



# MY DISTRICT TODAY



Issue no. 45 / December 2016

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## OUTCOME 3: ALL PEOPLE IN SOUTH AFRICA ARE AND FEEL SAFE

### Government partners with community members to fight abuse

By Vasanthi Naidoo: GCIS, KwaZulu-Natal

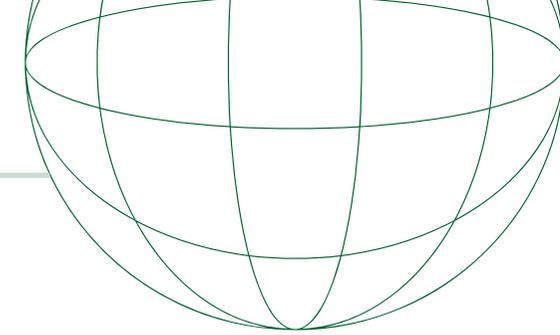
Bayview South African Police Service (SAPS) in Chatsworth, eThekweni Municipality, together with the community policing forum, departments of social development and community safety and liaison, Chatsworth Child Welfare and other civil society organisations held a crime awareness campaign at the Summerfield Primary School. The activation took place on 26 November 2016 and focused on the 16/365 Days of Activism for No Violence against Women and Children and also on fighting child abuse with the intent of creating awareness of the resources available to the community. Poverty and unemployment leading to substance abuse and domestic violence is rife within the community around Summerfield and the Bayview Flats.

Using drama, performed by volunteers from the Chatsworth Child Welfare Society, message about the negative impact of domestic violence and crime, awareness of the resources available to communities and the various services offered by the SAPS were conveyed to the audience. Officers from the Family Violence and Child Protection Unit in the SAPS engaged with children, explaining child abuse and domestic violence to them, informing them how to report such incidents and what the consequences of perpetrating such violence are. In addition, officers displayed various types of drugs available and educated them on the harmful effects of drugs and alcohol abuse. Very often, young children are used as runners by the drug lords in exchange of money. Children were discouraged from assisting drug lords to sell drugs and from taking drugs themselves.



government  
communications

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REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



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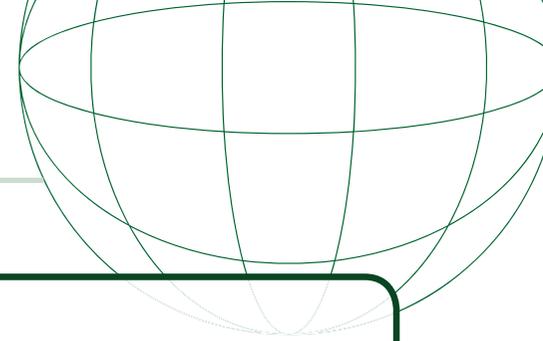
Community members listening to a pilot explaining when and how the helicopter is used in fighting crime.



Volunteers from the Chatsworth Child Welfare performing a skit on abuse.



Children viewing a display of various drugs.



**Munien said:**

“In our community there are incidents of drugs and alcohol especially among our youth, which lead to children abusing their parents and the elderly. We refer these cases to Bayview SAPS, Department of Social Development and Child Welfare. It is important that protecting women and children be something we pay attention to every day not only during the 16 Days of Activism campaign. It is worrying that children are also perpetrating violence against their parents, mainly their mothers.”



**Lumka Khawula said:**

“The campaign is about protecting our children and women. I do not think women abuse is very bad where I live but there are drugs that lead to violence and other crimes. We are very happy with the service we get from Bayview Police Station and know that crime must be reported to the police. They will send us to social workers too.”



People with disabilities at the event



Sikhuthali Ncamani said:

“Government needs to ensure that information is accessible and those who are old are assisted. We need job opportunities.”

