



MYDISTRICTTODAY



**STAY
SAFE**

VACCINATE TO SAVE SOUTH AFRICA

TOGETHER WE CAN BEAT CORONAVIRUS

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PRIORITY 6: SOCIAL COHESION AND SAFE COMMUNITIES.

Community awareness on human trafficking

By Vasanthi Naidoo: GCIS, KwaZulu-Natal

The KwaZulu-Natal Human Trafficking, Harmful Practices, Pornography, Prostitution and Brothels (HHPPB) Task Team, under the mandate of the National Prosecuting Authority held a series of activities to create awareness, inform and educate the public about human trafficking in October 2021.

The Provincial HHPPB Task Team comprises the South African Police Service, Department of Correctional Services, Home Affairs, Social Development, Basic Education, Government Communication and Information System, Metro Police, University of KwaZulu-Natal, faith-based organisations, and non-governmental organisations such as the ChildLine, Umgeni Community Empowerment Centre, National Freedom Network and Sparrow Trust.

The activities included webinars and the heightened social media campaign culminated in a targeted engagement with owners of bars, taverns and hotel management in the Durban central business district, Beachfront and popular Florida Road in Morningside, in a programme called "Hit The Streets".

Human trafficking prevention webinars were held with tertiary students of University of KwaZulu-Natal to inform and educate on human trafficking and the warning signs, such as promise of an attractive job opportunity.

Examples of human trafficking in Durban were cited, where the vulnerable, such as homeless people or drug addicts, were trafficked or sexually exploited under the pretence of being offered assistance or a place to stay.

Another webinar was held on raising digital families, targeting parents and warning them of the dangers lurking on social media and the Internet, how to safeguard themselves and their children against exploitation and human trafficking.

Children, especially are susceptible to child-pornography syndicates. Tips on protecting oneself, family members, especially children from possible criminals and traffickers on social media and the Internet were provided.

Before task-team members, community volunteers and general public took to the streets on 22 October 2021, Advocate Dawn Coleman-Malinga informed the audience about human trafficking, modus operandi of traffickers and myths around human trafficking.

For example, the myth that human trafficking only occurs across country borders was dispelled when cases of trafficking of persons from Western Cape or Bloemfontein and in Durban were cited.

Under the theme of "Victims' voices lead the way", members of the task-team engaged with management of hotels, restaurants, bars and taverns in the Durban city centre, beachfront and Florida Road to request their support and participation in combating human trafficking.

During engagements with various entertainment and hospitality establishments in the city, the information on the National Human Trafficking Hotline and on human trafficking were distributed.



**government
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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.



Members of the KwaZulu-Natal Human Trafficking, Harmful Practices, Pornography, Prostitution and Brothels Task Team engaging with the community members.



Engagement with management of bars, restaurants and pubs in the Durban City Centre about human trafficking.

PRIORITY 6: SOCIAL COHESION AND SAFE COMMUNITIES.

Disability rights community engagement

By Lindiwe Maswili and Cholo Mothibi: GCIS, Free State

As part of celebrating the 2021 Disability Rights Awareness Month (3 November to 3 December), the Government Communication and Information System conducted a radio talk show at Mosupatsela FM on 15 November 2021.

The talk show educated listeners on challenges faced by persons with disabilities. The National Council for Persons with Disabilities was represented by Nthabiseng Molongoana, who joined the conversation telephonically.

“We are an organisation that represents those with disabilities, with our head offices based in Johannesburg, with a footprint in most of our small towns and cities across South Africa,” explained Molongoana.

Some of the services and programmes rendered by the National Council for Persons with Disabilities include after care centres to look after those with disabilities; nappy run programmes where nappies are donated to the centre to provide for children with disabilities; and assistance with ensuring that people with disabilities are included in job opportunities. Molongoana also mentioned the challenge of high unemployment rate among people with disabilities and the inability of reaching schools due to lack of transportation as some of the special schools are situated far away.

In February 2019, the National Disability Sector called on government to expand Disability Rights Awareness Month to be a year-round campaign, culminating the National Day of Persons with Disabilities on 3 December.

Disability Rights Awareness Month focuses is a platform to report back by government on plans and initiatives to equalise opportunities for persons with disabilities, and on acknowledging the role of persons with disabilities in socio-economic development and nation-building.



Community radio engagement on disability rights at Mosupatsela FM.

PRIORITY 1: BUILDING A CAPABLE, ETHICAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL STATE.

Community stakeholder engagement

By Noluvuyo Mangweni: GCIS, Eastern Cape

A long standing dream of the Graaff-Reinet community came alive on 17 November 2021 after Government Communication and Information System (GCIS) Eastern Cape Provincial Director, Ndlelantle Pinyana, led the team of government stakeholders that convened an exploratory stakeholder meeting on the need for a community radio platform in Graaff-Reinet.

