



MYDISTRICTTODAY



**STAY
SAFE**

VACCINATE TO SAVE SOUTH AFRICA

TOGETHER WE CAN BEAT CORONAVIRUS

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PRIORITY 2: EDUCATION, SKILLS AND HEALTH.

Youth dialogue inspires hope

By Phiwokuhe Zokufa: GCIS, Eastern Cape

The importance of unlocking markets to develop young people globally was central during the discussions on the Nelson Mandela Youth Dialogue held at the Walter Sisulu University, Zamukulungisa Campus in Mthatha on 9 March 2023. President Cyril Ramaphosa gave the keynote address to delegates from various African countries and emphasised the importance of collaboration among young people in order to unlock developmental opportunities.

The dialogue is a National Youth Development Agency initiative that saw young people gathered to talk about leadership, development and political change. The dialogue is aligned to former President Nelson Mandela's legacy, leadership and Pan-African outlook, and is a collective that brings together the builders of a new Africa.

The dialogue landed with a panel discussion that focused on barriers within Africa that are hindering young people from trading globally, visa issues that limit movement, how to empower young people and help them expand their businesses so that they are able to trade abroad.

"We are delighted to be part of the dialogue led by the President of South Africa, which is discussing Africanism in a contemporary manner," said Ray Kiliho from Tanzania. He further stated that he noted the key important discussions that include the importance of Ethical Leadership, the importance of integration in empowering young people.



President Cyril Ramaphosa giving the keynote address.



Delegates who attended the Nelson Mandela Youth Dialogue at the Walter Sisulu University.



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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: EDUCATION, SKILLS AND HEALTH.

Vaccination drive in the Central Karoo

By Monique Warden: GCIS, Western Cape

The Government Communication and Information System joined the Department of Health in the Central Karoo as they embarked on the roll-out of Human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccines 2023 campaign to children on 2 March 2023.

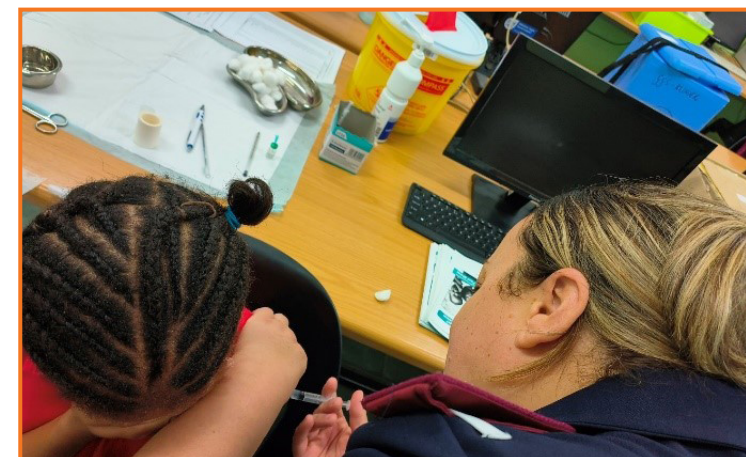
As part of the Integrated School Health Programme, the first round of HPV vaccines campaign in the area were administered to girls in schools across the Central Karoo. The vaccines were given in two doses, which are six months apart to girls aged 9 or 10 and older. The HPV vaccine is recommended by the World Health Organization as a strategic intervention in the lowering of cervical cancer risk among women in the world.

In South Africa, cervical cancer is the second most common cancer among women, with an estimate of between 22.8 and 27 per 100 000 women in the country having cervical cancer. HPV causes 99% of cervical cancer cases

reported across the world, of which 70% of all cervical cancer cases were caused by HPV-16 and HPV-18, which are strains that are vaccine preventable. Cervical cancer only affects women and is a cancer that affects the lower part of the womb or cervix and if not detected early, could be difficult to treat and often results in death.

The HPV vaccination drive happening in the Central Karoo has taken place in many countries around the world. The vaccine is safe and effective in preventing long-term health. The benefits of the vaccine is an investment in the future health of South African women.

Parents or guardians are encouraged to speak to the school nurse or a nurse at their nearest clinic for more information on the HPV vaccines and are also encouraged to sign the consent form given to learners at school.



Health officials administering HPV vaccines to the learners.



Julia Msibi said:

"Today's programme was successful in convincing us on how the district CPF is serious about rooting out corruption and maladministration concerning our reported cases at Mafube SAPS. I learnt that indeed government can be held accountable against its own service standards and services charter, and this will help us to confidently demand that our rights are not violated by state officials."

PRIORITY 3: SOCIAL COHESION AND SAFER COMMUNITIES.

Imbizo focuses on community safety

By Morena Motloutng: GCIS, Free State

The Government Communication and Information System in the Fezile Dabi District supported and participated in a successful Crime Prevention and Community Safety Rights Imbizo held at Falesizwe Secondary School in Namahadi, Frankfort, Mafube Local Municipality on 9 March 2023. It was led by the Fezile Dabi District Community Policing Forum through the Mafube Police Station. The aim of the event was to have the South African Police Service (SAPS) executives publicly respond and present plans in place to curb the spread of using illegal drugs, random murders and missing dockets.

