



MY DISTRICT TODAY



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PRIORITY 5: SOCIAL COHESION AND SAFE COMMUNITIES.

Bok fever hits Siya Kolisi's home town

By Natasha Peterson: GCIS, Eastern Cape

On 1 November 2019, the Government Communication and Information System in collaboration with the Department of Sport, Recreation, Arts and Culture (DSRAC), MultiChoice, Vodacom, the Eastern Province Rugby, African Bombers Rugby Club and the Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality hosted a community activation at Emsengeni Primary School in Zwide – the school where the Springbok Captain, Siya Kolisi, spent his formative years. This was followed by a public viewing of the Rugby World Cup 2019 final game in which South Africa played against England on 2 November 2019. The public-viewing event was held at the Zwide Stadium.

Both events were filled with excitement and jubilation as the community celebrated their local hero, Siya Kolisi, and the whole South African rugby team which worked together to not only secure a place in the finals but also won the Rugby World Cup 2019.

The public-viewing event was also attended by the MEC of DSRAC in the Eastern Cape, Ms Fezeka Bayeni. The MEC said that she is very proud of the Springboks, adding that their win is a victory for South Africa. She said the victory will create a legacy which will inspire children across South Africa to believe in themselves and know that their dreams can become a reality.



Emsengeni Primary School learners celebrating the Springboks' victory.



Fans watching the World Rugby Cup Final at Zwide Stadium.



**government
communications**

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Themba Ludwaba said:

"As a South African rugby veteran, I am very proud of the Springboks and I am so glad we came to the school today to share the joy and excitement with learners."



MEC Bayeni:

"The people are thrilled. In 2007 Siya Kolisi watched the game in Zwide and today hundreds of people have gathered to watch him lift the trophy. We are so proud of him and the young boys in our communities see him as a hero."



Portia Yawa said:

"I am so happy! They killed it today. They gave their best and I am glad I could be here today to watch the game with the community."



Elizabeth Mnguni said:

"I liked what government departments came here for today. I am going to share the information I got with my neighbours and everyone in our community."



Nunu Moepi said:

"Today we received a lot of information. We are grateful. We thank all the government departments that visited us to share information."

PRIORITY 3: CONSOLIDATING THE SOCIAL WAGE THROUGH RELIABLE AND QUALITY BASIC SERVICES.

Service delivery information session

By Reki Skosana: GCIS, Mpumalanga

On 31 October 2019, the Government Communication and Information System (GCIS) partnered with the Victor Khanye Local Municipality, the departments of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs, Health, Social Development, Human Settlements, Water and Sanitation, and Public Works, Roads and Transport, Highveld Chronicles, the South African Police Service and civil society organisations to conduct a service delivery campaign at Botleng Sport Centre.

The Department of Health shared information on healthy living and hygiene. The Department of Social Development shared information on gender-based violence (GBV) and encouraged the community to report cases promptly before they get out of control. The Department of Water and Sanitation shared water-saving tips and the GCIS shared information on the National Student Financial Aid Scheme 2020 applications and encouraged young people to seize the opportunity to further their studies.

Community members expressed gratitude for the information. Government information material on water-saving tips, GBV, and *Vuk'uzenzele* and *InSession* newspapers were distributed to the community members.



Stakeholders addressing community members.

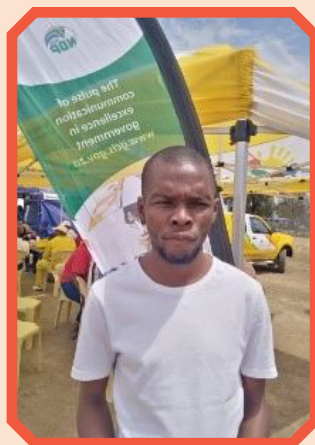


Community members attending the session.



Tshepo Mofamere said:

"I am happy that I got information because we don't get a chance to engage with these departments and we don't always have funds to go to town."



Sipho Mokoena said:

"I am happy, different departments took their time to come to Gladstone to address us."

PRIORITY 3: CONSOLIDATING THE SOCIAL WAGE THROUGH RELIABLE AND QUALITY BASIC SERVICES.

Government brings services to the people

By Selloane Mokoena: GCIS, Free State

On 25 October 2019, the Government Communication and Information System in collaboration the departments of Health, and Social Development, the South African Social Security Agency and the South African Postal Services, engaged the community of Gladstone in the outskirts of Thaba Nchu.

Gladstone is located far from cities, hence government saw a need to visit the community for engagement and to provide services. Each departments explained the type of services they offer while others assisted people on the spot. Community members also received information materials on government programmes.



Community members attending the event.



Government officials assisting community members.



Nonkululeo Khumalo said:

"I urge everyone to protect and safeguard women and children. The scourge of GBV is too high in our country. We also urge police to enforce the law and the courts to give harsh sentences to perpetrators of GBV."



Mokorotlo Chuene said:

"We want to raise awareness and appeal to everyone to actively participate in the fight against GBV in our communities and while at the same time appealing for the safe return of Amahle Thabethe, who was kidnapped six months ago. Maybe, just maybe there might be a breakthrough in her case."



Queen Mlangeni said:

"Educate your children about safety. Community members must embark on a 'know-your-neighbour' campaign so that strangers are not allowed in."

PRIORITY 5: SOCIAL COHESION AND SAFE COMMUNITIES.

Communities march against gender-based violence

By Jacob Molete: GCIS, Gauteng

On 16 October 2019, the Government Communication and Information System and various stakeholders in Springs coordinated a gender-based violence (GBV) awareness march to the Springs Police Station. The marchers pleaded for the return of Amahle Thabethe who has been missing since April 2019. They also mobilised communities to speak out against GBV and abuse.

They handed over a memorandum of grievances to the Springs Police Station as the Cluster Station for the district. The memorandum highlighted the scourge of women and child abuse and killings, and a reference was made to some of the well-known criminal cases, including that of Amahle Thabethe, the murders of Ayanda Similane, Mamse Mine, Ntokozo Ginya and Kagiso Skosana and rape cases reported in local communities.

Brigadier Gwebushe Thembeke accepted the memorandum and promised to attend to the grievances. "We will go through the memorandum and revert to the community and families affected within 21 days. We are urging residents to help us fight GBV. We will not be able to topple this monster without the help of the community," said Brigadier Thembeke.

Stakeholders that organized the march include the One Strong Voice Foundation, Refiloe and Thuto Foundation, Thabang Xaba Foundation, Resurrect Foundation, Springs PCO and the Hlase Mpho Foundation.



Community members marching against GBV.



Brigadier Thembeke receiving the memorandum.