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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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> government communications



Government reaches out to small businesses

By Mlungisi Dlamini: GCIS, KwaZulu-Natal

On 24 March 2024, the uMgungundlovu District Municipality witnessed another success story of co-operative governance through the District Development Model. The Department of Sports, Arts and Culture MEC, Ntuthuko Mahlaba, unveiled three developmental programmes and projects which are being implemented within Msunduzi Local Municipality under uMgungundlovu District, namely the Renovation of Winston Churchill Theatre at the value of R37 million and the sod turning for the construction of a mega library in Imbali Township (R94 million), and the handing over of sports kits to schools and community-based teams involved in various sporting codes. MEC Mahlaba also handed over sewing machines and speed points to individuals and co-operatives involved in businesses in the space of sports, arts and culture.

The Mayor of uMgungundlovu District, Councillor Muziwokuthula Zuma, applauded the department for responding with such impactful programmes that are benefiting artists, cultural activists, young people, and women with disabilities in the district.

"These programmes will go a long way in reducing poverty, creating employment and business opportunities as well as reducing inequalities in our communities," he said.



MEC Mahlaba and Mayor Zuma visiting stalls to view work of various cooperatives.



MEC Mahlaba and Mayor Zuma with beneficiaries in fashion design.



Department: Government Communication and Information System REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA







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

PRIORITY I: A CAPABLE, ETHICAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL STATE.

Government services taken to the people

By Fatima Modise: GCIS, North West

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The Minister of Home Affairs, Aaron Motsoaledi, hosted a stakeholder engagement session at Ganyesa Village and an outreach programme in Phaposane Village in Kagisano-Molopo Local Municipality under the Dr Ruth Segomotsi Mompati District Municipality. The event took place on 18 April 2024 with the aim to intervene in the matter, which was picked up from the media, where a local resident was complaining about inaccessibility of services from the Department of Home Affairs in the area. The outreach was scheduled for the whole week, which ran from 15 to 19 April throughout the municipality.

Throughout the dedicated week, mobile trucks visited different Thusong Service Centres, schools and villages across the local municipality for smart

cards, passports and late registration of birth applications, where people were assisted without any hiccups.

Institutions such as the Department of Culture, Arts and Traditional Affairs, South African Police Service, Department of Social Development, Office of the Premier, Department of Health, Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs, South African Social Security Agency, Electoral Commission of South Africa and some local banks joined the outreach to provide services to the community. The Government Communication and Information System also joined to popularise Freedom Month key messages, gender-based violence and anti-corruption messages.



Some of the service providers who offered services at the event.



Some of the community members who attended the event and received services during the event.







Junior Ntuli said: "I registered on the job-seekers database and I hope, like the majority of young people, that I will be matched with available employment opportunities targeting youth through Nasi'spani."

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Puleng Dlamini and Naledi Mahlangu said: "We are attending the youth expo so that we can get information on different programmes focused on youth development. It is an opportunity we will not miss because we want to be empowered."

PRIORITY 3: EDUCATION, SKILL AND HEALTH

Socio-economic developmental information for youth

By Jacob Molete: GCIS, Gauteng

As part of Freedom Month awareness campaign, the Government Communication and Information System (GCIS), Gauteng Department of Education, Thokoza Progressive Youth and other stakeholders, hosted Freedom Month Youth Exhibition outreach under the theme: "30 Years of Democracy, Partnership and Growth" on 12 April 2024 with the aim of deepening the understanding of democracy.

Stakeholders showcased their services and shared information on the kinds of service the public can expect from their organisations. Some of the

information related to bursaries and matric senior certificate second chance registration, Gauteng e-Government to empower the youth on business development and compliance to benefit through procurement processes. The Gauteng Department of Agriculture provided information on smallscale farming support and the Department of Employment and Labour provided information on how to register on the job-seekers databases. The Department of Home Affairs shared information on smart card applications.



GCIS officials and various stakeholders disseminating information during the Freedom Month Youth Exhibition outreach.



Youth attending in large numbers to receive services and information during the Freedom Month Youth Exhibition outreach.







Thutego Matlala said:

"I am very much grateful as a young farmer to get the opportunity to showcase my products during this importance event. This facility is going to help us in developing and growing our businesses."



Farmers receive a boost

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By Nkopodi Mokgoma: GCIS, Limpopo

About 300 cooperatives and farmers around Sekhukhune District descended at Vleeschboom Village in Makhuduthamaga Local Municipality to witness the official hand over of Vleeschboom Farmer Support Production Unit by the Minister of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development, Thoko Didiza. The event took place on 21 April 2024.

In her welcome address, the Mayor of Makhuduthamaga Local Municipality, Councillor Mera Mahlase, showed her appreciation of what Minister Didiza has brought to the farmers of Makhuduthamaga Local Municipality, in particular, the Sekhukhune District in general.

"As farmers we need to use effectively what the Minister of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development is giving us," said Mayor Mahlase. She added that it was the first time in the history of the municipality that they received such infrastructure. The Deputy Director-General of the Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development, Thandi Moyo, while outlining the purpose of the event, indicated that government has decided to give to communities, Agri Parks. She said the facility will serve as a Thusong Service Centre for agricultural communities within the area.

The Chairperson of Board of Directors for Vleeschboom Farmer Support Production Unit thanked the Minister for listening to their calls for support and stated that the facility will assist 33 cooperatives in the area.

Minister Didiza said that the initiative is one of the fruits of our democracy and new to black communities.



Antonette Molapo said: "The Minister has handed over a very important facility in this area, which is going to be much useful. We need young farmers like myself to participate fully so that we can help the old farmers with new ideas."



Minister Didiza unveiling the Farmer Support Production Unit.



Some of the farmers in attendance.



A young farmer displaying her products.