## OUTCOME 12: AN EFFICIENT, EFFECTIVE AND DEVELOPMENT ORIENTED PUBLIC SERVICE AND AN EMPOWERED, FAIR AND INCLUSIVE CITIZENSHIP

### Government engages with people with disabilities

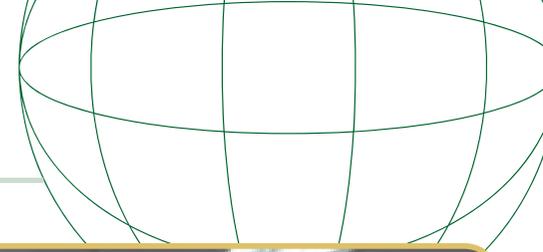
By Ndyabo Kopo: GCIS, Eastern Cape

Organisations that advance and protect the rights of people with disabilities converged in a dialogue that was meant to interface with government about challenges facing people with disabilities. The event took place in Mount Ayliff on 15 November 2016. The Alfred Nzo District Municipality in partnership with the Government Communication and Information System and other stakeholders, organised the programme as part of the national Disability Rights Awareness Month to mobilise society and decision makers to take responsibility to ensure that persons with disabilities have equitable access and participation in all services rendered in both the public and private sectors.

The programme also allowed the newly elected political leadership of the municipality to have a better sense of the issues affecting people with disabilities in the district, for future policy interventions. The organisations were represented from all four local municipalities that constitute the Alfred Nzo District Municipality.

There was a unanimous decision in calling for government to intervene in equipping people with disabilities with skills in order for them to create their own jobs, as they find difficulty in getting employment. There was a strong proposal that special schools should be equipped with the necessary equipment and resources. This means that there should be training centres for people with disabilities.

Councillor Nqoko, Member of the Mayoral Committee responsible for Local Economic Development in the Alfred Nzo District Municipality, representing the Executive Mayor, committed that government will create a conducive environment for people with disabilities to participate in the local economy. Small Enterprise Development Agency was also part of the entities that made presentations and was able to guide and respond to some of the inputs related to small business development for people with disabilities.



**Bhekumuzi Mathumbu said:**

“The session was very important for me because as people with disabilities we were given an opportunity to voice our views about our own development. We need skills-development opportunities, accessible public transport for people with disabilities and RDP houses.”



**A government official addressing the audience.**

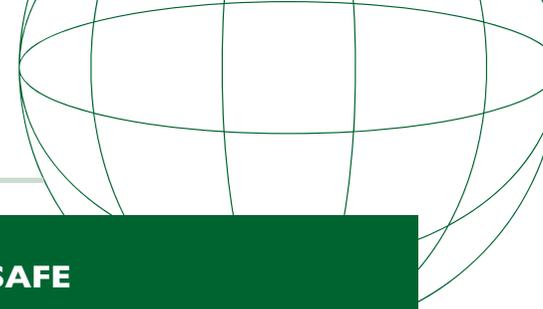


**Members of the public listening to different presentations.**



**Matsidiso Moso said:**

“The programme was informative. I appreciate these kinds of programmes. Government must use home-based organisations to take care of other people with disabilities.”



## OUTCOME 3: ALL PEOPLE IN SOUTH AFRICA ARE AND FEEL SAFE

### Unite against women and child abuse

By Nompilo Mchunu: GCIS, KwaZulu-Natal

Government Communication and Information System (GCIS) in the Amajuba District conducted a child-abuse awareness walk and taxi-rank activation at KwaMdakane on 18 November 2016. This was part of build-up activities to the 16 Days of Activism for no Violence against Women and Children campaign. The campaign is observed under the theme: “Count Me In: Together Moving a Non-Violent South Africa Forward” from 25 November to 10 December.

The 2km child-abuse awareness walk was led by 30 Grade 3 learners from PhunguPhungu Primary School. The learners carried placards displaying clear messages that condemn abuse such as “Stop Child Abuse”, “Protect Victims of Abuse”, “Violence will Harm A Child’s Future” and “Stand United To Fight Abuse and Violence”.

Amajuba District Mayor Musa Ngubane led the taxi-rank activation along with stakeholders from the departments of community safety and community liaison, social development and health, Amajuba District, community development workers and the GCIS. Ngubane handed out leaflets that contained information about the campaign, counselling contact details for abuse victims and various government institutions available to assist and support women and child victims.

