



MYDISTRICTTODAY



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SAFE**

VACCINATE TO SAVE SOUTH AFRICA

TOGETHER WE CAN BEAT CORONAVIRUS

Issue no.2: February 2023

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

Ndlelantle Pinyana
043 722 2602 or 076 142 8606
ndlelantle@gcis.gov.za

FREE STATE

Yolisa Blom
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GAUTENG

Peter Gumede
011 331 0164 or 083 570 8080
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KWAZULU-NATAL

Ndala Mngadi
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ndala@gcis.gov.za

PRIORITY 3: EDUCATION, SKILLS AND HEALTH.

Back-to-School Awareness Programme

By Matshidiso Mokoka: GCIS, Gauteng

In an effort to create awareness of available opportunities available for matriculants, the Government Communication and Information System in partnership with the Mogale Community Development Workers and members of the Westrand District Communication Forum conducted an awareness programme targeting young people in Kagiso, on 26 January 2023.

Stakeholders shared information about the application process for the National Student Financial Aid Scheme, which its 2023 applications were due on 31 January 2023, and the second chance programme for former matriculants that are looking to improve their results.

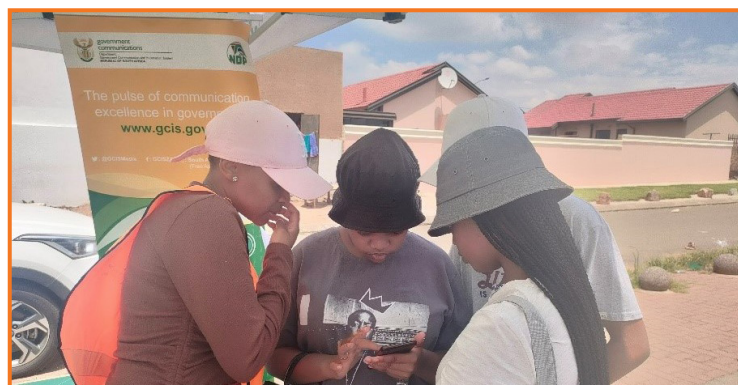
Stakeholders from the South African Social Security Agency and the Department of Social Development were also present and provided

information on the services that they provide and programmes geared to improve the lives of the people.

More information on the second chance programme is available on the Department of Basic Education website: <https://www.education.gov.za/Programmes/SecondChanceProgramme.aspx>.

Candidates may also apply for the remark of their matric results 2022 exam scripts at a prescribed fee (R120 for a remark; R29 for a recheck).

Registration should be done by Friday, 3 February 2023, at the school, district office or at <http://eservices.gov.za>.



Stakeholders assisting young people in the area.



Stakeholders engaging with members of the community.



**government
communications**

Department:
Government Communication and Information System
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



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Ofentse@gcis.gov.za

WESTERN CAPE

Geraldine Thopps
021 418 0533/2307 or 081 281 2200
Geraldine@gcis.gov.za

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 5: SPATIAL INTEGRATION, HUMAN SETTLEMENTS AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT.

Government engages community in budget and annual plans

By Khanyiso Seyisi: GCIS, KwaZulu-Natal

The KwaZulu-Natal Social Development Portfolio Committee engaged the Ugu community on Draft Budget and Annual Performance Plan as a way of promoting consultation and participation of the public in its affairs, on 20 January 2023 at Gamalakhe Community Hall in Ray Nkonyeni Local Municipality.

The session was attended by stakeholders such as Mayors, Ugu District Sukumasakhe leadership, traditional leaders, religious leaders, councillors, ward committee members, senior government officials, community development workers, members of the media, and other stakeholders.

Community members from Umdoni, Umuziwabantu, Ray Nkonyeni and Umzumbe municipal areas also participated.

Ugu District Operation Sukumasakhe coordinated government departments to ensure maximum participation, and mobilised ward committee members and the public who were the key role players for the day in order to engage

fully on public projects, which are planned on the draft budget by the department, and also analyse the performance of the department in regards to the previous year's projects.

The Social Development Head of Department presented a draft budget highlighting the projects, which have been planned for the Ugu area and mentioned the amount they were budget for.

In addition, the Head of Department mentioned the areas where they performed well as the department in terms of services outlined in their previous performance plan and also highlighted corrective measures where there were challenges and poor performance.

Later on, the Social Development Portfolio Committee Chairperson Nonzwakazi Swartbooi allowed the community to ask questions, and a way forward was outlined.



KwaZulu-Natal Social Development Portfolio Committee Chairperson Nonzwakazi Swartbooi during the engagement.



Ugu community members who attended the public consultation at Gamalakhe Community Hall.



