



MY DISTRICT TODAY



STAY
SAFE

VACCINATE TO SAVE SOUTH AFRICA

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 5: SPATIAL INTEGRATION, HUMAN SETTLEMENTS AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT.

Government reaches out to small communities

By Morena Motloutse: GCIS, Free State

On 25 May 2021, the Free State Provincial Government, through the Office of the Premier, hosted an Integrated Community Registration Outreach Programme in Ntswanatsatsi and Cornelia, to render government services in partnership with the South African Social Security Agency, Department of Home Affairs, Department of Human Settlements, Department of Employment and Labour, Department of Health and the Government Communication and Information System.

Community members heeded the call and came out in numbers to receive various services from all the stakeholders that were at the venue.

The outreach programme came as a result of the Office of the Premier's profiling programme that identified isolated towns within the province. Ntswanatsatsi was identified in Mafube Local Municipality as a rural township where community members normally receive mobile government services or forced to travel to adjacent towns such as Frankfort, Villiers or Standerton, in Mpumalanga, to access proper services.

The Free State Provincial Government used this programme as a benchmark for people's severe need for its services and therefore aims to reach out to more communities across the province in the future.



Community members receiving government services from the Department of Home Affairs.



South African Social Security Agency officials providing services to community members.



government
communications

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REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



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COVID-19 vaccine registration details for 60-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 3: EDUCATION, SKILLS AND HEALTH.

Senior citizens urged to register for vaccine

By Zukiswa Mqumbisa and Taryn Trantall: GCIS, Eastern Cape

On 14 May 2021, the Government Communication and Information System, through its Nelson Mandela Bay Office, in partnership with the Department of Health and other stakeholders, conducted a loud-hailing campaign, which was complimented by primary health services on site, encouraging the elderly who are over the age of 60 years to register for COVID-19 vaccine. The event took place in Cleary Park, Gqeberha.

Many people showed up at the testing site enquiring about the registration process, and some registered for vaccination while others tested for COVID-19.

Communities were, however, alarmed with a possibility of a COVID-19 third wave. An elderly resident, Benjamin Santi, said, "I am very happy that the vaccine will be available especially with the possibility of a third wave approaching."

Another resident, Keith Darling, said he heard about the registration for vaccination, however, he was not sure where to go. When he saw the mobile clinic at the Cleary Park Centre, he enquired and was informed that registration could be done too. He said he was worried about the COVID-19 because as a taxi driver, he could easily be exposed.

Dudu Joki, a health promoter, said that about 50% of the targeted communities have been registered. "When doing the loud-hailing, we could sense that people are interested in our message as government stakeholders," she said.

The Eastern Cape Department of Health continues to appeal to community members to assist the people aged 60 and above to register for vaccination and to continue adhering to COVID-19 protocols.

Registration can be done one on the website: <https://vaccine.enroll.health.gov.za/#/>, or by dialling *134*832*ID number# on any cellphone, or by sending the word 'Register' to 0600 123 456 on WhatsApp.



Terisa Adams registering Benjamin Santi for the COVID-19 vaccine.



Wayne Booyens testing for COVID-19 at Cleary Park Mall.

PRIORITY 3: EDUCATION, SKILLS AND HEALTH.

Oversight visit to vaccine sites

By Vasanthi Naidoo and Mthunzi Mkhungo: GCIS, KwaZulu-Natal

Since the inception of the Frontline Service Delivery Monitoring Programme in collaboration with other government departments, the Department of Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation (DPME) has been monitoring public-service facilities through both unannounced visits and improvements monitoring meetings.

The programme aims to improve service delivery and highlight the importance of monitoring to sector departments. It also seeks to instil a culture of self-monitoring in sector departments to ensure an improved quality of service delivery, with an overall aim of advancing planning, accountability, responsibility and reporting through monitoring.

The DPME commenced its oversight visits to vaccination sites in the country from 17 to 21 May 2021 in KwaZulu-Natal, as the second phase of the COVID-19 vaccine roll-out commenced.

The visit served to evaluate the systems and processes, including communication messaging and platforms used in the implementation of the vaccination roll-out, and also the gathering of community sentiment on the vaccine.

