



MYDISTRICTTODAY



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TOGETHER WE CAN BEAT CORONAVIRUS

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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 I: ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATION AND JOB CREATION.

Youth development opportunities

By Ndyebo Kopo: GCIS, Eastern Cape

Access to information and opportunities is one of the fundamental areas of concern for young people today, especially those residing in rural areas. A resident of Thaba Chicha village, approximately 30 to 40 km away from the small town of Matatiele, pays about R50 to travel to town to visit a municipal office or any other establishment where the young person may get information or access to an opportunity.

Unlike the youth of 1976, the youth of today, among other things, is faced with these kind of struggles. In realising such and striving to bring information and opportunities closer to where young people are. The Government Communication and Information System teamed up with the Alfred Nzo District Municipality, and organised various government departments and agencies into the Youth Empowerment Expo, where they invited stakeholders and had information stalls on 23 June 2023 and engaged with the youth of Thaba Chicha about youth opportunities.

Stakeholders such as Manufacturing, Electrical and Related Services Sector Education and Training Authority, Alfred Nzo District Municipality, Department of Economic Development, Environmental Affairs and Tourism, Department of Public Works and Infrastructure, Matatiele Local Municipality shared information about skills development opportunities, bursaries, post-schooling opportunities, grant funding, non-financial support for micro enterprises and other youth related opportunities.

In appreciating the Youth Empowerment Expo, Sello Mleleki, a young person from Thaba Chicha, had this to say, "I am so grateful about this event, instead of going out to seek this information, all these stakeholder came to us and shared all that mattered about youth opportunities. Other young people here did not even know where to access certain department or agencies."



Youth Empowerment Expo held at the Thaba Chicha Thusong Service Centre.



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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 7: A BETTER AFRICA AND WORLD.

Netball World Cup trophy parade

By Rapelang Motlagomang: GCIS, North West

The Netball World Cup Trophy tour landed in North West on 19 June 2023. This was part of the national tour, which will see the trophy travelling through all the nine provinces. The aim of the tour is to give South Africans a chance to be part of the global spectacle, which will take place in Cape Town from 28 July to 6 August 2023. The Dr Kenneth Kaunda District Municipality was the first to receive the World Cup trophy tour in the North West from the Free State. It then proceeded through to Bojanala District, then Ngaka Modiri Molema District and finally Dr Ruth Segomotsi Mompati District.

Cecilia Molokwane, the president of Netball South Africa, highlighted that not all South Africans will make it to Cape Town for the World Cup but the tour is to encourage all people to play their part in supporting it. She said that there would be fan parks where South Africans can watch the matches for the duration of the world cup. She further said that if something is not happening closer to the people, they tend to feel that it is not meant for them, hence the trophy was brought to them.

Molokwane also encouraged communities to buy the tickets and support the Spar Proteas.

“Please support the Spar Proteas, they need your support they need your prayers they need to hear that eighth player on the court. This will ensure that this trophy does not leave South African soil. We will come again to the people after we have won it,” she said.

Helene Botha of North West Netball also urged the people of the province to rally behind the Spar Proteas.

“It is befitting that as North West Netball, we support the trophy tour as netball is our core business. The Dr Kenneth Kaunda District is one of the leading districts on netball in the province. We are urging all the netball enthusiasts and players to reach out to us to assist,” she said.

Botha added that the people of North West who would not make it to Cape Town should fill up the fan parks.

The trophy left North West on 23 June 2023 headed to the Northern Cape where it will be touring for a few days before heading to another province.



The Netball World Cup trophy presented by Cecilia Molokwane who also addressed the masses in Klerksdorp.

PRIORITY 2: EDUCATION, SKILLS AND HEALTH.

Youth Expo mobilises young people

By Jetrho Grootboom: GCIS, Western Cape

To commemorate Youth Day, the Western Cape Department of Social Development, along with its partners, hosted a provincial Youth Expo in George on 16 June 2023.

Young people from various towns in the Eden Karoo region attended the event at the George Civic Centre. There were a variety of stalls highlighting the wonderful talent and entrepreneurial spirit of youth from the Department of Social Development, supported Youth Cafés, information about learning, employment opportunities, as well as entertainment.

Some of the attendees are those who are supported through the department's social welfare and community development interventions, including youth in foster care, Child and Youth Care Centres and youth not in employment, education and/or training.

MEC for Social Development, Sharna Fernandez, told attendees: "Your struggles are not yours alone, you are not alone, and your future is bright. Everything you see around you today has been tailor-made for you. The organisers of today's event realise the enormous potential you possess, and that you only need to see all the opportunities that are available."

MEC Fernandez also thanked all the Western Cape Department of Social Development officials, municipalities, non-governmental organisations and corporates who made the event possible.

"Support of the vulnerable and at-risk youth is strengthened thanks to partnerships with communities, the non-profit organisation (NPOs) sector, and the private sector. SUFF Academy, the Jaftha Foundation, Reflect Development Division, Wonderful SA, and Cell C, thank you for creating a wonderful event filled with opportunity, enthusiasm, and hope!" she said.

