



# MYDISTRICTTODAY



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SAFE**

**VACCINATE TO SAVE SOUTH AFRICA**

TOGETHER WE CAN BEAT CORONAVIRUS

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## PRIORITY 5: SPATIAL INTEGRATION, HUMAN SETTLEMENT AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT.

### Launch of housing project

*By Diphoko Moreothata, GCIS: Northern Cape*

The Northern Cape Provincial Government, in partnership with the national Department of Human Settlements, launched a R1-billion housing project on 18 January 2024 in Roodepan, Kimberley.

In attendance was President Cyril Ramaphosa, accompanied by Minister of Human Settlements, Minister Mmamoloko Kubayi, Minister Noxolo Kiviet, Deputy Minister Pamela Tshwete, Northern Cape Premier, Zamani Saul, MEC Cooperative Government, Human Settlements and Traditional Affairs, MEC Bentley Vass and various government officials.

“The launch of this project today is a further demonstration that we are making good on our commitment to fulfil the human rights of all South Africans. The project aims to provide houses for the poor and vulnerable who are dependent on government support and requires innovative funding mechanisms,” said President Ramaphosa.

The President further indicated in his keynote address that this project is aimed at providing 25 000 serviced stands of which 18 000 are already serviced and over 4 000 houses will be built in the next 12 to 18 months. This will reduce the housing

backlog in the Northern Cape that has been there for many years and will give people access to housing in the urban and rural areas. He further remarked that the project will prioritise the elderly, child-headed households, military veterans and persons with disabilities. Women and youth-owned business will also be prioritised when it comes to business opportunities during the implementation of this project.

Premier Zamani Saul said: “Two years ago the president visited the Northern Cape and what he picked up was that the Northern Cape faces a lack of housing, we as the provincial government had to come with a plan to curb this problem and today the 18 of January 2024 we are here launching the R1-billion project. I want to thank all the beautiful people of Roodepan for allowing us to come here and launch this project and be part of this project.”

In his closing remarks, President Ramaphosa commended Premier Saul, Minister Kubayi, the Northern Cape Government and National Treasury for making this approach possible.

“Let us continue our work to build a South Africa in which there are houses, security



Government officials and some of the community members.



President Ramaphosa and other government officials at the site where houses will be built.



Minister Kubayi co-hosting the event with MEC Bentley Vass.



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## PRIORITY 3: EDUCATION, SKILLS, AND HEALTH.

### Back to school campaign for learners

By Jetrho Grootboom, GCIS: Western Cape

After a successful orientation camp with Grade 8 learners last year, a fourth orientation camp brought hope to learners on how to cope emotionally, physically and mentally during their high school journey. This took place at Schoemanspoort Art and Culture Youth Camp Facility in Oudtshoorn Municipality in Cape Town from 19 to 21 January 2024.

The Department of Social Development, Child Welfare, ACVV, Christian Youth Forum, De Villiers Primary School, and the Government Communication and Information System, hosted a three-day orientation camp, at Schoemanspoort Art and Culture Camp facility with 60 Grade 8 learners from farm schools. Grade 7 school learners who have passed from Dysselsdorp Primary, Roodewal Primary, Rooiheuvel Primary, Buffeldrift Primary, Matjiesrivier Primary, Buffelsdrif Primary and De Villiers Primary Schools, and have entered Grade 8 this year at various high schools in the Oudtshoorn area have been exposed to leadership, emotional, physical, and self-discipline skills during the three-day camp. These learners will be staying on school hostels during their high school journey and have been capacitated on life in town, and how to stay away from bad influence.

A teacher from De Villier Primary School picked learners' minds on what they think they can do better to help society grow optimally as the leaders of tomorrow. Pupils also learned about the dangers of substance abuse, gender-based violence, to have respect for each other and how to cope with stress and bullying by speaking out to someone they can trust or their teachers.

The project manager, led pupils in spiritual sessions through praise and song. The importance of Christianity and attending church services regularly to have a relationship with God form part of daily programmes.

The learners enjoyed the fun filled physical exercise, treasure hunt and swimming activities and were made aware of the importance to stay active. The orientation camp helped them to bond with one another, where they learn that teamwork makes the dream work.

Next year the orientation camp will celebrate its fifth year, and stakeholders are already planning a bigger one where the Minister of Arts and Culture will be invited to take part.



