



MY DISTRICT TODAY



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OUTCOME 2: A LONG AND HEALTHY LIFE FOR ALL SOUTH AFRICANS

World AIDS Day commemoration drives service-delivery improvement

By: Yolisa Blom: DoC, Eastern Cape



Deputy Minister Ndabeni-Abrahams speaks at the event.



Deputy ministers and MECs handing over the cheque to the board of Masizakhe Orphanage.

Deputy President Cyril Ramaphosa, in his capacity as the Chairperson of the South African National AIDS Council has instructed all provinces to change from the traditional way of commemorating World AIDS Day and adopt the Nelson Mandela International Day model. This instruction seeks to drive service-delivery improvement and encourage the hands-on approach.

In response to this directive, the Eastern Cape AIDS Council led various engagements. The Deputy Minister of Communications, Stella Ndabeni-Abrahams; Deputy Minister of Public Enterprise, Bulelani Magwanishe; Eastern Cape Premier, Phumulo Masualle; MECs and civil society organisations attended the events. A multi-sectoral response to issues of HIV and AIDS was done as follows:

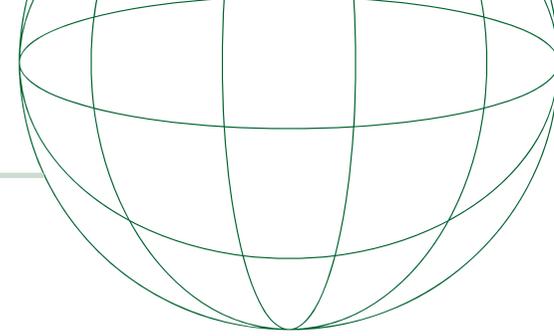
1. Deputy Minister Magwanishe, together with the delegation from Transnet, handed over a R1,7 million cheque to Masizakhe Orphanage in Mdantsane to build a dining hall and a kitchen.
2. Deputy Minister Ndabeni-Abrahams, and Mxit CEO, connected 10 tablets with applications for Mathematics and Science.



communications

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3. Healthcare facilities at Nontyatyambo and Gompo were visited to engage the public clients on healthcare services. The deputy ministers, Premier, Health MEC and other guests handed over suggestion boxes to enhance public healthcare services.

4. A visit was also made to Samaritan Hospice in Gompo where blankets, disposable nappies, gloves and cleaning materials were donated.

Addressing community members at Masizakhe Orphanage, Deputy Minister Ndabeni-Abrahams emphasised the need for constant communication as the Mxit application can be downloaded to any phone. At the Samaritan Hospice, Deputy Minister Magwanishe committed to donate R20 000 to the staff as there were financial challenges at the centre. Premier Masualle committed that by 15 December, they would have come back with a plan on how the Samaritan Hospice will be supported in future, looking at the work they do as a referral centre for many clinics and hospitals.

Deputy Minister Ndabeni-Abrahams handed over 500 sanitary towels to each of the seven identified schools from previously disadvantaged backgrounds.

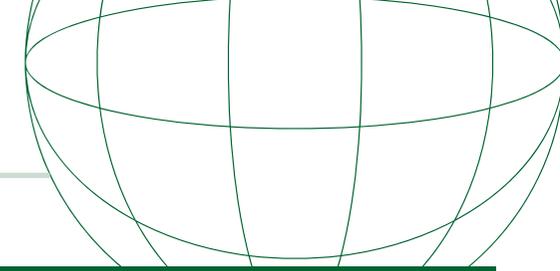
The programme was also graced by the presence of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS Goodwill Ambassador, Loyiso Bala and former cricketer Makhaya Ntini.



The handing over of basic necessities at Samaritan Hospice in Gompo.



Sanitary towels handed over to seven schools.



OUTCOME 3: ALL PEOPLE IN SOUTH AFRICA ARE AND FEEL SAFE

16 Days of Activism for No Violence against Women and Children

By: Jacob Molete: Doc, Gauteng



President Zuma, accompanied by the Minister of Women, Susan Shabangu, MEC for Community Safety, Siza-kele Nkosi-Malobane and Mayor of Ekurhuleni Mondli Gungubele, signing the 16 Days of Activism pledge.



President Zuma during his keynote address at the launch of the 16 Days of Activism for No Violence against Women and Children, at Reiger Park.

The 16 Days of Activism for No Violence against Women and Children campaign is an annual drive that is observed globally. This year's campaign is observed between 25 November 2014 and 10 December and is themed "Count Me In: Together Moving a Non-Violent South Africa forward." Its purpose is to address policy and legal issues; and also to campaign for the protection of victims of abuse and to call for the elimination of all forms of gender-based violence.

The launch was held at Reiger Park, Boksburg. President Jacob Zuma gave a keynote address. The President encouraged communities to act and report gender-based violence. "Most perpetrators are arrested and convicted because people report these cases and they also come forward as witnesses," he said.

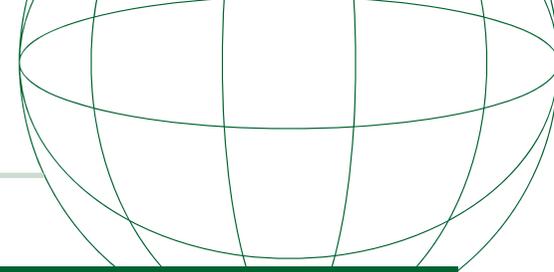
President Zuma said an effort was being made to speed up the court process for abuse cases. "We believe we are making progress as government in the fight against this scourge." He admitted, however, that much needs to be done and that communities must unite to make this year's campaign a success.



