



MY DISTRICT TODAY



STAY SAFE

PROTECT SOUTH AFRICA

TOGETHER WE CAN BEAT THE CORONAVIRUS

Issue no. 31: August 2020

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PRIORITY 2: EDUCATION, SKILLS AND HEALTH.

Vhembe District intensifies COVID-19 awareness

By Thanyani Netshikweta: GCIS, Limpopo



Members of the Vhembe District Command Council, Limpopo MEC Phophi Ramathuba, and Makhado Mayor Councillor Ntavhanyeni Munyai visiting Muila Traditional Council.



Government leaders engaging with the Muila Traditional Council.

Vhembe District Command Council, together with its stakeholders, work tirelessly to ensure that information about the COVID-19 pandemic reaches people in all corners of the district. As part of the resolution taken during their meetings, they committed to intensify government messages, urging people to take precautionary measures such as adhering to social distancing, wearing masks, washing hands and using sanitisers, among others.

On 21 July 2020, the District Command Council was joined by the Limpopo MEC for Health, Dr Phophi Ramathuba, during the Traditional Council COVID-19 campaign at HaMuila. The initiative was aimed at lobbying traditional leaders to support and join government in the continuous fight against the spread of COVID-19 in communities.

MEC Ramathuba said, "As government we are urging each and every stakeholder in place to ensure that COVID-19 is treated as societal issue by everyone in the country. Traditional councils are the key stakeholder of government, and their support will enable us to control the COVID-19." She also thanked the traditional councils for their role in ensuring that communities abide by the set lockdown regulations.



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King Baldiwin Xigalo said:

“I am so pleased that government recognised our role within the community. I make a plea to you today that there will be no illegal selling of beer as the President has commanded. Allowing such activity to happen in our constituency will be a sign of misconduct. We have a saying which states that traditional councils prevail because of the people, that is why we need to take care of them so that they can take care for us.”

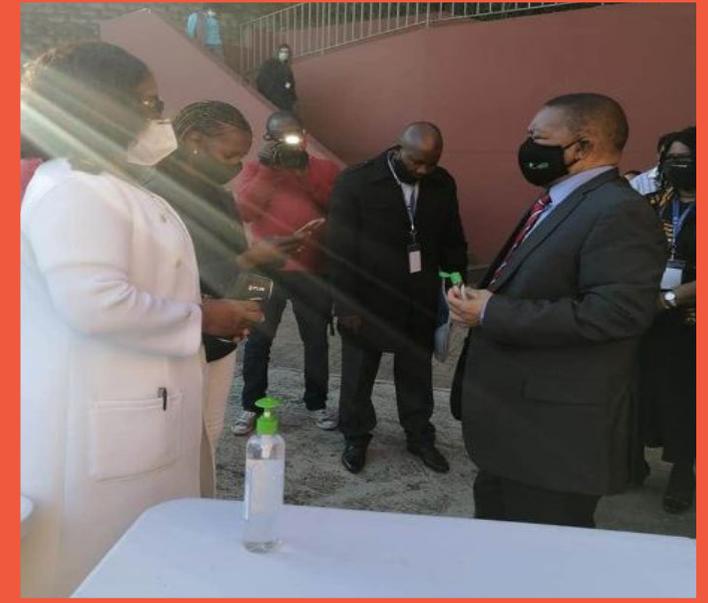
PRIORITY 2: EDUCATION, SKILLS AND HEALTH.

Minister visits university to monitor health and safety

By Bongeka Nkwanyana: GCIS, KwaZulu-Natal



Deputy Vice Chancellor Professor Siphon Seepe welcoming the delegation at the University of Zululand, Kwadlangezwa Campus.



Minister Blade Nzimande addressing the media and health officials demonstrating how the healthcheck mobile diverse works.

On 23 July 2020, the Minister of Higher Education, Science and Innovation, Blade Nzimande led a delegation comprising higher health officials to the University of Zululand to monitor the implementation of COVID-19 health and safety measures, particularly at the student residences.

The university was the third institution visited by Minister Nzimande since the phased reopening of campus activities in the post-school education and training sector on 23 May 2020. The institution is among those which began receiving students and employees back to campuses and play a central role in the production of COVID-19 accessories such as masks and sanitisers.