Leadership skills session with De Villiers Primary School teacher during the orientation camp.



Gender-based violence dialogue with Department of Social Development and Child Welfare officials during the orientation camp.



Grade 8 learners from various rural schools and their facilitators.





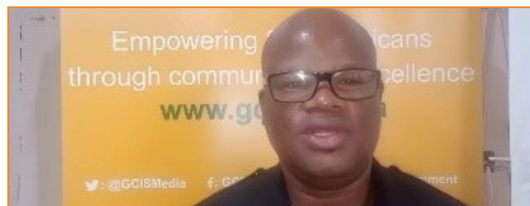
**Makuliwe Nzwani said:**

"I am really appreciative of MDDA for providing funding for our gospel radio station, as we are ready to go digital because the equipment is digital."



**Karabo Kgokong said:**

"I truly appreciate the MDDA for their assistance in ensuring that we remain committed to our mandate by providing the equipment. Mahikeng FM remains an attractive brand."



**Executive Mayor Molefe said:**

"This year marks 30 years of community radio, as the municipality will ensure that we continue to partner with local community radio to ensure that our communities have access to information."

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

### Minister unveils studio equipment

By Bakang Ditibane: GCIS, North West

The Minister in The Presidency, Khumbudzo Ntshavheni, officially unveiled Mmabatho FM and Mahikeng FM brand new state-of-the-art studios in Mahikeng Local Municipality on 5 December 2023. Deputy Ministers in The Presidency, Nomasonto Motaung and Kenneth Morolong, the Media Development and Diversity Agency (MDDA) Board Chairperson Professor Hlengani Mathebula, North West Treasury MEC Motlalepula Rosho, attending on behalf of Premier Bushy Maape, Ngaka Modiri Molema District Municipality Executive Mayor Khumalo Molefe and Mahikeng Local Municipality Executive Mayor Tshepiso Mphahlele accompanied the Minister to the launch.

The development on the two radio stations is expected to improve the morale of the employees, increase professionalism and the quality of broadcasting to various communities within the municipality. In her keynote address, Minister Ntshavheni said, "In your coverage, community media must amplify the stories within their communities, to bring back the pride in our country and its people."



Welcoming address by Ngaka Modiri Molema Executive Mayor Cllr Khumalo Molefe.



Minister Ntshavheni and Deputy Minister Motaung unveiling the Mmabatho FM studio, with Professor Hlengani and Executive Mayor Mphahlele.



Minister in the Presidency and Deputy Minister together with MEC Rosho officially unveiling the Mahikeng FM studio.

## PRIORITY 6: SOCIAL COHESSION AND SAFER COMMUNITIES.

### Accelerating fight against violence and femicide

By Maria Ramoshaba, GCIS: Limpopo

There is usually an increase of cases of violence against women and children during the Festive Season. To this end, stakeholders at Babirwa Thusong Service Centre ensured that they do not leave anyone behind by embarking on a gender-based violence and femicide (GBVF) awareness campaign at Steilloop Shopping Centre on 7 December 2023. This was done to ensure that all residents of Mogalakwena Local Municipality and commuters to Groblersbrug Bridge are empowered with information to experience a free and safe Festive Season.

The Department of Transport and Community Safety, South African Police Service and the Department of Social Development encouraged community members to work with the police to fight the scourge of GBVF. It was emphasised that parents should not neglect their children as they might be vulnerable to human trafficking. Important numbers to call to report GBVF were distributed.

GBVF has a negative impact on the social well-being of a person. The Mogalakwena Local Municipality has recorded a high rate of GBVF cases in the last quarter.

Community members appreciated the initiative as they also had a chance of checking their status on health issues such as HIV and AIDS, Blood Pressure, weight and cholesterol. This was done to ensure that they maintain a healthy diet even during the festive period.

The Department of Employment and Labour, and the South African Social Security Agency also ensured that job seekers are registered and social grants applications processed. Community members were encouraged to join the library at the centre and read books.

#### Mokgadi Segole said:

"I am happy that I visited the shopping complex today. I managed to apply for a social grant from and get more information on GBVF. I pay R55 to access the nearest government offices, but I have saved time and money."



Community members who visited the stalls to access government information and services.