




MY DISTRICT TODAY



Issue no. 37 / September 2015

Special edition: Annual Thusong Service Centre Week

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OUTCOME 12: AN EFFICIENT, EFFECTIVE AND DEVELOPMENT ORIENTED PUBLIC SERVICE AND AN EMPOWERED, FAIR AND INCLUSIVE CITIZENSHIP.

Thusong Service Centre Week observed

By Ntombi Mhlambi: GCIS, Free State

The Government Communication and Information System hosted an activation in Fateng Tse Ntsho at Paul Roux as part of celebrating the second annual Thusong Service Centre Week from 14 to 18 September. The week was celebrated under the theme: "Moving South Africa Forward: Taking public services to the people". The Thusong Service Centre programme was initiated as one of the primary vehicles intended to provide access to government information and services in an integrated manner. The purpose of the activation is to profile the work that government has been doing to bring basic services nearer to the people through mobile units and also to mobilise the community to use these services. During the activation, the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF) vaccinated community members' dogs for rabies. The Chairperson of Paul Roux Community Policing Forum said, "The mobiles that come to the community hall are really of assistance as they do not have any permanent services in Paul Roux and most people cannot afford to travel to cities to access basic services."



Fateng Tse Ntsho community members accessing information products at the Thusong Service Centre.



DAFF officials vaccinating dogs for rabies.



Teboho Mofokeng said:

"I was able to vaccinate my dog for rabies today through the Thusong Service Centre mobile. Thank you government."



Mokhele said:

"I thank government for bringing services nearer to us."



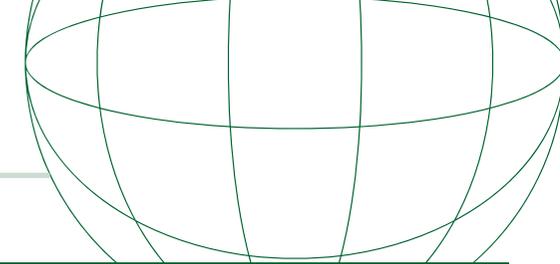
Motaung said:

"I am happy that government brought services nearer to us. I would also like to urge the Department of Labour to improve their systems so they can render services to us as community members."



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OUTCOME 12: AN EFFICIENT, EFFECTIVE AND DEVELOPMENT ORIENTED PUBLIC SERVICE AND AN EMPOWERED, FAIR AND INCLUSIVE CITIZENSHIP.

Thusong Service Centre Week launch

By Nomzamo Zondi: GCIS, KwaZulu-Natal

The Annual Thusong Service Centre Week was launched at the Dududu Thusong Service Centre in KwaZulu-Natal on 13 September, under the theme: “Services on wheels”. The launch coincided with Public Service Month theme: “Moving South Africa forward, taking public services to the people”. The day started with community members receiving a series of services exhibited by different government departments and non-governmental organisations under the Operation Sukuma Sakhe banner. The departments of health and agriculture, forestry and fisheries, and Lovelife were among the many stakeholders who offered their services and information. The Thusong Service Centre was fully operational on the day and despite the rainy weather, the community of Vulamehlo attended the launch.

The Government Communication and Information System Acting Director-General, Donald Liphoko, accompanied the Ugu District Speaker Councillor Sthembiso Cele and Vulamehlo Mayor Councillor Thabani Dube on a walkabout to the exhibition and engagement with the community where

they talked about the Thusong Service Centre programme. “We are celebrating 16 years of the existence of Thusong Service Centres, Dududu Thusong Service Centre was established in 2001 and services up to 80 to 120 people a day,” said Liphoko.

The programme has over the years managed to provide a platform for all sectors of the society to share information, deliver services, transfer skills, and create employment and business opportunities to those with entrepreneurial interests. The programme has also assisted those in distress and in dire need of assistance. “Government will continue to ensure that community members have access to information and services to better their lives. In Ugu District we have a good number of Thusong Service Centres that cater for community members in rural areas,” said Councillor Cele.



Mrs Ndlovu said:

“I have learned a lot and received many services today. The South African Social Security Agency checked if my pension money is not being unlawfully deducted, the Department of Health officials checked my blood-pressure levels and found that it was high and they gave me medication. I also received lots of information products for my children to read. Special thanks to the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries for the seedlings.”

