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**TOGETHER WE CAN BEAT CORONAVIRUS** 

# Issue no. 34: September 2021

# **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

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## FREE STATE

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## GAUTENG

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

#### KWAZULU-NATAL

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# Frontline service delivery monitoring visit

By Cholo Mothibi: GCIS, Free State

On 30 August 2021, the Deputy Minister in The Presidency, Thembi Siweya, visited the Mangaung Metro Municipality as part of the frontline service delivery monitoring.

The visit aimed at assessing the quality of service delivery and progress in the vaccination programme, supported by Premier Sefora Ntombela, Health MEC Montseng Tsiu and the Mangaung Metro Executive Mayor Mxolisi Siyonzana.

The visit began at the Free State Stadium where rugby players and other community members were vaccinated. The aim was to encourage the community to vaccinate in huge numbers to quell thestigma and false information regarding the COVID-19 vaccination.

Government leaders then proceeded to Pelonomi Academic Hospital in Bloemfontein to check on the vaccination programme progress.

The Deputy Minister also received her second vaccine at the hospital and encouraged others to take the vaccine.

Premier Ntombela encouraged all Free State communities to live better by choosing vaccination. Registration is open for people who are 18 years and above, and community members are encouraged to visit their closest vaccination sites for a jab.



Deputy Minister Thembi Siweya receiving her jab at the Pelonomi Academic Hospital in Bloemfontein.



A community member being vaccinated at the Free State Stadium.





communications Department

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# NORTHERN CAPE

Ofentse Moeti 053 832 1378/9 or 084 390 4330 Ofentse@gcis.gov.za

# WESTERN CAPE

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

COVID-19 vaccine registration details for 18-year-olds and above:

Online at: <u>https://vaccine.enroll.health.gov.za/#/</u> Send the word **REGISTER** to 0600 123 456 on WhatsApp. Via SMS by dialling \*134\*832#. Call the COVID-19 hotline 0800 029 999.



Junior Phokomelamela said: "I have received my first jab and still feeling good. I would like to urge South Africans to take the vaccine so that life can go back to normal."



Zinei Petersson said: "Today I received my first dose and I used to have a fright over the vaccine. I am now proud to have taken the vaccine and advise all South Africans to take it."





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

# Phelophepha healthcare train in Mbombela

By Joy Themba: GCIS, Mpumalanga

Health professionals assisted hundreds of the City of Mbombela communities and surrounding areas through the Transnet-Phelophepa healthcare train on 3 September 2021.

Mpumalanga Health MEC Sasekani Manzini visited the train as part on her outreach programme in monitoring vaccination roll-out, which was also done at the health train.

The MEC urged community members to also use the opportunity to get vaccinated as they access other available health services at the train.

"We are still in the middle of the pandemic and we would like to urge everyone to get vaccinated. The department has arranged a station, so that when people visit the train they can also get the jab. People must also not forget to continue to adhere to COVID-19 protocols," said MEC Manzini.

Phelophepa train manager, Bheki Mendlula, said their target of patients per day varies due to the influx of patients to the train.

All services offered in the coaches are on a first-come, first-served basis. They include healthcare education, a complete physical assessment, cancer treatments, pap smears, prostate cancer testing, eye care clinic services, dental clinic, dental screening, and extracting and cleaning of teeth. These services include counselling and psychology clinic services.



MEC SasekaniManzini during his monitoring visit at Phelophepa healthcare train in Mbombela.



Healthcare workers providing services at Phelophepha healthcare train.



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

## Deputy President vaccine outreach

By Nomagugu Hloma: Westrand District Health and Tshidi Mokoka: GCIS, Gauteng

On 2 September 2021, Deputy President David Mabuza led an Inter-Ministerial Committee to the West Rand District, accompanied by Gauteng Premier David Makhura and Health MEC Nomathemba Mokgethi. The visit sought to monitor the Westrand District COVID-19 vaccination roll-out programme.

Kagiso Mall and Taxi Rank, Munsieville Care for the Aged, Mayibuye, Jacanas Farm, Ramosa Hall in Mohlakeng, Spooktown in Bekkersdal and Carletonville Taxi Rank were visited, to monitor the vaccination process, creating demand, and encouraging people to register and vaccinate against COVID-19.