Gailin Muller is the owner of She-In Style, and had a stand at the expo. "As a young female with a business, this was an amazing experience. The expo allowed me to showcase my work, and for that I am extremely grateful," said Muller.

The Department of Social Development subsidises 27 NPOs to work in communities where there are youth not in employment, education and/or training. These organisations have provided skills development training to 14 566 beneficiaries in the 2022/23 financial year.

The Department has 12 funded Youth Cafés in the province, which aim to provide a safe space for the development of youth, women and persons with disabilities whilst undergoing training. The youth attending the After School programme at these Cafés access resources and training (which include online training opportunities, digital literacy skills and competencies, and academic support). The programme has reached more than 2 500 learners thus far.



Exhibitors and young people during the Western Cape Provincial Youth Expo.



MEC Sharna Fernandez engaging with young people.



MEC Sharna Fernandez said:

“The Department of Social Development spent 17 Million for the 2022/23 financial year. The youth of 2023 have challenges that are much bigger than the youth of 1976. Our young people are experiencing Gender-Based Violence, substance abuse; interpersonal violence, unemployment and gangsterism daily. That is why there has been a reinforced focus on youth with specific focus on skills development, entrepreneurship, where young people can learn how to generate an income for themselves and not to depend on a grant, hence the provincial Youth Expo. We should be trying to get people in jobs than to rely on social grants. We need to show young people that there are many opportunities and resources available to them, bring hope to them and assist them to tap into these many opportunities.”



Romonde Meyer said:

“The reason I woke up early this morning to come to the Youth Expo was to see what opportunities are out there for us. As young people, most of us are unemployed and looking for jobs daily. I hope that the Youth Expo will provide a platform for us to be employed.”



Zolani Mntwini said:

“I believe the Youth Expo has some benefits for us. I am hoping to get information here today that will help me grow. Youth Day to me means that we are celebrating those who did it back then for us in 1976.”

PRIORITY 2: EDUCATION, SKILLS AND HEALTH.

Youth Month commemoration event

By Doctor Marebane: GCIS, Limpopo

The youth from Ga-Makanye village in the Capricorn District Municipality, celebrated Youth Month in style on 21 June 2023. Various government departments, state-owned enterprises and institutions of higher learning supported the event. They included the National Youth Development Agency, Small Development Enterprise Agency, Limpopo Gambling Board, and the Independent Electoral Commission.

The local Chief, Kgoshi Moremadi Mothapo who is also a member of Parliament, supported the event. She urged the youth to take the opportunities presented to them by the departments with both hands. She thanked the Capricorn District Municipality for bringing employment opportunities to the youth in her village.

In her keynote speech, the Executive Mayor of Capricorn District Municipality, Mamedupi Teffo, said that the expo was aimed at empowering young people and fight against unemployment.

“As the Capricorn District Municipality, we firmly believe that young people are the main drivers of our socio-economic developmental agenda. To this effect, we will always ensure that they occupy their rightful place in our mission to change their lives. This is particularly critical to us as the struggle for youth economic emancipation has taken longer than necessary. However, it is encouraging to note that despite the challenges that youth are facing, they still show the hunger to get an education, acquire skills and seize opportunities such as this expo in pursuit of personal success,” she said.

The Executive Mayor further stated that the expo provides opportunities, resources, and knowledge necessary for young people to thrive in the local economic landscape. It is a platform to ignite the spirit of entrepreneurship, foster skill development and financial literacy, paves the way for personal growth and the overall prosperity of society.

“We know that every young person’s dream is to have a decent job, run a successful business, and provide for their family. Nevertheless, some of these dreams are often held back by lack of funding and support. That is why we are here today. This is because we are mindful of the fact that women and young people, in general, are the hardest hit by unemployment and poverty.

We want to use this expo to highlight business success stories and offer mentorship programmes to inspire and empower you to follow your dream as a potential owner of a small business. Some of you here are creative content initiators with thousands of followers on social media and it is important to start thinking about ways to leverage your influence and monetise it and earn an income from the interesting content you create and share on Tiktok, Facebook and YouTube.”

“By encouraging this kind of youth entrepreneurship, we will not only drive economic growth but also cultivate a culture of innovation, job creation, and self-sufficiency. This expo is meant to nurture that entrepreneurial mind-set, laying the foundation for the emergence of future leaders and change-

makers. Let us, therefore, use this expo to learn and enhance our skills in various domains, such as technology, marketing, and leadership. By bridging the skills gap and promoting lifelong learning, youth economic empowerment expos enable us to navigate the complexities of the global economy and adapt to evolving job requirements. As the Capricorn District Municipality, we do not only build a future for the youth; we also aim to build the youth for the future!” she concluded.”



Community members of Ward 39 and surrounding areas listening to panel discussions during the dialogue.



Olga Rammoka said:

“I acquired my diploma in 2018 and I have not gotten any employment. I urge the youth start their own businesses rather than depending on government grants.”