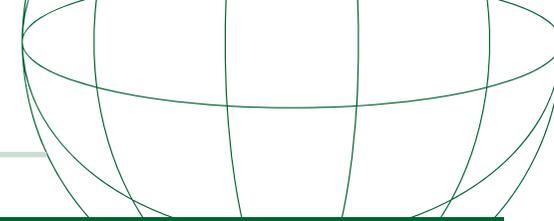


Mmeli Shoji said:

“I love the programme and as a young person I discovered that there are many opportunities in programmes that were shared today. I have never used the Thusong Service Centre but now that I have heard that there is a telecentre, I will.”



Government leaders embarking on a walkabout to various information stalls.



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Gauteng Thusong Service Centre Week

The Government Communication and Information System (GCIS) hosted the Thusong Service Centre Blitz in KwaThema, Daveyton, Orange Farm, Kagiso, Olievenhoutbosch and Mabopane to mark Public Service Month and promote Thusong Service Centre Week. Community members had access to services that were provided by the South African Social Security Agency (SASSA), Department of Home Affairs and many others.



GCIS official engaging members of the community during the Thusong Service Centre Marketing Programme.



Community members receiving information products at the Olievenhoutbosch Thusong Service Centre.



A GCIS official distributing information products to community members.



GCIS Deputy Director-General (DDG), Nebo Legoabe, visited the SASSA service point at the KwaThema Thusong Service Centre to monitor its performance.



SASSA beneficiary, Fana Nkosi, interacting with DDG Nebo Legoabe at the event.



Different stakeholders distributing information to community members at the event.



A GCIS official engaging with community members and sharing government information, programmes and opportunities.



DDG Nebo Legoabe explains the Thusong Service Centre programme and Thusong Service Centre Week during an interview at eKFM community radio.



Street vendors receiving government information in Daveyton.



GCIS official, Thembi Matjokana, explaining the Thusong Service Centre Week to the youth.



Young people enquiring about government services.



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Eastern Cape Thusong Service Centre Week

Public Service Month is aimed at integrating and aligning various service-delivery improvement programmes, interventions and institutionalising *Batho Pele* principles. The month also seeks to take services to the people and provides an opportunity to promote professionalism and productivity in the Public Service.



Officials from the departments of health and home affairs talking about their services.



Deputy Minister Ndabeni-Abrahams being interviewed at UCR FM.



Deputy Minister Stella Ndabeni-Abrahams addressing community members at the event.



Mawethu Ngxe from Merseta presenting bursary, learnership and artisan programmes at the event.



Nobantu Keylock from the Department of Labour presenting the job-seekers programme at the event.



Mpho Garane from Small Enterprise Development Agency presenting about programmes offered by the institution.



Lungi Mhlebana presenting the bursary programme of Alfred Nzo District Municipality.



Learners from Ntibane Junior Secondary School, Tyeni Secondary School and Luthatheni High School listening to presentations from various stakeholders.

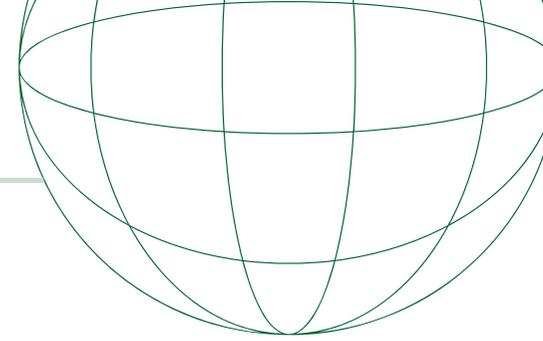


Learners accessing information products from different service providers.

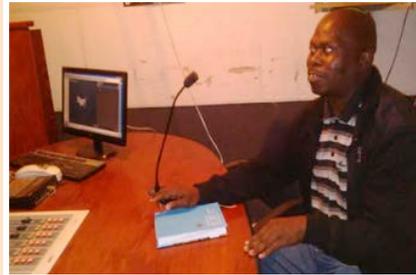


Deputy Minister Stella Ndabeni-Abrahams addressing community members at the event.





South African Social Security Agency (SASSA) providing services to communities.



Sterkspruit Thusong Service Centre manager promoting the centre.



Learners receiving information from the National Prosecuting Authority stall.



Learners receiving information from a business consultant stall.



Community members applying for identity documents and birth certificates at the event.



Social workers assisting people with disabilities.