Deputy President Mabuza also led a walk with Premier Makhura and MEC Mokgethi inside the Kagiso Mall, engaging in with residents of Kagiso and asking them about their views and concerns regarding the vaccine.

They then proceeded to Kagiso Taxi Rank, where they further engaged with the youth and conducted a door-to-door activation.

"Many people want to come and get the vaccine but because of fake news that is being shared there is still fear about the vaccine. We are here as members of the Inter-Ministerial Committee to conduct the door-to-door campaign, engage closely with the communities about the advantages of getting the vaccine and alerting them of the vaccine sites that are nearer to them," said the Deputy President. During the door-to-door activity, a mobile vaccine unit followed the Deputy President, where people received their jabs in the comforts of their homes and yards. The people welcomed the move by the Department of Health to bring the vaccine closer to them.

Following the complaints that vaccination sites are far and require transportation, the Department of Health has responded with pop-up sites and vaccine drive thru programmes that are closer to the people. Furthermore, all clinics in the West Rand provide vaccines to nearby communities.

International Relations and Cooperation Minister Naledi Pandor was deployed to Munsieville in Mogale City, Westrand District, to also encourage people to use nearby vaccine sites.

Minister Pandor encouraged people to educate others about their experiences after getting their jabs in an effort to offset the false news about vaccine that is doing the rounds in communities and social media.

"Our wish as government is to see more men coming to vaccinate. So all of you who are here, make sure you share your experience with your brothers, husbands and all those who are afraid to come, that vaccines are safe and can help in the fight against COVID-19," the Minister said.



Deputy President David Mabuza and Premier David Makhura engaging with community members in Kagiso.



Minister Naledi Pandor and Mogale City Executive Mayor Francis Makgatho addressing community members in Munsieville.



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## Lebo Monnakgotlha said:

"I am ready to get my vaccine today because I do believe that it will help to fight against COVID-19. I really believe that getting the jab will prevent me from being hospitalised should I be infected with the virus."



## Aron Molebatsi said:

"I am getting my vaccine jab today and would like to encourage other men to come and get theirs. From today onwards, I will spread the word to my family and friends and ensure they know that they too should get it."







#### **Karel Baadjies said:**

"I think the programme was extremely informative and helpful for everybody in the community. We really need more programmes like this and we should motivate the whole community to work together to rid genderbased violence."

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# **Community addresses gender-based violence**

By Willem van Dalen: GCIS, Northern Cape

The Government Communication and Information System in collaboration with the Department of Transport, Safety and Liaison, Social Development and the South African Police Service (SAPS) hosted a dialogue on domestic violence and gender-based violence (GBV) in the Hantam Local Municipality, at Calvinia, on 19 August 2021.

Speakers introduced a number of subjects that were discussed by community members during the event. One of the biggest problems, according to the community, is the lack of a Thuthuzela Care Centre in the area.

Members of the community also felt that the issue of high school drop-outs should receive attention.

Residents expressed their gratitude towards members of the SAPS for their prompt response in domestic violence matters.

Regional Manager for the Department of Transport, Safety and Liaison, Thapelo Sekia, expressed his appreciation for the large number of men in the audience. He said if men did not take part in these kinds of events, where plans to rid the community of GBV are discussed, the idea would be doomed.

The Speaker of Namakwa District Municipality, Gillian Pieters, said residents of Calvinia should come together and draw a plan on what they want to do in the area to inform and educate people about GBV.

She said the district, including other role players, were at establishing a Thuthuzela Care Centre, as this was a need in all of their local municipalities. The centres are one-stop facilities aimed at reducing secondary victimisation and to build a case that is ready for successful prosecution.



#### Gys Syster said:

"This event meant a lot to me. I think the information that we have received today will be making a positive impact on the members of the community. It should bring down the cases of gender-based violence and also support victims. A Thuthuzela Care Centre in town would be a great improvement to our community."



Gillian Pieters addressing the community during a dialogie held at Calvinia.



Community members who attended the session.