



MYDISTRICTTODAY



**STAY
SAFE**

VACCINATE TO SAVE SOUTH AFRICA

TOGETHER WE CAN BEAT CORONAVIRUS

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PRIORITY 6: SOCIAL COHESION AND SAFE COMMUNITIES.

Government protects everyone's rights

By Thanyani Netshikweta: GCIS, Limpopo

Government is working tirelessly to protect the rights of the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer and Intersex plus (LGBTQI+) communities.

This pronouncement was made at Nancefield community hall in Musina under the Vhembe District Municipality in Limpopo.

The Musina Local Municipality in partnership with the Department of Health, Red Cross, Pastors Forum, Senior Citizens Forum and the Disability Forum, held a community engagement on 14 October 2021, to address issues faced by the LGBTQI+ community.

The engagement further sought to bring solutions to the unfair treatment of the LGBTQI community. The Acting Mayor of Musina Local Municipality, Prince Sakala, maintained government's position when it comes to the safety of all community members.

"South Africa is a constitutional democratic country in which everyone has the rights to live in without fear. The democratic government provides social protection for all. Everybody in the country is entitled to live with pride and dignity and must be respected," he said.



Acting Mayor Prince Sakala addressing the community at the Nancefield community Hall.



Some of the participants at the event.



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COVID-19 vaccine registration details for 18-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.



Lerato Mamathlodi said:

"We are pleased to receive warm support from the government and the private sector. As the LGBTQI+ community, we feel pleased and accepted. This gives us hope of life and remove the gender phobia faced within the community. This event should enable us to live with pride and dignity. I can say that those of us who were feeling suppressed to go for COVID-19 vaccination, will go with pride."



Mzwandile Damane said:

"As De Beers Mine, we are pleased to be part of this event. De Beers is ready to support the community. We support government initiative of promoting good health within communities. As private sector, we are happy to support the government initiative of building community pride and respect."



Rebecca Siavhe said:

"As the Department of Health we urge the LGBTQI+ community to be free to access any health services. The department employs health professionals who help clients with dignity and respect."

PRIORITY 3: EDUCATION, SKILLS AND HEALTH.

Deputy President visits Mpumalanga

By Livhuwani Todani: GCIS, Mpumalanga

Deputy President David Mabuza led the Inter-Ministerial Committee (IMC) on COVID-19 delegation to conduct the COVID-19 vaccine outreach and mobilise communities to vaccinate. The event took place in Nkomazi Local Municipality on 23 September 2021.

The Deputy President visited the Matsamo Tribal Council where he engaged with the Acting Chief and traditional Headmen, encouraging those who had not vaccinated against COVID-19 to do so and also to pass the message to their constituency.

The other IMC members visited Tonga Mall, Anthracite Mine, Kamaqhekeza Shopping Centre for vaccination roll-out and conducted door-to-door and taxi-rank activations.

The IMC encouraged the people of Mpumalanga to vaccinate as the province is one of the those left behind on vaccination roll-out, as government hopes for 70% of the citizens to be fully vaccinated by 31 December 2021.

"We are aware of the fake news that are spreading about the vaccine, all I can say is I have vaccinated and my body is doing well. Our government will not provide anything that can kill our people. We are here today because we want to save lives," said Deputy President Mabuza.

The Deputy President also said that government has procured enough vaccines for the citizens. He also conducted door-to-door visits, accompanied by health officials vaccinating people at their households and engaging them with some of the service-delivery challenges.



Nduna Shongwe said:

"I just vaccinated and I am happy. I encourage everyone to take the COVID-19 vaccine to save lives. I also thank the Deputy President for assuring us today about the safety of the vaccine."



Nduna Shongwe said:

"I have vaccinated and I am encouraging everyone to do so. I will invite the health official to visit my constituency to come and vaccinate our people."



"I am happy today. I took the Johnson & Johnson vaccine and I am feeling very well. I am also encouraging those who have not vaccinated to vaccinate so we can save lives."



Deputy President David Mabuza having engaging with Matsamo Tribal Authority.



Vaccination of community members in Nkomazi.



Elliot Tsana said:

"I hope that government will hold more Imbizo events so that more people can attend."



Themba Malan said:

"I am happy that different sectors of the SAPS came to Upington to listen to the issues of the community. I hope and trust that the Deputy Minister listened to our complaints and will give attention to our issues."

PRIORITY 6: SOCIAL COHESION AND SAFE COMMUNITIES.

Efforts to reduce crime

By Lecrecia Prins: GCIS, Northern Cape

The Deputy Minister of Police, Cassel Mathale, supported by Northern Cape Transport, Safety and Liaison MEC Nomandla Bloem, held a successful Imbizo intended at reducing criminality in communities. The event took place on 7 October 2021 in Upington.

Residents from across the ZF Mgcawu District Municipality, gathered at Mxolisi Dicky Jacobs Stadium to express their concerns about poor service delivery.

As part of the South African Police Service's (SAPS) ongoing efforts to combat crime, the community engagement provided residents with a platform to discuss and engage the police on the identified crimes plaguing the community.

The Head of the Rapid Rail and Police Emergency Services, Major-General Ellen Ndaba, said an anti-gang unit specialising in drug-related issues, must be established in the province to address the challenges.

The event was also an opportunity to promote and improve relations between the police and the community at large.

Deputy Minister Mathale commended the police stations in the area, for their victim friendly rooms, which adequately cater for victims.



MEC Bloem and Deputy Minister Cassel Mathale with SAPS members during the Imbizo in Upington.



Gina Steenkamp speaking at the event.

PRIORITY 2: ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATION AND JOB CREATION.

Riversdal Youth Café launch

By Peter Titus: GCIS, Western Cape

Western Cape Human Settlements MEC Tertius Simmers, Social Development MEC Sharna Fernandez and the Executive Mayor of Hessequa Local Municipality, Grant Riddles, led the official opening of a youth café at the Riversdal Thusong Service Centre on 24 September 2021.

As per the Western Cape Provincial Youth Development Strategy, the youth café is tailored to offer opportunities for young people.

Along with a good cup of coffee, the Riversdal Youth Café will provide Internet access and computer access to upcoming entrepreneurs and aspirant job seekers.

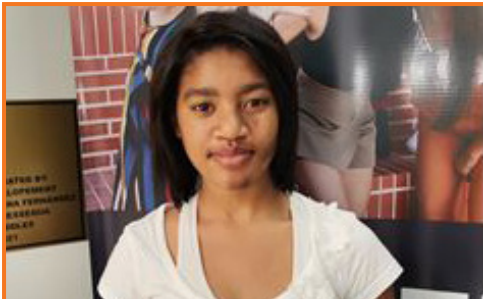
In addition, the facility will render opportunities and training in: digital skills, work ethics, entrepreneurship, leadership development, life-skills sessions, creative design, event management and project management.

The launch was also attended by the representatives from the Department of Social Development, Western Cape Local Government, Hesseqwa Local Municipality, Southern Youth Film Festival Academy, Hesseqwa Youth Forum and Department of Human Settlements.



Rodian Pause said:

"This youth café will assist in providing opportunities for young people."



Hestrie Prins said:

"This centre will support more young people in the municipal area who are looking for employment."



Morne Williams said:

"This youth centre will assist in the distribution of information and key opportunities for our youth."



Mayor Grant Riddles speaking at the event.



An official from the Southern Youth Film Festival Academy speaking at the event.