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

Community outreach in Pienaarspoort
By Valencia Rachuene and Willy Phalane: GCIS, Head Office

The Government Communication and Information System (GCIS) conducted a community outreach at the Pienaarspoort Train Station, Pretoria on 15 February 2019. The team, in partnership with the Gauteng Department of Economic Development and Consumer Affairs, Community Development workers, National Credit Regulator (NCR) and Independent Electoral Commission officials communicated the State of the Nation Address messages, government achievements in celebration of the 25 years of democracy, anti-corruption messages, voter registration and other government services.

The community of Pienaarspoort received various information materials, including the Vuk’uzenzele newspaper, anti-corruption leaflets, NCR pamphlets, masters of high court services booklets, pens and rulers, and government achievement leaflets. Community members pleaded with GCIS officials to come more often to give them information and also requested more copies of Vuk’uzenzele. They were also informed about the work and mandate of the GCIS, the services it provides and how members of the public can access government information through various GCIS platforms such as social media, website, offices or through activations and dialogues conducted across the country.
David Kamanga said:
“‘It is my first time hearing about the GCIS. The information you shared with us is very important. I wish you can come often to share information.’

Queen Novunga said:
“Thanks for showing me how to access the government vacancy circular on the Internet. The other information materials you gave me, I will read them at home.”

Charles Matlabe said:
“Thank you guys for the information, especially about the economic opportunities and also how to access the government circular. I will follow you on social media to get more updates.”

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Service delivery outreach in Victor Khanye Municipality
By Reki Skosana: GCIS, Mpumalanga

Aubrey Makola said: 
“I came to look for information from the NYDA. I hope the information I received will help me to reach my goal in what I am currently doing.”

Emmah Mabuza said: 
“I was here to register for government grant. Everything went well as I managed to do that.”

The Government Communication and Information System partnered with various government institutions to conduct a service-delivery outreach at Botleng Sport Centre in Victor Khanye Local Municipality on 20 February 2019.

Officials provided the community with government services and information to develop and improve their lives. Institutions that participated in the initiative included the Department of Social Development, Independent Electoral Commission (IEC), South African National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence, Department of Health, Department of Home Affairs, South African Social Security Agency, National Youth Development Agency (NYDA), South African Post Office, Department of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs and Victor Khanye Local Municipality.

The officials also offered services such as counselling and health assessments, registering of grant beneficiaries and applying for identity documents. The IEC educated the members of the community about the importance of registering for elections.
On 13 February 2019, the Government Communication and Information System (GCIS) in collaboration with the Jansenville Community Learning Centre and Masiphilisane HIV/AIDS Group held a Thusong marketing activity in Jansenville. The event, which promoted the Thusong Service Centre Programme, was also used to raise awareness about the various services offered at the learning centre and Masiphilisane HIV/AIDS Group.

The learning centre offers a second chance to people who were unable to complete their schooling. It also aims to end illiteracy, as many community members, especially in rural areas, are unable to read and write. The centre offers various levels of education from level 1 to 5, with level 5 being equivalent to a matric certificate. It also offers skills training such as sewing, arts and horticulture. A learner’s licence training class is also offered in Jansenville. Community members were encouraged to register for classes.

The Masiphilisane HIV/AIDS Group urged community members to protect themselves through knowing their status and practising safe sex. They also urged them to check expiry dates on condoms and not to open them with teeth. The community members were thankful for the information as most of them were not aware that condoms could expire. The GCIS also used the platform to share information on government services and gave a brief overview of services available to the community.
OUTCOME 4: DECENT EMPLOYMENT THROUGH INCLUSIVE ECONOMIC GROWTH.

Government provides information on economic opportunities
By Robbie Senoelo: GCIS, Gauteng

The Government Communication and Information System (GCIS) in partnership with the Gauteng Department of Economic Development (GDED) and other stakeholders visited Eersterust in Pretoria on 6 February 2019 to interact with community members and disseminate information about consumer education, economic, business and employment opportunities. The team also helped the community to register as job seekers on the Gauteng job seekers' database.

The GDED brought their mobile bus called Siyeza, which is equipped with computers that enable Internet access to government information and online registration for Gauteng job seekers. Other stakeholders who were at the event were the Gauteng Office of Consumer Affairs, Gauteng Liquor Board, the Independent Communications Authority of South Africa, Community Development Workers and Credit Ombud.

Tshifhiwa Ramugondo from the Gauteng Liquor Board educated members of the community about the importance of trading responsibly, by-laws and law enforcement, application process for consent use or rezoning, and trading legally and complying with the Gauteng Liquor Act, 2003 (Act 2 of 2003) and other liquor related issues.

"There are a number of business and employment opportunities within the liquor industry but it is very important that people understand the importance of responsible liquor trading and responsible drinking for the sustenance of this sector," said Ramugondo.

Dikhang Legoale from the Gauteng Office of Consumer Affairs expressed his happiness about the initiative.

"We have long wanted to visit this area and many others, thanks to the GCIS, we finally achieved that and we hope to continue to engage communities," said Legoale.