



MY DISTRICT TODAY



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

Activation tackles substance and drug abuse

By Moleboheng Maphutsi: GCIS, Northern Cape



Consultation and information sharing with a social worker from the NCDR.



The Department of Justice and Constitutional Development exhibited at the activation.

The Government Communication and Information System in collaboration with various stakeholders, embarked on a taxi-rank activation on 26 July 2019 with the aim of creating awareness on substance and drug abuse in Kimberley. The initiative came after a continued public outcry about the abuse of drugs by young people. These substances have become easily accessible to the youths at public places such as taxi ranks and street corners.

The Northern Cape Drug and Rehabilitation (NCDR) was available to assist people with information on how to avoid getting addicted to drug usage and also how those who are already addicts can be assisted to quit. The session was attended by Agape Drug Addiction Treatment Centre, which is a local centre that offers rehabilitation treatment for individuals who are using drugs but wish to end the habit. The centre also offers aftercare treatment for those who have completed their rehabilitation.

Recovered addicts were afforded an opportunity to engage with the public and share their recovery journey. This was done to motivate and encourage the public because recovery from substance addiction is possible, and one does not have to do it alone.



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Lance Crew said:

“The community, rehabilitation centres and government should work together in order to create more awareness campaigns. These campaigns should send a strong message and have a huge impact. Substance abuse is causing a lot of negative issues in our communities, especially because we are faced with gang violence.”



Soly Ndlazi said:

“Government must rally all recovered addicts on board in order for them to share their stories and experiences. These outreach programmes must be taken to areas that really need information, such as schools. Lastly, the police must be involved in such programmes, the community must be willing to assist the police with information that will ensure that drug lords are punished.”



Elizabeth Coerecius said:

“Government should work with youth centres and create more youth programmes that are aimed at empowering the youth. Those programmes must educate the youths about peer pressure and how one can build self-confidence. Family support programmes should also be established, because some people are battling with a lot of challenges that might possibly result in their children using substances.”



Christine Mokone said:

“I am grateful that I no longer have to walk a long distance to access Pick n Pay store promotions. I can now get all the products here, at Bassiane’s Market Store, in my neighbourhood.”



Setlakalane Molepo said:

“We are here to make a solemn pledge to accelerate the economic empowerment of our township entrepreneurs.”



Phinias Movenda and Mandle Dlamini said:

“We are happy. It is good that the store is next to our homes. If we have R10 we can walk to this store to buy bread and other necessities, instead of paying for transport to go to the mall.”

OUTCOME 6: AN EFFICIENT, COMPETITIVE AND RESPONSIVE ECONOMIC INFRASTRUCTURE NETWORK.

Public-private partnership boosts township economy

By Jacob Molete: GCIS, Gauteng



Thomas Bassiane addressing the community.



Katllehong community member queuing to take advantage of the opening special at the store.

The Department of Small Business Development, Small Enterprise Finance Agency (Sefa) and Pick n Pay jointly opened Bassiane’s Market Store in Vosloorus to promote township entrepreneurship and inclusive economic growth for all. The store was officially opened on 30 July 2019.

The store has been funded to the tune of R4, 7 million by Sefa as part of supporting Pick n Pay’s township initiative to give entrepreneurs an opportunity to run supermarkets through the Township Economy Revitalisation Programme. Sefa CEO Setlakalane Molepo indicated that that was the first store by the agency.

“The Township Economy Revitalisation Programme seeks to address challenges faced by many spaza shops operating in townships such as, non-competitiveness, financial management, customer relations, technology and access to funding for stock and store facelift,” he said.

The business loan granted to Bassiane contains a grant benefit close to R1 million. The store is owned by Thomas Bassiane and Portia Bassiane, who have employed 18 young people from Katlehong.

“The success of this store is critical in that it can help the nearby community by providing convenient services, creating jobs and skills development,” said Pick n Pay representative, Leon de Lange.

Pick n Pay provides in-depth mentorship and training, which comprises both in-store and classroom training for both the store owners and employees. Furthermore, the store is equipped with the latest information technology systems and retailing techniques to create a unique township shopping experience.

Thomas Bassiane promised the best customer service and quality products. “We are grateful to Sefa and Pick n Pay for the financial and non-financial support, more importantly, we urge the community to continue supporting us. We shall always ensure that we provide quality products and services to all of you, our important customers” he said.



Maleshoane Monyane said:

“I was not aware that even Fafi is gambling that needs to have a licence and that I can be fined if found operating it without licence.”



Lebohlang Maseko said:

“I loved the part where the department taught us about our consumer rights because in most cases, especially in small towns, business owners bully us into signing contracts that we do not fully understand.”



Khoza Nomganga said:

“I am very excited to attend such an informative session and also learning more about consumer rights.”

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

Policy and legislation awareness

By Ntombi Mhlambi and Cholo Mothibi: GCIS, Free State



Community members of Thaba Nchu at the session.



Community members of Meloding who attended the session.

The Department of Trade and Industry (the dti) embarked on a roadshow on 24 and 25 July 2019 to educate the community members of Meloding and Thaba Nchu about various consumer and corporate regulations, policy and legislations, and services of the dti.

Ngwatse Mashimaite from the dti presented the licensing of gambling policies. Another official, Khutso Mkgotsi, spoke about intellectual property policies, educating the community about registering their own ideas and also protecting them from being exploited.

Community members were also informed about various Acts. The department also educated people on how they can register a company or a cooperative.

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

Government engages community media

By Zimkita Maqokolo: GCIS, Eastern Cape



MDDA Acting Chief Executive Officer Zukiswa Potye addressing the audience.



Sibulelo Ntsangani said:

“I am thankful about the outcome of today’s programme and I am also thankful to the MDDA because we went to their head office unannounced, instead of turning us down they were keen to help us and also believed in our vision.”



Rise ‘N Shine Disability Magazine stakeholders who were in attendance.



Kumkani FM station manager presenting the status report of the radio station.

The Deputy Minister in the Presidency, Thembi Siweya, together with the Media Development and Diversity Agency (MDDA) engaged with *Rise ‘N Shine Disability Magazine* in Mdantsane and also conducted a walkabout at Kumkani FM studios on 27 and 28 July 2019, as part of monitoring and supporting community media.

The magazine is a community publication that focuses on people with disabilities, where they share their different experiences. Its programme manager Chuma Bhokhwe said the engagement was fruitful as she did not expect such a great outcome. “In our invitation we were told that we are going to be talking about challenges but the Deputy Minister not only touched on that. One of the challenges we have as *Rise ‘N Shine Magazine* is that we do not cater for the blind and therefore, we request government to assist us as we would also love to publish the magazine in Braille,” said Chuma.

She also said they get their funding from the MDDA, Buffalo City Metropolitan Municipality and the Department of Social Development. The magazine’s marketing manager, Sibulelo Ntsangani, said she was humbled that a government leader took her time to come and engage with the founders of the magazine.

During a visit to a local community radio station called Kumkani FM, the station presented its status report. The station manager Alime Dyubula and board members presented their challenges to the Deputy Minister, who noted them. Deputy Minister Siweya further had a radio interview with Kumkani FM to inform the community about her visit.