



MY DISTRICT TODAY



SEND ME
TO BUILD THE MZANSI I WANT

Issue no. 36: September 2019

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:

EASTERN CAPE

Ndlelantle Pinyana
043 722 2602 or 076 142 8606
ndlelantle@gcis.gov.za

FREE STATE

Mamogolo Dirane
051 448 4504 or 072 928 6068
mamogolo@gcis.gov.za

GAUTENG

Peter Gumede
011 331 0164 or 083 570 8080
peterg@gcis.gov.za

KWAZULU-NATAL

Ndala Mngadi
031 301 6787 or 082 877 9420
ndala@gcis.gov.za

PRIORITY 5: SOCIAL COHESION AND SAFE COMMUNITIES.

Deputy Minister visits care centre

By Mthunzi Mkhungo: GCIS, KwaZulu-Natal



Deputy Minister Sindisiwe Chikunga, Ray Nkonyeni Mayor and Port Shepstone Thuthuzela Care Centre Manager Sister Ndlovu at the event.



Deputy Minister Sindisiwe Chikunga addressing public servants during her visit in Port Shepstone.

The Deputy Minister of Public Service and Administration, Sindisiwe Chikunga, embarked on a monitoring visit to Port Shepstone Thuthuzela Care Centre on 6 September 2019. The Deputy Minister met with Port Shepstone Regional Hospital Management and the KwaZulu-Natal Acting Head of Department of Health.

The purpose of the visit was to monitor and evaluate the work done so far, especially in dealing with numerous cases linked to the gender-based violence (GBV), as the country observes Public Service Month.

Deputy Minister Chikunga strongly condemned notorious acts directed to women in the country and urged law-enforcement agencies to deal with all perpetrators. She referred to Thuthuzela Care Centre as a one-stop station where victims of GBV can receive all services. The Deputy Minister also noted all concerns that are faced by health institutions in the province and promised that they would be channelled to relevant authorities at national level.



government communications

Department:
Government Communication and Information System
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



LIMPOPO

Thanyani Ravhura
015 291 4689 or 082 421 3461
thanyani@gcis.gov.za

MPUMALANGA

Jerry Nkosi
013 753 2397 or 082 316 5295
jerry@gcis.gov.za

NORTH WEST

Boitumelo Mosadi
018 381 7071 or 073 245 0906
boitumelom@gcis.gov.za

NORTHERN CAPE

Marius Nagel
053 832 1378/9 or 083 778 9179
mariusn@gcis.gov.za

WESTERN CAPE

Geraldine Thopps
021 418 0533/2307 or 081 281 2200
geraldine@gcis.gov.za



Ntokozo Mkhize said:

“Public Service Month gives us an opportunity as public servants to introspect and check if we are indeed doing justice in terms of what we are accounted for. This is the period in which we evaluate ourselves if we are responding to the call to serve community members with respect and dignity. Indeed, government continues to make a huge difference in people’s lives, even though there is still a long way to go. The issue of GBV is a serious one in South Africa and it must be dealt with.”



Thabo Mphuthi said:

“Public Service Month is extremely critical for all public servants in the shores of our district and throughout the republic because we are reminded of Chapter 10 of the Constitution which instructs us to put our clients first and that our behaviour must show that we indeed care about our people. South Africa has made huge difference in people’s lives since the democratic government. Government has come up with great laws that protect and promote better lives for all citizens. The issue of GBV is a serious one, and as a country we need to join hands together to fight against all elements that seek to promote any sort of abuse.”



Brigadier Nala said:

“Public Service Month is time to reflect on what we as public servants have done to better the lives of the people. There are challenges in the area of law enforcement, such as lack of resources, but that does not prevent us from working for the people of the country. Government is making a great progress in changing the lives of the people, the only part that needs to be addressed concerns corruption elements that seek to cripple government. As someone working in the law-enforcement wing, the issue of GBV is a challenge because people need to be educated about signs of GBV from the onset, then law enforcement takes place. The police and the justice system must be harsh in dealing with GBV.”



Maki Lefifi said:

"I am quite pleased with the information I received today, especially from the Road Accident Fund. I hope many people will benefit from this event."



Job Molepo said:

"I am glad I came here today. I had problems with my social-grant card but I am glad that my problem was solved today. Please ensure that you come back regularly."