"South Africa celebrates Human Rights Month this March and residents of this township can no longer enjoy their rights to safety and security, coupled with limited freedom of movement

perpetuated by high rate of inhuman crimes including women getting raped, people being murdered and houses being broken into, and reported case dockets getting misplaced at the SAPS," said Lt Colonel Sotyu from the Provincial Police Inspectorate.

The SAPS engaged with concerned community members on the state of safety and security affairs in Namahadi. The Imbizo followed a recent community unrest against rife drug abuse and smuggling in the township, which also claimed the lives of people who were alleged to be dealing with drugs.



Stephen Malindi said:

"The Imbizo has achieved its objective of honouring the Human Rights Month and I have learnt that our rights are honoured by government. Senior police officials came to the community to address us on crime and community safety. I am thankful to everyone who contributed to the success of this programme."



Different stakeholders at the event.



Stakeholders engaging with members of the community at the event.

PRIORITY 2: EDUCATION, SKILLS AND HEALTH.

Northern Cape State of the Province Address

By Willem van Dalen: GCIS, Northern Cape

The Premier of the Northern Cape, Zamani Saul, delivered his State of the Province Address (SoPA) on 2 March 2023 in Calvinia. This is the second year that the premier and the legislature took the SoPA to the district as part of the drive to take government to the people.

Held in the Hantam Local Municipality, the premier unpacked his plans, after the delivery of President Cyril Ramaphosa's State of the Nation Address, which was held earlier in February.

Premier Saul's address was focused on the provincial government's district-based measures to tackle youth unemployment in the Northern Cape. The province boasts the lowest unemployment rate among the youth according to the Quarterly Labour Force Survey.

Premier Saul has appointed the MEC responsible for Youth, Women, Disability, Children, Communication and e-Government to strengthen government's response to challenges that affect these special groups.

"The MEC responsible for Youth, Women, Disability, Children, Communication and e-Government will assemble an expert team that will assist us to come up with district-based interventions to tackle youth unemployment," he said.

The Premier also spoke about how they would assist matriculants in the province with preparing for their final examinations. He said over 13 000 tablet computers will be distributed to matriculants, preloaded with various subject matters.

He further said a cellphone application was being developed, where community members could access all the different services offered in the Thusong Service Centres throughout the country from the comfort of their own homes.

"Two of the largest cellphone companies are planning to invest nearly R140 million in infrastructure in the Northern Cape," he highlighted.

The Premier said the Provincial Government intended to improve the delivery of services in rural areas, and will deliver a large number of ambulances to hospitals and clinics across the province to assist with patient transport in the deep and remote areas.

The SoPA saw a hive of activities, with entertainment from both officials and residents.



Community members of Calvinia and stakeholders who attended the SoPA.

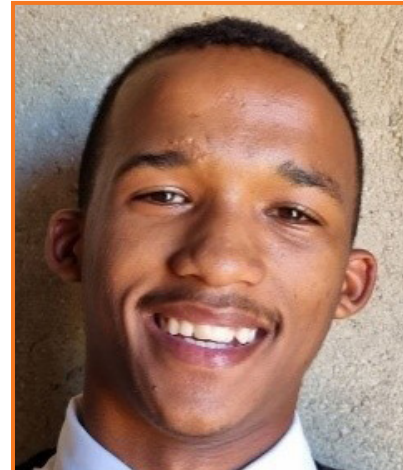


Premier Zamani Saul delivering the SoPA in Calvinia.



Bethany Lombaard said:

"I would like to see all schools being treated equally to avoid a situation where some schools receive better or more assistance from government than others."



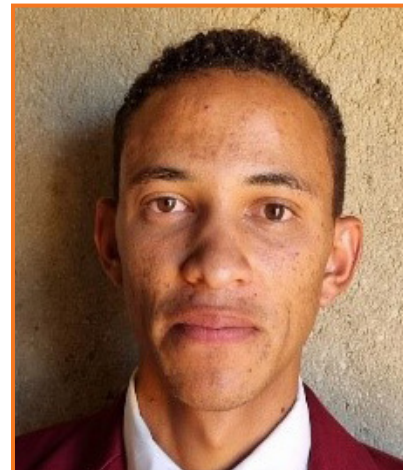
Jano Carlsson said:

"I would like to hear from the Premier that safety at schools will be prioritised. Deep rural towns often have gang-related violence in the communities and it boils over to schools."



Kaylinn Muller said:

"I would like to hear the Premier announcing more study opportunities for learners in our province. Deserving learners should be able to get funding for tertiary studies. Bursaries take too long to be finalised and students miss out on opportunities."



Marshall van Wyk said:

"I would like to hear what the Northern Cape Provincial Government will do to create more work opportunities because there is no use working very hard at school just to finish and sit at home because there are no job opportunities within the province."