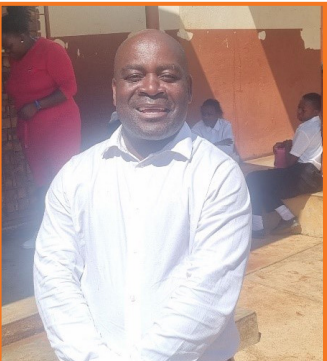
Mathatha Tsedu said:

“Do not judge yourself by your background, it will never determine your future. Focus and determination is the key to success. I became one of the SABC executives hailed from this village. Therefore, I stand in front of you here, to give testimony that nothing can stop you to progress as long as you set the goal to achieve. Hard work paid and it works as a weapon to stop people with negative ideas to come closer to you.”



Thivhilaeli Makatu said:

“Charity begins at home. As one of the learners of 1986, the first matric class in Mushaathoni Secondary, we took it upon ourselves to ensure that the school joins the progressive schools in the country through our support to the learners.”



Principal Fhatuwani Thiba said:

“As a school, we are so grateful to have such wonderful support from the community. The year 2023 is going to be different from other years as we will be operating in a collaborative world of developing children. This will enable us to know the true character of each learner.”

PRIORITY 3: EDUCATION, SKILLS AND HEALTH.

Community offers support to school

By Doctrine Netshikweta: GCIS, Limpopo

The former learners of Mushaathoni Secondary School in Vhembe District Municipality formed the Student Support Programme (SSP), which is a community mandatory programme aimed at providing material and academic support to schools to ensure quality results at Mushaathoni.

The formation of SSP was a response to the call by the Deputy Minister in The Presidency, Thembu Siweya, who urged the community to provide support and promote the culture of learning when she visited the school as part of the 2022 Back-to-School campaign.

On 13 January 2023, the former Mushaathoni learners who are also community members took it upon themselves to visit the school and presented the SSP to the learners and the school management, also encouraging them to do well.

One of the former learners, Makatu Thivhilaeli, indicated that they would visit the school each quarter to monitor progress, and further have ‘Mushaathoni Day’ in September.

“We are ready to provide necessary needs as required,” he said.



Members of Mushaathoni Student Support Programme.

PRIORITY 3: EDUCATION, SKILLS AND HEALTH.

Information sharing session with learners

By Phoka Mofokeng: GCIS, Free State

On 27 January 2023, the Government Communication and Information Systems in partnership with the Free State Office of the Premier represented by the community development workers hosted an information-sharing session with the Grade 12 class of 2023 in Ithabiseng Intermediate School, Matwabeng. The school has 268 learners who formed part of the session.

The main purpose of the session was to inform the learners about the economic and academic opportunities that are available post-matric.

Bells Technical College, as a higher learning institution, informed the learners about the academic opportunities offered and the requirements needed to be accepted at their institution. Learners were warned about bogus schools and colleges.

They were also advised to verify the legitimacy of the institutions and the qualifications offered by contacting the Department of Higher Education and Training, and the South African Qualifications Authority.

During the session, a social worker motivated the learners to remain focused despite the challenges they may encounter during the course of the year. She touched on issues of anxiety, suicide pressure, depression, and bullying that normally affects learners to stay focused in schools, and informed the learners about the psychological support that social workers in the area provide to schools.

The Department of Home Affairs shared with the learners the services that they offer communities, especially on the registration of children, and the issuing of birth certificates, and highlighted to the learners that applications for smart card identity documents (IDs) starts from the age of 16, adding that the department has prioritised schools to target learners to apply for smart IDs before they get to matric.

ABSA informed learners about processes involved in obtaining a bank account and that there are no monthly bank charges to be incurred.

The Centre of Community Impact addressed issues of teenage pregnancy, especially during the final year of school, and encouraged learners to consider preventative methods available at health facilities.

The centre has WiFi and study room facilities which the learners are encouraged to use.

This information sharing session was a build-up activity to the career expo planned during the month of February 2023 in which more stakeholders have been mobilised to form part of the expo and the three high schools in the area were invited to participate.

Other stakeholders that formed part of the programme included the South African Police Service, Department of Employment and Labour and the Department of Small Business Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs (DESTEA).



Patrick Matlokotsi from DESTEA addressing learners on career opportunities available within the department.



The Grade 12 learners of Ithabiseng Intermediate School who were in attendance.



Reabetswe Mangate said:

"The session has motivated me and moulded me beyond my expectation and I have just learnt that with everything you do in life, one needs to have discipline no matter how hard the situation is."



Malefetsane Mokgeseng said:

"I learnt a lot from the session because I did not know what to do beyond post-matric and had no hope. From the session, I learnt that in order for my goals to be achieved I should work hard."