Dikeledi Mkhine said:

"As the Multisectoral Aids Management Unit, we were able to reach out to many people with information. We hope that they benefitted from this event. Thanks to the Government Communication and Information System for organising the campaign."

PRIORITY 4: SPATIAL INTEGRATION, HUMAN SETTLEMENTS AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT.

Public Service Month outreach

By Robbie Senoelo: GCIS, Gauteng



Government officials engaging with the public.



Harambee officials interacting with community members.

The Government Communication and Information System in partnership with various stakeholders conducted a Public Service Month outreach at the Mamelodi Thusong Service Centre on 13 September 2019. The event also served as a build-up activity to the Annual Thusong Service Centre Week (16 to 20 September 2019), which sought to promote Thusong Service Centres by showcasing the integrated mobile outreach programme and its effectiveness in responding to the needs of the citizens.

Stakeholders were given a platform to showcase and create awareness about their services and also to interact with members of the community by exhibiting and distributing information products. The participants included the community development workers, Multisectoral Aids Management Unit in Tshwane, South African Police Service, South African Social Security Agency, Road Accident Fund, Motor Industry Ombudsman of South Africa, Independent Electoral Commission and Harambee Youth Incubation.



Norman Mudau said:

“This court will bring back the dignity of women. As men, let us support women as they are supposed to be free. Women are not objects to be abused. They deserve respect.” these issues.”



Sophia Nemakhavhani said:

“Enough is enough. As women, let us break the silence and use this noble court to bring back our dignity. Fear and the feeling of humiliation in court are things of the past. Let us report all forms of abuse. Government is ready to protect us.”



Sivhidzho Athivhakoni said:

“We have suffered a lot, it is now our time to speak out. Women cannot continue to live in fear. Let us report all cases of gender-based violence.”

PRIORITY 5: SOCIAL COHESION AND SAFE COMMUNITIES.

Minister opens Sexual Offences Court

By Doctrine Netshikweta: GCIS, Limpopo



Minister Ronald Lamola and other officials inside the Sibasa Sexual Offences Court.



Minister Ronald Lamola and Limpopo MEC for Transport and Community Safety, Namane Masemola, during the official opening of Sibasa Sexual Offences Court

The Minister of Justice and Correctional Services, Ronald Lamola, officially opened the Sexual Offences Court at Sibasa, Limpopo on 13 September 2019. The sexual offence courts were reintroduced by the Department of Justice and Constitutional Development in 2013 to provide specialised redress to victims of sexual abuse and gender-based violence (GBV), and also to reduce the turnaround time in finalising these matters before court.

According to the Minister, the opening of this court was aimed to fast-track the government fight on GBV cases. “The primary role for the sexual offences courts is to provide specialised services to victims of GBV. This court will not leave any stone unturned. We will make sure that there are no perpetrators of GBV who escape the rule of law due to delays from the judiciary processes. GBV is becoming a societal challenge than ever. That is the reason government is left with no other choice than taking aggressive action to root out all forms of GBV and related crimes,” said the Minister. He further indicated that nobody is above the rule of law.

One of the community members who were in attendance, Alunamutwe Rannditsheni, said, “Today I am going to have a peaceful sleep without thinking of praying to God for the solution of bringing the rule of law in South Africa. As a servant of God, we were so touched about the situation faced by women in the country. Today, I feel relieved when government starts taking action, which will protect the dignity of women.”



A government official interacting with a community member.



Tasawar Iqbal said:

“The justice system must be genuine and all the problems will be solved easily. Harsh punishment must be served so that others must not fall into committing the same crime. Perpetrators must be posted on social media and public platforms to be shamed.”

PRIORITY 5: SOCIAL COHESION AND SAFE COMMUNITIES.

Activation tackles violence and abuse

By Kaone Lekgetho: GCIS, North West



Government officials distributing information products and engaging with the public.

Following the high incidents of gender-based violence (GBV) cases in South Africa, the Government Communication and Information System (GCIS) educated Mafikeng residents about GBV during an activation on 13 September 2019. The GCIS distributed booklets, *InSession* newspaper and the *Batho Pele* principles as government celebrates Public Service Month.

Furthermore, GCIS officials also shared the Cabinet statement factsheet, highlighted and explained the feedback from the Cabinet meeting that was chaired by President Cyril Ramaphosa.