a day that I will never forget since I am applying for my smart identity card, which will make me to become a citizen with no need to always have my mother with me when I want to do business. I would like to become a soldier one day, after completing my matric this year.”

PRIORITY 2: EDUCATION, SKILLS AND HEALTH.

Preparing for reopening of schools

By Joy Themba: GCIS, Mpumalanga

Mpumalanga Education MEC Bonakele Majuba conducted an oversight visits to Puledi Secondary School on 3 June 2020, to engage and assess educators and school management's readiness for school reopening. He reiterated that measures to address, prevent and combat the spread of COVID-19 in the education sector are to be adhered to all the time. He also emphasised that teachers whose schools have already received the personal protective equipment, are expected to report for duty and prioritise the preparation of their schools to deal with the "new normal" brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic.

MEC Majuba said that the department has trained health screeners, cleaners and volunteers for the national school nutrition programme. The screening of symptoms must be conducted daily so that any person who shows any of the COVID-19 symptoms, must immediately be reported to the Compliance Officer.

The MEC explained all measures that need to be adhered to by schools, emphasising that the wearing of masks is mandatory and social distancing must always be observed. All parents who choose not to send their children to school are obliged to apply for home schooling in terms of the South African Schools Act. Information on home education can be accessed on <https://www.education.gov.za/Programmes/HomeEducation.aspx>.



MEC Bonakele Majuba engaging with educators and school management at Puledi Secondary School.

PRIORITY 2: EDUCATION, SKILLS AND HEALTH.

COVID-19 education and awareness campaigns

By Vasanthi Naidoo: GCIS, KwaZulu-Natal

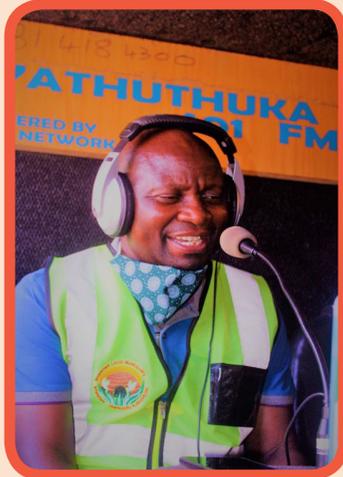
The Ndwedwe Local Municipality, within the Ilembe District, led the way in staging a consolidated and multi-stakeholder supported COVID-19 education and awareness drive in Ward 16 on 15 May 2020. The ward connects the three traditional councils of KwaWosiyane Traditional Authority, KwaCibane Traditional Authority and eMalangenzi Traditional Authority.

The municipality's fresh faced and innovative approach, saw magnetised posters promoting screening and testing, preventative measures while coronavirus hotlines were displayed on taxis. The hard-to-ignore messages, in a community heavily dependent on the taxi industry for its daily transport needs, serves as a constant reminder to passengers and other community members to play their part in preventing the spread of COVID-19.

Commencing with a municipal motorcade led by the Mayor, Councillor Nkosinathi Chili and the executive committee of Ndwedwe Local Municipality messages encouraging community adherence to lockdown regulations, preventative measures, hand and respiratory hygiene, wearing a mask, destigmatisation of COVID-19 and cooperation with health officials who conduct screening and testing in communities were conveyed through loud hailing.

Media partner Siyathuthuka FM, based in Ndwedwe, broadcasted live for the duration of the activation and interviewed Mayor Chili and Speaker Khonza Ngidi, who amplified and broadened the reach of messages and sentiments of President Cyril Ramaphosa, Health Minister Zweli Mkhize and Premier Sihle Zikalala on COVID-19.

The importance of screening and testing, and proper discarding of masks was also highlighted. As wearing of masks is mandatory, entry into buildings and shops is not permitted without one. Community members were urged not to share masks.



Mayor Nkosinathi Chili raising awareness on COVID-19 on Siyathuthuka FM.



Speaker Khonza Ngidi during an interview on Siyathuthuka FM.



One of the taxis branded with COVID-19 educational and awareness posters.

PRIORITY 2: EDUCATION, SKILLS AND HEALTH.

Oversight outreach at higher education institutions

By Jacob Molete: GCIS, Gauteng

The Deputy Minister of Higher Education, Science and Innovation, Buti Manamela has endorsed plans for the reopening of the University of Johannesburg (UJ) and Ekurhuleni West TVET College. Deputy Minister Manamela's visit to both institutions took place on 5 June 2020, to monitor their state of readiness for the phased return to campus of students and staff under Level 3 of the nationwide lockdown.

Informing the Deputy Minister about their plans, UJ's Professor Angina Parekh said, "The university comprises 47 269 students, however, we only have 18.7% of students returning, which makes up to 8 857 student returning to the university all for practical work and clinical training, mainly final year undergraduates and postgraduates." She added that all learners will be provided with 30GB data for connectivity to online learning. The university will further ensure the use of access permits for identification, issue two face masks, and personal protective equipment and register everyone coming into the campus.

During the visit at the Ekurhuleni West TVET College, the Acting Principal Ntombizodwa Dangazele said the college is ready to receive student and staff's return to the college. She added, "Only 20% of the students, which is 1 700 final year students, will return to the Germiston Campus while other college campuses remain closed." She said that the college has provided 395 laptops for staff members to support online teaching and learning.

Both institutions have also established COVID-19 crisis committees and have dedicated web pages for students and staff. Deputy Minister Manamela emphasised the need for a buy-in from all stakeholders to ensure a smooth and successful return.



Deputy Minister Buti Manamela (middle) and University of Johannesburg Vice Chancellor Professor Tshilidzi Marwala shown the ventilator designed by the university's engineering student.



Deputy Minister Buti Manamela addressing stakeholders during the oversight visit at the Ekurhuleni West TVET College.