



# MYDISTRICTTODAY



A **NATION** THAT **WORKS** FOR ALL

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## 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:

### EASTERN CAPE

Nandipa Sondati-Thawa (Acting)  
043 722 2609 or 072 611 3990  
[nandipa@gcis.gov.za](mailto:nandipa@gcis.gov.za)

### FREE STATE

Mthunzi Mkhungo (Acting)  
051 448 4505 or 064 545 1185  
[mthunzi@gcis.gov.za](mailto:mthunzi@gcis.gov.za)

### GAUTENG

Senzeni Ngubane (Acting)  
012 473 0402 or 065 595 5203  
[senzeni@gcis.gov.za](mailto:senzeni@gcis.gov.za)

### KWAZULU-NATAL

Ndala Mngadi  
031 301 6787 or 082 877 9420  
[ndala@gcis.gov.za](mailto:ndala@gcis.gov.za)

## PRIORITY 3: BUILD A CAPABLE, ETHICAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL STATE.

### Free State Premier hands over new ambulances at Bongani Hospital

By: Ntombi Mhlambi; GCIS, Free State

Free State Premier, Ms MaQueen Letsoha-Mathae, handed over 14 ambulances to the Free State Department of Health (FSDOH) at Bongani Hospital in Welkom, on 17 June 2026. The handover formed part of the government's drive to improve emergency medical services and save lives across the province. Seven ambulances were allocated to Lejweleputswa, three to Fezile Dabi and four to Thabo Mofutsanyana districts. "This handover is about saving lives," said Premier Letsoha-Mathae.

The Premier was joined by Members of the Executive Council (MECs) for Health, Mr Monyatso Mahlatsi and Mr Jabu Mbalula, responsible for

Community Safety, Roads and Transport. MEC Mahlatsi urged residents and road users to assist in reducing road accidents and violence, saying that such incidents placed pressure on Emergency Medical Services (EMS). He also highlighted that gender-based violence and femicide not only harmed families and communities, but also strained EMS resources and delayed emergency care when it is needed the most.

MEC Mbalula welcomed the partnership that enabled the delivery of the "right tools of trade" to the FSDOH. He said that the ambulances would improve emergency response and service delivery.



Premier Letsoha-Mathae joined by EMS officials, MEC Mbalula and MEC Mahlatsi at the hand-over of ambulances at Bongani Hospital.



Premier Letsoha-Mathae and MEC Mahlatsi arrive at Bongani Hospital in Welkom.



Premier Letsoha-Mathae engaging with the two MECs at the hand-over ceremony held at Bongani Hospital in Welkom on 17 June 2026.



government communications

Department: Government Communication and Information System  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



**LIMPOPO**

Thanyani Ravhura  
015 291 4689 or 082 421 3461  
[thanyani@gcis.gov.za](mailto:thanyani@gcis.gov.za)

**MPUMALANGA**

Hlengiwe Nhlabathi-Mokota  
013 753 2397 or 084 708 4214  
[hlengiweh@gcis.gov.za](mailto:hlengiweh@gcis.gov.za)

**NORTH WEST**

Boitumelo Mosadi  
018 381 7071 or 073 245 0906  
[boitumelom@gcis.gov.za](mailto:boitumelom@gcis.gov.za)

**NORTHERN CAPE**

Ofentse Moeti  
053 832 1378/9 or 084 390 4330  
[Ofentse@gcis.gov.za](mailto:Ofentse@gcis.gov.za)

**WESTERN CAPE**

Geraldine Thopps  
021 418 0533/2307 or 081 281 2200  
[Geraldine@gcis.gov.za](mailto:Geraldine@gcis.gov.za)

**PRIORITY 3: BUILD A CAPABLE, ETHICAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL STATE.**

**GCIS and 1KZNTV collaborate for Child Protection Month campaign**

*By: Mlungisi Dlamini; GCIS, KwaZulu-Natal*

The Government Communication and Information System (GCIS) in partnership with 1KZNTV, a community TV station based in KwaZulu-Natal, held a Child Protection Month public education campaign at Machibisa Shopping Mall, on 25 June 2026. The campaign educated community members on children's rights and the role of families, schools and communities in keeping children safe.

rights and also reminded citizens that the Constitution protected the dignity, safety and well-being of all people, including children.