Successes highlighted were the efficiency and effectiveness of the COVID-19 vaccine, government communication, roll-out processes, and the professionalism and care of public healthcare professionals at the sites.

Challenges experienced were also noted with the view to improve the implementation systems and processes going forward, thereby ensuring a pleasant experience for vaccinees at the point of service. The information collected also seeks to guide communication, especially around demystifying the myths around the vaccine.

Sites that were visited are Umphumulo Hospital in Ilembe, KwaMashu Polly CHC Pharmacy and Marianhill St Mary's Hospital Pharmacy in eThekweni, Edendale Hospital and Richmond Chest Hospital in uMgungundlovu, and Port Shepstone Hospital in the Ugu District.



Port Shepstone Regional Hospital Pharmacy manager explaining how the COVID-19 vaccine is stored and distributed to all satellite health sites.



Government officials engaging with Ugu District residents through Radio Sunny South.



Government officials engaging with the Chief Executive Officer of the KwaMashu Community Health Centre.



Nokthula Ndlovu said:

"I feel fine, nothing is wrong with me after taking the vaccine."



Thandazulu Shandu said:

"I just got my first dose of the vaccine today and I am not experiencing any adverse effects. Everything is going well. I encourage others to take the vaccine."

PRIORITY 3: EDUCATION, SKILLS AND HEALTH.

Rural schools receive labs

By Joy Themba, Nonkululeko Mkhathswa and Poppy Maluka: GCIS, Mpumalanga

Deputy President David Mabuza in his capacity as the Chairperson of the Human Resource Development Council, together with Communications and Digital Technologies Minister Stella Ndabeni-Abrahams, visited two local schools in the Nkomazi Local Municipality in Mpumalanga on 7 May 2021. The outreach was in line with the Digital Skills Outreach programme, led by the Department of Communications and Digital Technologies in partnership with the MTN Foundation and the CLM School Connectivity Programme.

The programme provided four information and communication technologies (ICT) labs to schools in Nkomazi, with the effort to highlight the importance of adapting to change, as demonstrated by the use of virtual platforms and online learning beyond the traditional methods in the classroom. Recipients of the ICT labs are Idlangemabala Secondary School, Nkomazi School, Sigweje Secondary School and Steenbok High School. The labs were handed over to the schools by the Deputy President and Minister Ndabeni-Abrahams.

“This ICT infrastructure will not only enable learners in this area to get access to information, but it will also enable them to get connected to the rest of the world, thus facilitating exposure of computer education and advanced technologies. Without the necessary infrastructure, schools in rural areas cannot realise the true potential of technology. We strongly believe that this new technology will improve teaching and learning. These centres will serve as community centres and a symbol of community pride,” said Minister Ndabeni-Abrahams.

Together with traditional leaders and the Executive Mayor of Nkomazi Local Municipality Councillor, Johan Mkhathswa, Deputy President Mabuza and Minister Ndabeni-Abrahams then proceeded to conduct two household visits to inspect the quality of installation of government-subsidised Digital Terrestrial Television decoders, meant to enable the migration from analogue to digital television.

The last engagement was done with community members and stakeholders where the Deputy President delivered the keynote address and handed over 34 certificates to young people who completed the accredited Cell-Phone Repair Training Course with the University of Pretoria.

MTN SA Foundation Regional Executive Kagisho Moncho said, “For us, education is a social need in the country, so this is not a donation but an investment towards the future for learners in rural areas.”

CLM Regional Executive Mbali Ndlovu said, “As a company, we value the importance of providing ICT exposure to enhance teaching and learning in rural areas from an early age. We are certain that through our Schools Connectivity Programme, learners from rural schools will not see a computer for the first time at university or a college.”

Mayor Mkhathswa said they expect to see quality results from the schools with ICT, while Nkomazi High School Principal Sunday Shongwe said that the ICT labs would indeed motivate teachers and learners to work hard.



Deputy President David Mabuza and Minister Stella Ndabeni-Abrahams officially handing over the lab at Idlangemabala High School.



Deputy President Mabuza, Minister Stella Ndabeni-Abrahams and Inkhosi Luggedlane during a household visit.



The handover of certificates to young people.