Community members of Reiger Park listening to President Zuma's address.



Geppetto's and Noncedo Day Care Centre children waving flags for no violence against women and children.



OUTCOME 3: ALL PEOPLE IN SOUTH AFRICA ARE AND FEEL SAFE

Partners against crime and the abuse of women and children

By: Xolani Mndaweni: DoC, North West

In preparation for the festive season, the Matlosana Community Policing Forum (CPF) implemented a ground-breaking roadshow to raise awareness on the 16 Days of Activism for No Violence against Women and Children campaign; and for community members to reject and report stolen goods. The event attracted many people and saw the realisation of a true public private partnership. Participants in the roadshow included the community of Klerksdorp, the CPF, civic organisations, taxi associations, private security companies, private emergency service providers, Rescue 911, disaster management teams, South African Police Service, small-business owners and government departments.

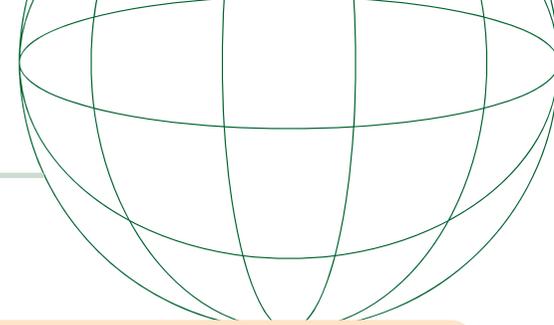
The convoy of vehicles drew a lot of attention as their sirens, blue and orange lights filled the city centre of Klerksdorp. Onlookers were given crime-prevention leaflets, tips and key messages were shared through loudhailers. The roadshow ended at the Klerksdorp taxi rank where different government services were rendered.



Community members receiving healthcare services at the crime-prevention roadshow at the Klerksdorp taxi rank.



Community members and the CPF march in the streets against crime and women and child abuse.



Cllr Poppy Seduku said:

“Don’t look away! Report and reject stolen goods.”



William Leshage said:

“Communities can help reduce crime by participating in CPFs, and reporting crime to the police. We will serve and protect them.”



Lucas Harlom said:

“As taxi owners we refuse to be used by thieves in transporting stolen goods. We also say “no” to violence against women and children!”



Sydney Phakedi said:

I have tested and I now know my HIV status. I have learnt that I should not buy stolen goods even if the seller is someone I know.”

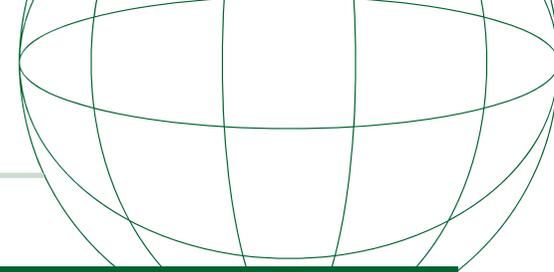


Itumeleng Leeto said:

“The fight against crime is continuing and partnering with business people and communities makes us victorious.”



Community members at the event.



Raymond Olyn said:

“Today’s programme was very relevant and fruitful. It is important for government to engage with communities in order for them to understand what is happening in these communities. As a teacher, I can proudly say we have benefited in terms of sporting equipments when the MEC for Education visited us. She listened to our complaints and promised to take them up with the relevant structures. I have confidence in government when it comes to addressing our concerns.”



Anthony De Bruin said:

“I am happy to see the Premier here. I am pleased with government’s response to our concerns and how it plans to address them. I hope when they come to visit us next time there will be more to discuss.”

OUTCOME 13: A COMPREHENSIVE, RESPONSIVE AND SUSTAINABLE SOCIAL PROTECTION SYSTEM

Northern Cape provincial leadership reaches out to the people

By: Charles Moeti: DoC, Northern Cape

The Premier of the Northern Cape, Sylvia Lukas, and her Executive Council, embarked on an outreach programme that brought hope to the communities of Breipal and Bongani in Siyacuma Municipality in the Pixley ka Seme District. More than 300 people packed the Breipal Community Hall in Douglas on 21 November, to interact with their provincial leaders on a number of concerns.

The outreach programme is an engagement platform created by the Northern Cape Executive Council to get views, concerns and suggestions from community members on various issues concerning government programmes. Issues ranging from housing, sewerage, mining and health services were raised. In her address, Premier Lukas reminded community members about the proposal she once made to them. “I am still waiting for business proposals from the women of Douglas but to this day, I have not received anything.”

She then appealed to the community that while government is committed to providing them with services such as free housing, they need to take responsibility by doing their part. The Premier advised community members to appreciate services offered by government, such as free housing and water.

“You need to make sure that these houses that were handed over to you this morning are well maintained,” said the Premier. She informed the community of the ongoing meetings with the Minister of Mineral Resources to raise concerns regarding the exclusion of community members when mineral licences are issued.

The outreach programme was the second to take place in the district since the appointment of the new Executive Council.



Members of the community listening to their leaders during the outreach programme.