Mayor Ngubane also interacted with commuters and taxi drivers. He informed them that the campaign seeks to raise awareness on violence against women and children as a human rights issue and to encourage society to acknowledge that violence is not a government or criminal-justice system problem only but a societal challenge that requires a collective voice to fight.

The Mayor also urged men to stand against abuse. “Let us fight abuse not just during this campaign, but 365 days a year. Men must stop being perpetrators, but start protecting women and children and be lead activists in ending the cycle of abuse,” he said. He also condemned the “blesser” and “blessee” lifestyle as another form of abuse that men use to exploit women.

Amajuba District dialogues on 16 Days of Activism will be held between 25 November and 9 December.



**Sbonelo Langa said:**

“This taxi-rank activation is a very good way to reach ordinary people on the ground to inform them about important campaigns such as this one. I will share these information leaflets with my neighbours so that they can help people who are victims of abuse.”



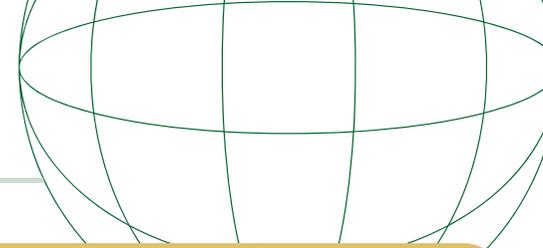
**Thandanani Dlamini said:**

“I was not aware that this campaign existed. I think it is good to address the prevalent issues of abuse directed to women and children. The campaign must also seek to find solutions to end abuse instead of raising awareness only.”



**Asemahle Mthethwa said:**

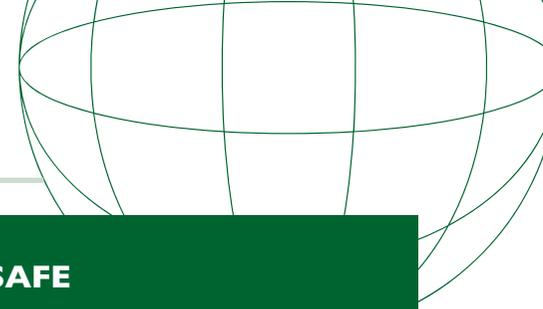
“I am happy to be part of this campaign today. Child abuse must end as it impacts negatively on our future.”



PhuphuPhungu Primary School learners leading the 2km child-abuse awareness walk.



Amajuba District Mayor, Musa Ngubane and GCIS KwaZulu-Natal Director, Ndala Mngadi, handing out leaflets to commuters and taxi drivers.



**Masamkele Judge said:**

“I am thankful for the Directorate for Priority Crime Investigation, the NPA, the Hawks, the Fire Arm unit, PSIRA, the Office of the Police Secretariat, for being here today, giving us valuable information on their work and how we can work with them to fight crime in our communities. I am working at the George Municipality, through the EPWP programme, to assist and help unemployed communities members to apply for work or further education and training.”



**Yunus said:**

“I am a local CDW and found that PSIRA registration for securities are too high. Security officers are the lowest paid workers and still need to pay PSIRA high registration fees each year. I urge PSIRA to look at lowering the registration fee for security officers.”

**OUTCOME 3: ALL PEOPLE IN SOUTH AFRICA ARE AND FEEL SAFE**

**Fight against crime remains a priority**

*By Jonathan Grootboom: GCIS, Western Cape*

The South African Police Service (SAPS) Eden Cluster held a successful stakeholder dialogue with civil society organisations in the quest to enhance oversight and service delivery. The event took place on 22 November 2016 at Thembaletu Community Hall.

The dialogues were aimed at identifying reasons why violence against women and children is not decreasing despite the unprecedented body of laws and world best model institutional mechanisms. The SAPS Eden Cluster will work in partnership with the Office of the Mayor, the Criminal Justice Cluster, Social Cluster, religious and traditional leaders, and civil society organisations. This multi-sectoral approach is aimed at strengthening local, provincial and national mechanisms to prevent and respond to gender-based violence.



**Government representatives, community members and officials from different stakeholders at the event.**



**Simbongile PHEME said:**

“I am concerned about the high levels of substance abuse and gangsterism in our schools. We need help to do away with this problem.”