



MY DISTRICT TODAY



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CONTACT DETAILS OF THE GCIS PROVINCIAL OFFICES

For more information about similar programmes that are run across the country, contact one of the following provincial offices:

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PRIORITY 2: EDUCATION, SKILLS AND HEALTH.

Deputy Minister reaches out to community members

By Fatima Modise: GCIS, North West

On 13 March 2020, the Deputy Minister in The Presidency, Thembi Siweya, accompanied by the Mayor of Mamusa Local Municipality, Cllr Bogosibotsile Batsi, visited Schweizer Reneke in Mamusa Local Municipality in North West to convene a Constitution awareness activation. The event aimed to promote access to information among the youth and to engage them on the initiatives that provide opportunities for entrepreneurs.

The Government Communication and Information System created awareness on Bill of Rights (Chapter 2 of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa) and distributed information leaflets on coronavirus. Brand South Africa promoted constitutional awareness, pride and patriotism among South Africans to contribute to social cohesion and nation brand ambassadorship. The National Youth Development Agency outlined its programmes such as the voucher and grant programme, job placement services, skills development, National Youth Service and other many opportunities. Before a young person could access a grant, they need to be capacitated first so that they will be able to use that grant effectively.



The youth of Mamusa Local Municipality who were in attendance.



Deputy Minister Thembi Siweya addressing the audience.



government communications

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Also in attendance was ACTIVATE! Change Drivers, which is an organisation that activates young people to address challenges and initiate innovative solutions. The campaign selects a certain number of young people every year and train them to discover themselves, their interests, what they want to do with their lives and how to achieve that. The Department of Economic Development, Environment, Conservation and Tourism also presented about opportunities available to develop the youth, which mostly include funding of established businesses to assist them in buying goods or equipment for needed for business operations.



Itumeleng Mphuthi said:

“As the chairperson of the Community Policing Forum in Ipelegeng, I am happy about this initiative and I hope for our youth to grab the opportunities presented to them, maybe crime statistics will go down.”



Katlego Diphuka said:

“My company is Oathlotse Dibitsang. The National Youth Development Agency funded me in 2016. I started individually with just a business idea, which falls under the threshold that gets funding from R10 001 to R50 000.”

PRIORITY 2: EDUCATION, SKILLS AND HEALTH.

Coronavirus preventative measures

By the South African Government

4 PRECAUTIONS TO FOLLOW TO AVOID BEING INFECTED

- 1 WASH YOUR HANDS**
Wash your hands with soap thoroughly. Wash the back of your hands, between the fingers and under the nails. Always wash your hands with soap before you eat and after being out in public.
- 2 GOOD PERSONAL HYGIENE**
Cover your mouth with a tissue paper when coughing or sneezing. Avoid touching your face with dirty hands at all times. If you have to, be sure to wash your hands with soap thoroughly first.
- 3 DO NOT SHARE FOOD AND UTENSILS**
Bacteria, viruses and infection can be transmitted onto knives, forks, spoons and straws. Only use clean utensils and do not share drinks. Always clean your hands before eating.
- 4 SEE A DOCTOR IF YOU ARE UNWELL**
Typical symptoms include cough, runny nose, fever and shortness of breath. If you are experiencing any of these symptoms, seek medical attention promptly. Call the clinic or doctor ahead of your visit and inform them of your symptoms and travel history.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19):

- Join the WhatsApp support for South Africans: Say "Hi" to 0600 123 456.
- Visit: <https://www.gov.za/NovelCoronavirus> or <https://sacoronavirus.co.za/>
- Contact the toll free number: 0800 029 999.

PRIORITY 5: SOCIAL COHESION AND SAFE COMMUNITIES.

Activation promotes human rights

By Natasha Peterson: GCIS, Eastern Cape

On 11 March 2020, the Government Communication and Information System in partnership with the Robert Sobukwe Trust and Khomanani White Door of Hope, held a community activation to promote Human Rights Month. The activation also addressed issues of racism and gender-based violence linked to human rights.

The activation was held under the national theme for Human Rights Month: “The year of unity, socio-economic renewal and nation-building”, and targeted all community members in the shopping district of Graaff-Reinet. Many of them said they felt that issues of race were no longer a major concern but that poverty and poor service delivery may cause a situation where people might look at races that are better off financially and start to feel resentment. They however, reiterated that as a community, all citizens will play their part in helping members of the public to grow and respect people’s human rights.



Jaison Fillis said:

“I think South Africa is doing well. We all have rights.”



Poula Chrisjan said:

“Unlike during the apartheid era, we now have rights.”



Distribution of Human Rights Month information material to Graaff-Reinet community members.



Irvin van der Westhuizen said:

“I am an ex-convict. When I heard about this event on radio, I was very pleased to hear that the people of Namakwa are standing up against violence and abuse. I immediately got some friends together to be part of it. We should do everything in our power to combat violence against other people. I am proud to be standing up against violence perpetrated against women and children.”



GB Kernow said:

“It would have been nice to see more people in the silent protest of today, but as long as we convey the message to the people out there, we have done something to stop violence. I am thankful for those who came out to convey the message today.”



Tarien Schoeman said:

“I really expected more people to attend this march. You can never say that violence does not get to you because you do not know what tomorrow holds, and maybe your child or neighbour could be a victim. What then? We have to become part of the solution even before there is a problem.”

PRIORITY 5: SOCIAL COHESION AND SAFE COMMUNITIES.

Community march against violence

By Willem van Dalen: GCIS Northern Cape

On 5 March 2020, the Government Communication and Information System together with other stakeholders, embarked on a silent protest to create awareness against gender-based violence.

The march was held in Springbok, at the Nama Khoi Local Municipality, with the purpose of speaking out against any form of violence.

Participants carried posters with messages such as: “Violence of any kind is NOT OK!”, while stakeholders expressed why it was important for victims to speak up and report cases of abuse.

Stakeholders who were present at the event included the Departments of Education, Transport, Safety and Liaison, and Social Development, the South African Police Service and also business and religious groups.



Participants pledging their support to the cause.



Community members participating in the march against violence.