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TOGETHER WE CAN BEAT CORONAVIRUS

Issue no. 38: October 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:

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PRIORITY 2: ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATION AND JOB CREATION.

Women and township economic recovery

By Sikelela Zokufa: GCIS, Western Cape

The Deputy Minister of Trade and Industry and Competition, Nomalungelo Gina, addressed the township economic recovery dialogue that was held at Strand Community Hall in Western Cape, on 20 September 2021.

The event was held in partnership with Strand Parliamentary Constituency Office and it is targeting local business women from Strand and surrounding areas, to empower them to take advantage of economic opportunities provided by government. This platform provided women who are small business owners and informal traders to share their experiences and challenges, and network with one another to help one another to grow their businesses.

Deputy Minister Gina encouraged women to take participate in opportunities that are targeted at women, as government provides support to women who want to grow their businesses.



Stakeholders and the audience during the township economic recovery dialogue in Strand.







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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.

PRIORITY 3: EDUCATION, SKILLS AND HEALTH.

President leads Vooma Vaccination campaign

By Itumeleng Bogatsu: GCIS, Gauteng

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President Cyril Ramaphosa led the inaugural Vooma Vaccination Weekend launch on 1 October 2021 in Katlehong.

The Vooma Vaccination Weekend campaign is a countrywide drive to encourage the citizens and people living in South Africa to get vaccinated.

In his address to the nation a day before the inaugural Vooma Vaccination campaign, President Ramaphosa said "While we have made important progress, and secured sufficient vaccine doses for the target population, our vaccination programme is still too slow. We have therefore decided to upscale our vaccination campaign by launching the Vooma Vaccination Weekend campaign.

"We know that getting to a vaccination site during weekdays can be difficult for many people, especially those who work, who have to commute long distances, or have family responsibilities. Those who might not be able to get the vaccine during the week should take up this opportunity."

The President was accompanied by Home Affairs Minister Aaron Motsoaledi and Ekurhuleni Executive Mayor Mzwandile Masina.

Mayor Masina became the 80th person to take the jab at D.H Williams Hall in Katlehong.

President Ramaphosa further engaged the chairperson of Katlehong People's Taxi Association, Phaphama Zulu, including religious and traditional leaders to encourage their members and communities to take the vaccine.

The public and private health sectors, organised labour and business and community- and faith-based formations all joined forces during the Vooma Vaccination Weekend.



President Cyril Ramaphosa addressing the community of Katlehong to vaccinate during the Vooma Vaccination Weekend.



President Cyril Ramaphosa engaging with religious and traditional leaders.





PRIORITY 3: EDUCATION, SKILLS AND HEALTH.

Ehlanzeni vaccination campaign

By Joy Themba: GCIS, Mpumalanga

The Mpumalanga Department of Health and stakeholders stepped up by heeding President Cyril Ramaphosa's call to take part in the Vooma Vaccination Weekend in their districts during the weekend 1 to 3 October 2021.

Ehlanzeni District choose Kabokweni area after the statistics revealed that more people from this area were not registering and getting vaccinated.

The Mpumalanga Acting Head of Health Department Dudu Mdluli and other dignitaries embarked on a Vooma Vaccination Weekend campaign in and around Kabokweni and conducted an oversight visit at the local taxi rank, as well as the Kabokweni Shopping Complex.

Another contingent team led by Department of Health went to nearby Nkohlakalo village, where they set up a registration and vaccination kits at one homestead and there was a big turnout of community members who converged there to get vaccinated.

Health workers played a pivotal role as they allayed their fears based on the widely circulated myths surrounding COVID-19 vaccinations.

The Department of Culture, Sport And Recreation also provided entertainment by local musicians whose music attracted shoppers and passersby to come closer to where the registration and vaccination of people was being conducted by health workers. The community had a choice of being vaccinated by either Pfizer or Johnson & Johnson vaccine.



Community members from Kabokweni at the local shopping complex.



Health promoters at Nkohlakalo village to register and vaccinate community members.



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Fikile Mdluli said:

"I have also heeded the President's call. I got vaccinated today and I am feeling well. I want to also encourage others to do the same. It is for the benefit of all of us so that we can overcome the pandemic. We need to go back to normality and the only way is to vaccinate."



Solomon Nkosi said: "Our President said we should all go out on weekends and vaccinate, and to encourage others to do so. That is what we are doing and I have also led by example as a man. The number of men vaccinating is low and it is not looking good. I am okay and men should not be afraid or listen to myths about the vaccine."



Nobuhle Mpangane said: "Let us vaccinate so that things can go back to normal. I hope that all communities respond to this call and do the right thing, especially the youth as we are the ambassadors

and future leaders of our country."



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PRIORITY 3: EDUCATION, SKILLS AND HEALTH.

Vooma Vaccination Weekend and Return to Play campaign

By Kaone Lekgetho: GCIS, North West

The Vooma Vaccination Weekend and the 'Return to Play' campaign was launched in the Bojanala District Municipality at the Royal Bafokeng Stadium on 1 October 2021.

The launch was led by the Deputy President David Mabuza together with Sports, Arts and Culture Minister Nathi Mthethwa, Health Deputy Minister Sibongiseni Dhlomo, North West Premier Bushy Maape, Health MEC Madoda Sambatha and Rustenburg Mayor Mpho Khunou.

The campaign aimed to mobilise community members of Rustenburg to get vaccinated as a means of fighting COVID-19.

Among the influential speakers in attendance were musician Stoan Seate, actress and poet Botlhale Boikanyo, internationally acclaimed musical group Ladysmith Black Mambazo, and gospel singer Bucy Radebe, who performed and encouraged community members to vaccinate and also the importance of getting vaccinated.

Premier Maape expressed that the number of men who vaccinated compared to women is lower, therefore, men need to take a stand and get vaccinated.

"We are here to encourage you to go and vaccinated. We are not compelling, we are not forcing anyone to vaccinate against their will but we are persuading everyone to go and vaccinate because this is the right thing to do," said the Deputy President.



Deputy President Mabuza addressing the community.



Young people getting vaccinated for COVID-19 at the Royal Bafokeng Stadium.



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Botlhale Boikanyo said:

"I have just gotten vaccinated and would like to encourage many other young people to also get vaccinated. We have seen what COVID-19 has done. It has taken our jobs and we have lost our loved ones. It is time for us young people to reclaim our future and do the right thing, so go and get vaccinated."



Matalane Mokgatlha said:

"I am calling out to every man, please let us get vaccinated to save our lives, family and friends' lives. We often go to places where we meet many other people that we do not know if they are infected or not. Let us get vaccinated. I vaccinated today at Phokeng Mall."



Galaletsang Ramorwa said: "I live in Phokeng, and I am a South African Olympian. I vaccinated today because I want to be free from the pandemic and stay healthy."