During the Minister's monitoring visit, health officials demonstrated how the healthcheck mobile unit works and how they conduct their daily screening of all students and staff entering the campus, and showcasing additional infrastructure such as quarantine sites and other essential clinical and psycho-social health services.

PRIORITY 4: SPATIAL INTEGRATION, HUMAN SETTLEMENTS AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT.

Municipality strives to generate own power

By Tebogo Monyo: GCIS, Northern Cape



Premier Zamani Saul addressing the audience at the launch of the Kgatelopele Solar Carport Project.



Premier Zamani Saul, MEC Abraham Vosloo and local government leaders in the ZF MCGawu District at the launch of Kgatelopele Solar Carport Project.

Northern Cape Premier Zamani Saul together with the Finance, Economic Development and Tourism MEC Abraham Vosloo launched the Kgatelopele Solar Carport Project in the Kgatelopele Local Municipality on 16 July 2020. The project was piloted in the municipality for the past five months and will now enter its second phase, which entails expanding to the assets of the municipality.

The project has been able to feed energy into the municipal building, thus saving costs of electricity usage by the municipality. The end goal of this project is to get the Kgatelopele Municipality off the Eskom grid, and for all households, businesses and any other electricity consumer to be provided stable source of energy through this project.

This will be possible with the support of other stakeholders including the Department of Mineral Resources and Energy, the National Energy Regulator of South Africa, Development Bank of South Africa and the Industry Development Corporation.

Premier Saul said that the array of natural resources that the Northern Cape has provides a great potential for the growth and development of the province. He said that together with other stakeholders, the vision of a modern, growing and successful province will be realised.

PRIORITY 5: SOCIAL COHESION AND SAFE COMMUNITIES.

Awareness on gender-based violence

By Tshidi Mokoka: GCIS, Gauteng



Mamokete Mokwena said:

“Women suffer a lot in the hands of men they trust. It is painful when children are involved. We appreciate the information that government is bringing to us as it will help us in making decisions that we can use to live our lives without abusers.”



Eunice Marubini said:

“Domestic abuse is what destroys families as it affects everyone. My advice to women is that they must immediately leave someone who abuses them because staying is like telling the abuser that he can do whatever he wants.”



Community development worker Lerato Nchupetsang engaging with a community member.



Community development worker Dorothy Molebatsi, and Victoria Nkomo from WAWA handing out information leaflets to community members.

As part of Women’s Month, the Government Communication and Information System in partnership with community development workers (CDWs) and Women Against Women and Children Abuse (WAWA), conducted an awareness activation on gender-based violence (GBV). The initiative, targeting the community of Brandvlei in Randfontein, took place on 11 August 2020.

This year’s Women’s Month is commemorated under the theme: “Generation Equality: Realising women’s rights for an equal future”. Amid the global COVID-19 pandemic, more domestic violence cases have been reported where women were found to be victims.

“It is because of these scourge of domestic abuse during lockdown that we have hit the ground in the fight against any abuse perpetrated against women and children, to re-educate communities about our services and encourage them to call us when in need,” said Victoria Nkomo from WAWA.

GBV calendars containing relevant messages were distributed and contact numbers of shelters and other stakeholders that help in all matters of domestic violence were shared with community members. Maki Mosweu, a resident of Brandvlei, said that it is painful, the way women are treated in the country, and how many men seem to be having the power to control how women in their lives conduct themselves.

“As women, we need to stand up and ensure that our abusers are locked up. We appreciate all the information that we can use to ensure that this is happening. It is not healthy for a woman to live for the rest of her life in an abusive relationship and I believe that we have the power to change this,” she said. COVID-19 awareness messages were also distributed and people were encouraged to always follow the health regulations of washing hands, sanitising, coughing on a flexed elbow and wearing a mask when out in public.

People may contact the Gender-Based Violence Command Centre toll-free number: 0800 428 428 to speak to a social worker for assistance and counselling. Callers can also request a social worker from the centre to contact them by dialling *120*7867# from any cellphone even if they are without airtime.