



MY DISTRICT TODAY



STAY
SAFE

PROTECT SOUTH AFRICA

TOGETHER WE CAN BEAT THE CORONAVIRUS

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PRIORITY 2: ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATION AND JOB CREATION.

Funding for small businesses

By Phoka Mofokeng: GCIS, Free State



Community members who attended the outreach in Lindley.



Small businesses receiving assistance on applications for funding.

The Department of Small Business Development (DSBD) in collaboration with the Small Enterprise Development Agency, Government Communication and Information System, and various departments in the Thabo Mofutsanyana District Municipality conducted an outreach visit to Ntha Community Hall in Lindley on 23 September 2020.

The purpose of the visit was to reach out to small, medium and micro enterprises, and cooperatives within the area to apply for relief funding available through the Township and Rural Enterprise Programme.

"Many small businesses in our townships have suffered a great loss of income due to the COVID-19 pandemic and our brothers and sisters have lost their jobs. With this programme, we want to help small businesses to recover and be able to operate again in our communities in order to help boost economy to recover and to fight unemployment," said Kefuoe Mohapeloa, an official from the DSBD.



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The Township and Rural Enterprise Programme aims to support businesses such as spaza shops/general dealers, automotive, personal care, butcheries, bakeries and upholstery.



Matebu Motaung said:

"I heard about the visit through our community development worker and I am here to apply for funding to help my business to operate again. I am grateful to government for reaching out to us as small business owners."



Anna Ntshala said:

"I heard about the visit through our community development worker. I am here to seek funding as COVID-19 has affected my business. I managed to apply."

PRIORITY 3: EDUCATION, SKILLS AND HEALTH.

Coronavirus awareness activation

By Tinyiko Molefe: GCIS, Gauteng



Health official Oupa Mbele sharing COVID-19 information at the event.



A government official explaining the process of COVID-19 testing.

As part of the COVID-19 awareness campaign, the Government Communication and Information System together with the Department of Health (DoH) in Lesedi Local Municipality, hosted a taxi-rank activation on 17 September 2020, with the purpose of sharing information on precautionary measures to be taken to avoid COVID-19 and also how to get treatment when infected.

Information about COVID-19 was shared with the community at the taxi rank and they were encouraged to follow guidelines and regulations as outlined by the government to curb the spread of the virus.

Oupa Mbele from the DoH emphasised the importance of information sharing. "It is important to continue sharing information about COVID-19 with the public as a way of reinforcing compliance to coronavirus regulations so that we can win the battle against this virus," he said.

When screening was conducted, those with symptoms were tested. Sponono Sibeko from the DoH encouraged the community to continue testing. She said, "I urge community members to get tested for COVID-19 if they display symptoms so that they can know their status and take precautionary measures such as contact tracing, isolation and quarantine as a way of eliminating the spread of coronavirus."

PRIORITY 3: EDUCATION, SKILLS AND HEALTH.

New healthcare service vehicles for Northern Cape

By Moleboheng Maphutsi: GCIS, Northern Cape



Premier Zamani Saul, Health MEC Maruping Lekwene and other government officials at the event.



The display of some of the equipment in the new healthcare service vehicles.

On 29 September 2020, Northern Cape Premier Zamani Saul together with the MEC of Health, Maruping Lekwene, launched 11 emergency service vehicles in Kimberley, under the theme: “A modern, growing, successful province.”

The vehicles consist of five emergency rescue services and six forensic pathology services. The provincial government established the initiative as a continuous act of rendering adequate healthcare services in the province.

The vehicles are expected to improve the response time and quality of services related to road accidents and other challenges.

The Premier urged that the vehicles be used by fully skilled officials and be regularly serviced and maintained to ensure roadworthiness. “We are committed to devoting our resources and efforts in running a well-established health sector by eradicating all health discrepancies,” he said.

PRIORITY 5: SPATIAL INTEGRATION, HUMAN SETTLEMENTS AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT.

Service delivery at the click of a button

By Doctor Marebane: GCIS, Limpopo



Acting Limpopo Premier Nkakareng Rakgoale, Deputy Minister Thembu Siweya and Mayor John Mpe at the event.



Community members at the event.

The Deputy Minister in The Presidency, Thembu Siweya, launched the Presidential Hotline Mobile App and USSD code in Polokwane Municipality to increase channels for citizen-government engagement, on 26 September 2020. The App is called “Khawuleza Mobile App” and is aimed at assisting government to be speedily interactive and responsive.

The app will enable any member of the community who has a query, complaint or compliment about the Public Service and government to report to The Presidency through it.

“In this pilot phase of the app, the focus will be on service delivery in Limpopo. Based on the experience gathered and an assessment of the state of readiness in other provinces, the Khawuleza Mobile App and USSD code will be rolled out in the remaining eight provinces, an effort which will then culminate in a national launch of a reengineered Presidential Hotline,” Deputy Minister Siweya said.

She also stated that the app was created by one of government employees, Katlego Nkosi. “The app will assist to fast track service delivery, can also be utilised to report any crime-related activity and will solve service-delivery frustrations experienced by members of the community.”

In her address, the then Acting Premier of Limpopo, Nkakareng Rakgoale, said the Hotline Mobile App “will allow us to move service delivery with speed”. In his closing remarks, Capricorn District Executive Mayor, John Mpe commended The Presidency for the innovative, effective and efficient programme.

“The programme is in line with the District Development Model that says, one government, one plan and one budget. It is innovations like these that change people’s lives and allow integration of government services,” he said. To access the app, dial *120*7733# or download it from Google App.