Community members were encouraged to report child abuse, neglect and exploitation to the Department of Social Development and the South African Police Service so that children can receive support and protection.

The campaign also formed part of activities celebrating 30 years of the Constitution in South Africa. Through face-to-face community engagement and social media, the public was encouraged to respect and protect children's

GCIS continues to call on parents, caregivers, teachers, community leaders and all citizens to work together to create safe environments where every child is protected, valued and supported.



GCIS officials and ward committee members creating awareness to citizens about Child Protection Month.



Mr Nathi Nhleko from 1KZNTV assists with the distribution of pamphlets.



GCIS officials share information and conduct education activities at Machibisa Shopping Mall.

### PRIORITY 3: BUILD A CAPABLE, ETHICAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL STATE.

#### **Sinako School programme puts child protection at the centre of community action**

*By: Tlhompho Mokoto; GCIS, Eastern Cape*

On 7 June 2026, Sinako Junior Secondary School in Ezibeleni, hosted a Child Protection Month (CPM) programme. The event brought together learners, educators, government departments, social partners and community stakeholders to promote children's rights, safety and well-being.

The event raised awareness around the challenges children face which include abuse, neglect, statutory rape and sexual exploitation. Through discussions, presentations and learner participation, attendees were reminded that every child had the right to grow up in environments that are free from violence, fear and harm.

Learners were encouraged to make informed decisions, focus on their education and recognise their potential to become future leaders, professionals and active citizens. The programme also emphasised the importance of early intervention, community vigilance and reporting abuse to protect vulnerable children.

As CPM came to a close, the message was clear: child protection is a shared responsibility that needs action from families, schools, communities, government institutions and civil society. It renewed the commitment of all role players to uphold children's rights, strengthen protection efforts and create safe environments where children can learn, develop and reach their full potential.



Students participating at the event to mark the end of CPM.



**Mr Lesiba Pila:**

"I am 20 years old and I had not registered to vote. I see many young people who are unemployed and I felt that the government was not assisting us. However, my perception has changed after the IEC explained the importance of voting. I am now going to register to vote."

## PRIORITY 3: BUILD A CAPABLE, ETHICAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL STATE.

### GCIS and IEC promote youth voter registration

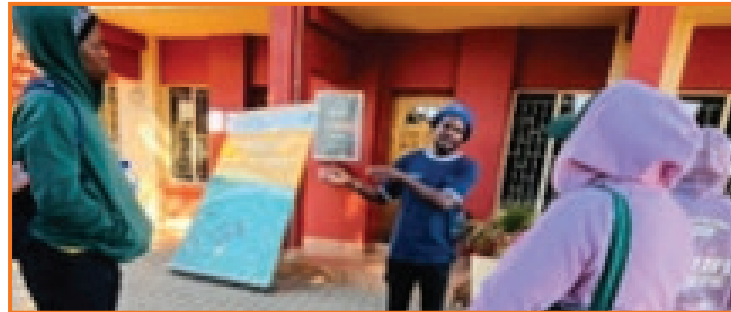
By: Maria Ramoshab; GCIS, Limpopo

On 12 June 2026, the Government Communication and Information System (GCIS) partnered with the Independent Electoral Commission (IEC), to host a voter education activation at the Nated Studies Technical and Vocational Education and Training campus in Mokopane. The outreach educated young people about the voter registration weekend held on 20 and 21 June and encouraged them to register in other upcoming voter registration weekends to enable them to vote in the 2026 Local Government Elections on 4 November.

Mr Johannes Molope from the IEC explained how to register and what documents were required. He encouraged the youth to

visit [www.elections.org.za](http://www.elections.org.za) to register, update their details or check their voter registration status. He also said that they could register or verify their status at municipal offices and voting stations. Young people could also check whether they appeared on the Voters' Roll by sending their ID number by SMS to 32810 at a cost of R1.00.

Many students at the campus had not yet registered to vote. The IEC will return to the campus to continue educating young people about why voter registration matters; and that every young person who registers takes an important step towards shaping their future.



Students learn about the importance of registering to vote.



Mr Johannes Molope speaks to the youth about registering and voting.