The objective of the community engagement was to revive the spirit and interest of the residents towards the establishment of a community led radio platforms.

A community radio platform has been one of the greatest needs of the community since the demise of a community radio platform that used to exist in the Dr Beyers Naude Local Municipality. The community response to the invitation from the GCIS on the need to explore the possibility of a new and fresh start was welcomed with open arms.

Stakeholders such as the Media Development and Diversity Agency and the Independent Communications Authority of South Africa (ICASA) were present at the session to empower the community on the best approach and practices to adopt in the process of establishing a community radio platform.

Pinyana projected a map of the Sarah Baartman District Municipality and spoke about the vastness of Dr Beyers Naude Local Municipality and the limited media penetration in the local municipality. "This initiative needs to be spearheaded by the community, it will only work if the community works

together in unison and has a common vision. Our role as government is to ensure that you have access to the relevant information in order for you to kickstart the process," said Pinyana.

The community is rich in stakeholder expertise, just the right amount of energy, eagerness, agility and the right attitude to execute the plan. The community is committed to embarking on the journey united.

"We sincerely appreciate the way forward. This community is in dire need of a platform that will give them a voice," said one of the community members, Everton Williams.

The community took the opportunity to establish a working task team to lead the process. The team is made up of various stakeholders from the community.

The working task team, supported by the GCIS and ICASA will sit for an empowerment session in the coming weeks to pave a way forward to getting a new community radio licence.

The community acknowledges the long road ahead but looks forward to the journey towards a new community radio licence.



GCIS Eastern Cape Director Ndlelantle Pinyana at the event.



Community stakeholders who have been appointed for establishing a radio platform.

PRIORITY 6: SOCIAL COHESION AND SAFE COMMUNITIES.

Official opening of Daggakraal Police Station

By Bongani Mazibuko: GCIS, Mpumalanga

As part of government's efforts to bring services and resources closer to the people, the Minister of Police, Bheki Cele, officially opened the Daggakraal Police Station in the Dr Pixley Ka Isaka Seme Local Municipality on 18 October 2021.

The station handover is aligned with government's priorities, which include creating a safer South Africa.

Minister Cele was accompanied by the National Police Commissioner General Khehla Sitole, Mpumalanga MEC for Community Safety, Security and Liaison, Vusi Shongwe, and the top management of the South African Police Service.

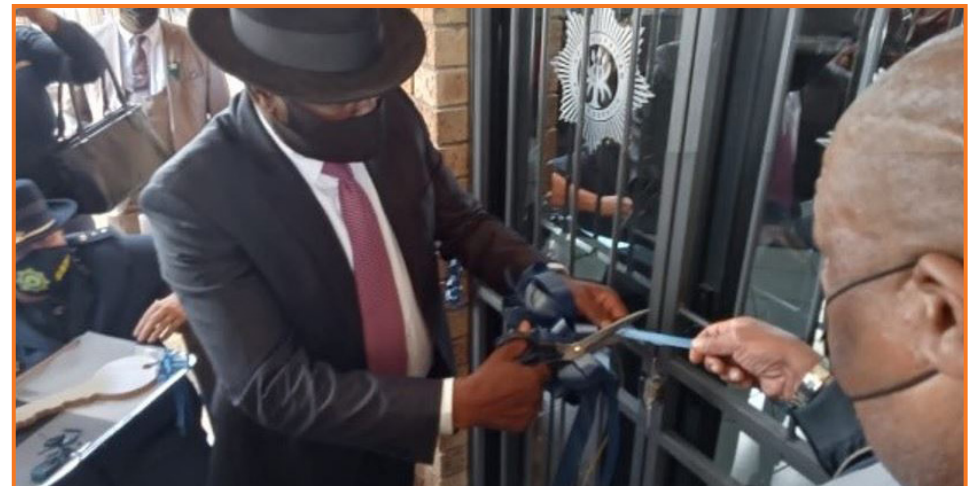
The Minister used the opportunity to engage with community members on their crime concerns and addressed the policing needs.

Among the concerns raised, the community of Daggakraal are still hit hard by issues of stock theft, killing and assault of farm workers allegedly by farm owners, housebreaking and a variety of physical and sexual assault cases.

The unveiling of the new state-of-the-art police station will assist in fast tracking accessibility of policing services to residents around Daggakraal.

The newly unveiled police station boasts a reception, community service centre, holding cells for those waiting trial, and victim friendly rooms to accommodate survivors and victims of gender-based violence.

In responding to some of the concerns raised by the community, Minister Cele said: "The access to a responsive police service should not be a privilege but a right that we as government are working on each day to achieve – the strategic deployment of resources. This includes the fact that residents of any community do not have to walk long distances to access policing services. People should not choose between putting food on the table and going to report a crime."



Minister Bheki Cele officially opening Daggakraal Police Station.