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Issue no.29: August 2022

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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PRIORITY 6: SOCIAL COHESION AND SAFE COMMUNITIES.

Memorial site for mineworkers

By Ephraim Malema: GCIS, North West

On 21 July 2022, the Executive Mayor of Bojanala District Municipality, Councillor Matlakala Nondzaba, visited the Marikana Koppie in North West, to assess the place where the memorial site for the mineworkers who died during the strike in August 2012.

The memorial site for the 44 miners was requested by the widows and families of the people who died during the strike.

The Mayor, who was accompanied by officials from Sibanye Stillwater Mine and other stakeholders from Bojanala District Municipality, indicated that the memorial site will become a symbol of honouring the fallen mineworkers. "The memorial site for the mineworkers who died in 2012 will bring closure to the families and widows of the dead mineworkers," said Mayor Nondzaba.

The land on which the memorial site will be built, belonged to a private owner, but an agreement between the owner of the land and the Sibanye Stillwater mine has been reached.

As part of the renewal programme for Marikana and the commemoration of 10 years since the tragic event, Mayor Nondzaba said government is exploring various ways to support the families and widows of the mineworkers.



Mayor Matlakala Nondzaba and stakeholders in Marikana Koppie.



**government
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COVID-19 vaccine registration details for 12-year-olds and above:

Online at:
<https://vaccine.enroll.health.gov.za/#/>
Send the word **REGISTER** to 0600 123 456 on WhatsApp.
Via SMS by dialling *134*832#.
Call the COVID-19 hotline 0800 029 999.

PRIORITY 2: ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATION AND JOB CREATION.

Communities urged to pay for municipal services

By Robbie Senoelo: GCIS, Gauteng

Government's key priority of Spatial Integration, Human Settlements and Local Government received a boost when the South African Local Government Association (SALGA) successfully launched a nationwide civic responsibility campaign, Asisho! Let's Say It, at Tshwane Regional Mall in Mamelodi, on 29 June 2022.

The campaign aims to educate members of local communities about their duties and obligations towards the social and economic upliftment of their local areas by paying for services rendered.

The launch was attended by, among others, the President of SALGA, Councillor Bheke Stofile, Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs Deputy Minister Thembi Nkdimeng, members of the SALGA Provincial Executive Committee, local councillors, South African National Civic Organisation representatives, community members and leaders from local, provincial and national government.

Speaking during the panel discussion at the launch, Councillor Stofile said: "What we need to understand is that local government is a three-legged pot

and comprises the council, the administration and the community. Over the last years, local government has not done much to mobilise the third leg – which is the community."

He also added that one of the challenges facing local government was the growing gap between local government and the communities it serves.

"This can be seen in violent protests where residents destroy community assets and property. The Asisho! Let's Say It campaign is meant to close that gap," concluded Stofile.

Deputy Minister Nkdimeng emphasised the importance of strengthening local government and community collaboration on matters that promote the well-being of local areas.

She deliberated on how it was important for local communities to have a sense of ownership and civic responsibility, and paying for municipal services was one of the ways where citizens can participate in local governance beyond the ballot box.



Deputy Minister Thembi Nkdimeng engaging stakeholders at the event.



Some of the stakeholders who attended the launch of the SALGA campaign in Mamelodi.

PRIORITY 6: SOCIAL COHESION AND SAFE COMMUNITIES.

Flood victims empowered

By Vasanthi Naidoo: GCIS, KwaZulu-Natal

The Government Communication and Information System together with the Parliamentary Constituency Office in Verulam, initiated a development communication activation with flood victims, at the Mount View Community Hall temporary shelter, on 8 July 2022, following the floods in April and May 2022.

Stakeholders included the KwaZulu-Natal Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs, Department of Social Development, Osindisweni Hospital under the Department of Health, Provincial Treasury; eThekweni Municipality: Disaster Management, Rural Area Based Management, libraries, Metro Police, Durban Solid Waste and ChildLine.

The purpose of the activation was to empower people with information on climate change and how to mitigate its effects, waste and environmental management and general health, hygiene and social ills.

The residents of KwaZulu-Natal, especially eThekweni Metro, continue to experience the effects of climate change.

While the province is prone to floods, the recent floods were unusual as the province normally receives its rain in spring and summer.

The activation also addressed social ills, as men, women, the elderly, youth and children who lost their homes are now living in a hall, which does not allow access to privacy.

People were urged to be considerate of others in the hall to avoid conflict, especially when people indulge in alcohol.

The risk of conflict is high due to the cohabitation of diverse people from various areas, in a restrictive space.

The issue of Gender-Based Violence and Femicide, and child abuse, were also discussed to ensure that these incidents do not occur in the halls.

An official from the Department of Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs informed the audience of the measures that communities can take to protect themselves against the effects of climate change and advised on various environmental management programmes that will benefit them, especially the youth.

In addition, the Department of Health and eThekweni Health rendered services to community members.

Health services rendered included HIV and AIDS, and tuberculosis testing, COVID-19 vaccination and testing, minor ailments treatment, child health services, chronic medical check-ups, medicine dispensation and family planning.

The audience was largely receptive and appreciative of the activation.

Their uppermost concern was the relocation to temporary residential units and permanent housing.

To this end, the officials from the Parliamentary Constituency Office and eThekweni Disaster Management advised the audience about the processes involved in identifying and assessing the suitable and safe land for human habitation.

KwaZulu-Natal Treasury donated clothes to men, women and children while ChildLine provided bread.



A government official distributing information flyers at the Mount View Community Hall.



Osindisweni Hospital rendering services to the community.

PRIORITY 2: ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATION AND JOB CREATION.

Rural youth prepared for job opportunities

By Jetrho Grootboom: GCIS, Western Cape

The Department of Employment and Labour in partnership with the National Youth Development Agency, Department of Social Development, Oudtshoorn Local Municipality's Youth Office, Department of Sport, Arts and Culture, and the Government Communication and Information System, engaged rural unemployed young people on 28 June 2022 at CP Nel Museum.

The youth were capacitated on interview skills, and mock interviews were held to prepare them for future interviews.

Furthermore, the youth were registered on the Employment Services of South Africa unemployment database, for a possible match to work opportunities.

The young people were excited and fully participated in this campaign.



Young people who were in attendance.



Esmarelda Jansen said:

"I have learnt that confidence is the main thing. You must never lose your confidence in an interview."



Fazel Plaatjies said:

"This day was very interesting. I have learnt a lot about what I need to apply for a job and to look out for what is required for the work in order to prepare myself for the job interview."



Emarencia Simmers said:

"I have learnt how to conduct myself in a job interview. Questions that one does not really think about are sometimes important, and that there might be follow-up questions from my answers. Sometimes one will not think about such, and that is why we need to fully prepare ourselves for a job interview just as one prepares for an exam."



Julian Hendricks said:

"I have learnt a lot about interviewing skills, such as how one should conduct oneself before a job interview, during the job interview and after the job interview. One thing that I will not forget is to send the organisation a letter or email to thank it for the interview invitation, after the interview, which is something one would not really think about."