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

Men dialogue tackles women abuse
By Thandinkosi Zulu, GCIS, KwaZulu-Natal

Young men from Emphathe Combined School and men from Dundee took their time to discuss issues affecting manhood. The programme was held on 30 July at Sibongile Hall. Isibaya Samadoda is an ongoing programme aimed at giving the much-needed capacity to men about issues of gender-based violence to ensure that all men are well groomed to protect women and children.

The programme was attended by different stakeholders including the Department of Economic Development Tourism and Environmental Affairs, South African Social Security Agency, Department of Correctional Services, Department of Health and civil society organisations. Men were encouraged to take care of themselves and to check their health status. Ayanda Hadebe from Dundee Hospital encouraged young men to conduct regular check-up for HIV and AIDS and use nearby clinics to treat sexually transmitted infections.

Endumeni Deputy Mayor Cllr Mathula Nkosi welcomed the contribution of men during the dialogue and added that manhood must reflect on the good culture and traditions of the people and must be taught to future generations. “We pledge our support as Endumeni to this programme, however, it must be an ongoing programme where young men get capacitated so that they can champion the fight against social ills affecting women and children,” said Cllr Nkosi.
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Njabulo Manana said:
“We must thank the Endumeni Council and government departments for bringing this conversation to us. We will ensure that such important points that were discussed today will be used to benefit others who did not take part in today’s programme.”

Zamani Masondo said:
“We must be there for our women and children by declaring to abusers that we cannot stand the abuse and violence.”

Thabani Sithole said:
“I feel like we have been missing a lot as Endumeni community that Isibaya Samadoda was not laid to us. Today, we have learnt a lot from one another and as from now onwards. We will be better individuals protecting our women.”
OUTCOME 4: DECENT EMPLOYMENT THROUGH INCLUSIVE ECONOMIC GROWTH.

Career expo exposes learners to career possibilities
By Natasha Peterson: GCIS, Eastern Cape

On 24 July 2019, the Government Communication and Information System in conjunction with the Department of Education, hosted a career expo at Spandau Senior Secondary School in Graaff-Reinet, Eastern Cape. The expo targeted all learners but especially those in Grade 12, to share information on bursaries, post-school opportunities, employment and entrepreneurship.

Bursary opportunities and career opportunities from stakeholders such as the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Department of Health, Department of Rural Development and Land Reform marketed their services during the expo. The learners also received course information and assistance from many tertiary institutions such as the Eastcape Midlands College, Nelson Mandela University, University of Fort Hare, University of the Western Cape, Varsity College, Damelin, and Grootfontein College of Agriculture. Sector Education and Training Authorities were also present at the expo.

The learners were encouraged to consider careers in sound engineering, film, beauty care and fitness from organisations such as ETA College, the Academy of Sound Engineering and Total Concepts Hair and Beauty Academy. Learners were also able to enquire about financial assistance from the National Student Financial Aid Scheme and ABSA.

Hundreds of learners received information to assist them in making smart career choices, which will ensure that South Africa has a skilled and capable workforce in the future.

Wayne Lomberg said:
“I think today was excellent because it is very difficult for us to get to all these institutions for information. Today, I saw that engineering and land surveying seem like very interesting careers but I have already made up my mind that I want to study medicine.”

Ilaam Schereneckau said:
“I am planning to study teaching after school. I will apply to many universities, including UNISA. I might also consider studying through a private institution since I learnt today that ABSA gives student loans.”

Evan Jacobs said:
“Today I finally got an answer because I did not know what I wanted to study but now I am sure that I want to study Sports Management.”
OUTCOME 13: A COMPREHENSIVE, RESPONSIVE AND SUSTAINABLE SOCIAL PROTECTION SYSTEM.

Government reaches out to the people
By Nonkululeko Mkhatshwa, Nontuthuzelo Jas and Joy Themba: GCIS, Mpumalanga

The Government Communication and Information System provided communication support to the the Minister of Home Affairs, Aaron Motsoaledi’s Ministerial Outreach. He was joined by Mpumalanga MEC for Community Safety, Security and Liaison, Gabisile Tshabalala, municipal councillors, Chairperson of Home Affairs Stakeholders Forum and Ehlanzeni District Acting Executive Mayor at the Hosanna Church in Hazyview on 31 July 2019.

The aim of the session was to engage the community about identity theft and also to process the registration of new births.

The Minister explained that identity theft has affected a lot of families and has been a major issue affecting the Department of Basic Education as many learners are undocumented due to parents not being able to register them as a result of identity theft.

He also stated that no child should be allowed to leave the hospital after birth with no birth certificate; emigration government’s is process of approving the Border Management Authority law that will help manage borders concerning who comes in for what reason and who leaves for what reason. Another issue was the transition from the green identity document (ID) booklets to smart ID cards, which will assist to minimise identity fraud, as it cannot be forged. The last issue that the Minister spoke about was on fake marriages.

Minister Motsoaledi visited Matikwane Hospital where he handed over enabling documents to newborns and encouraged women to ensure that they register children’s birth within the first 30 days.

Others stakeholders who attended the outreach were community development workers, MECs for Social Development and Basic Education, MMC for Corporate Services, immigrants, traffic officials, pastors and tribal leaders.

John Mdluli said:
“Some of the Grade 12 learners are still without papers.”
Women’s Day celebrations in Vryburg
By Fatima Modise: GCIS, North West

On the 9 August 2019, National Women’s Day was celebrated in Vryburg showgrounds in Naledi Local Municipality, North West, under the theme: “25 Years of Democracy: Growing South Africa Together for Women’s Emancipation”. This year’s Women’s Day coincided with the 65th anniversary of the Women’s Charter, which, in 1954, brought the ideals and aspirations of women into a single document.

There were a number of build-up events held on 8 August, which among them, the Minister of Social Development, Lindiwe Zulu, addressed women at the local Catholic Church in Huhudi township, supported by the Minister in The Presidency for Women, Youth and Persons with Disabilities, Maite Nkoana-Mashabane.

The Deputy Minister of Sports, Arts and Culture, Nocawe Mafu, hosted a women’s dialogue at the Kismet Hall in Vryburg.

Furthermore, the Department of Women, Youth and Persons with Disability hosted an event were certificates on completion of digital literacy skills training programme were handed over to 63 women in Vryburg.

President Cyril Ramaphosa’s visit in Vryburg commenced with a visit to the late struggle stalwart, Dr Ruth Segomotsi Mompati’s grave where the President laid a wreath in her honour for her contribution to South Africa’s liberation. President Ramaphosa was supported by the Mompati family, North West Premier Job Mokgoro and some of the Cabinet Ministers. The dignitaries later proceeded to the Vryburg showgrounds where the President addressed the nation. Various service-orientated government departments exhibited on the day, providing services to the community of North West.