



# MYDISTRICTTODAY



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## PRIORITY 6: SOCIAL COHESION AND SAFER COMMUNITIES.

### Mandela Month outreach urges youth to further their studies

By Maria Ramoshaba; GCIS, Limpopo

On 30 July 2024, the Government Communication and Information System (GCIS), together with stakeholders at the Mokurunyane Thusong Service Centre under the Lephalale Local Municipality, provided information to the community of Lephalale to better their lives, socially and economically. Stakeholders included the departments of Employment and Labour (DEL), Social Development (DSD) and Health (DoH), as well as the South African Social Security Agency (SASSA), Lephalale Training and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) College and the Office of the Public Protector.

Grade 12 learners and matriculants in the community were encouraged to apply for funding from the National Student Financial Aid Scheme (NSFAS) to pursue their tertiary education. The bursary covers tuition fees, accommodation and transport.

The DEL registered unemployed people on their database of jobseekers, and also trained them on how to compile a curriculum vitae and prepare for an interview. The DoH was represented by a dietician, physiotherapist, psychologist, dentist and optometrist, who had also benefited from NSFAS bursaries. Community members were encouraged to motivate their children to access bursaries to further their studies.

The DSD highlighted the prevalence of child neglect in some schools in Lephalale. Some neglected children reportedly dropped out of school and engaged in illegal activities. Parents were encouraged to contact social workers about their troublesome children. They were also advised to enrol children with disabilities in special schools and support orphans through the Foster Child Grant and Child Support Grant (CSG).



Ms Thabang Maluleke urging parents to create an enabling environment for children to be educated.



Dr Tlou Seanego, a physiotherapist, sharing her success story on how the NSFAS bursary helped her to complete her studies.



Mr Rudi Makubelo from the Lephalale TVET College shares information on courses offered and NSFAS.



government communications

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**Ms Lucy Makata said:**

"I did not know of the list of scarce skills. I will share this information with my daughter so that she can make an informed decision."



**Mr Lesiba Moruwe said:**

"I wanted to apply to the Lephalale TVET College and lacked information. I am happy that I came here today to get information. I will be able to apply when they open in September 2024."



**Ms Mavis Maphuting said:**

"I did not know of the CSG Top-Up by SASSA. I look after my late sister's children and it has been very hard financially; I will apply."

**PRIORITY 6: SOCIAL COHESION AND SAFER COMMUNITIES.**

**13th KwaZulu-Natal Premier’s Cup a feast for soccer fans**

*By Zodwa Mpunzana; GCIS, KwaZulu-Natal*

The KwaZulu-Natal Premier’s Cup is a prestigious pre-season soccer extravaganza that provides a much-needed football feast for lovers of the beautiful game across the province. Local teams from the Premier Soccer League and those competing in the National First Division battled for the coveted title of the 13th KwaZulu-Natal Premier’s Cup Champions on 27 and 28 July at the Prince Mangosuthu Regional Sports Complex in Ulundi.

KwaZulu-Natal Premier, Mr Thamsanqa Ntuli attended the second and final day of the 13th Premier’s Cup, together with the KwaZulu-Natal Member of the Executive Council (MEC) for Sport, Arts and Culture, Mr Mntomuhle Khawula, President of the South African Football Association (SAFA), Mr Danny Jordaan, and Inkosi Zuzifa Buthelezi, amongst other delegates. The two-day pre-season tournament featured six soccer teams from KwaZulu-Natal, namely AmaZulu FC, Lamontville Golden Arrows, Richards Bay FC, Royal AM, Maritzburg United and Milford FC. Premier Ntuli highlighted the importance of the tournament in promoting sportsmanship and inspiring the youth.

He praised the six local soccer teams for their participation and commitment to excellence. Their performances not only entertained fans but also inspired young boys and girls across the province to dream big and pursue their passion for football.

The Premier later handed over the trophy to Royal AM FC who beat Maritzburg United in the final. Royal AM FC reached the final by beating AmaZulu FC 2-0, while Maritzburg United claimed the final spot at the expense of Richards Bay FC, whom they beat on penalties.

Premier Ntuli encouraged everyone to look forward to an even more exciting 2025 Premier’s Cup. The Premier’s Cup has become more than just a football tournament; it is a celebration of the province’s cultural diversity, resilience and shared love for the beautiful game.



Premier Ntuli congratulating Royal AM FC on winning the 2024 Premier’s Cup.



Premier Ntuli, MEC Khawula, SAFA President Jordaan and Inkosi Buthelezi handing out performance medals.



Premier Ntuli is joined by MEC for Sport, Arts and Culture Mntomuhle Khawula in congratulating Royal AM FC on winning the 2024 Premier’s Cup.

## PRIORITY 6: SOCIAL COHESION AND SAFER COMMUNITIES.

### Women’s Day celebrations focus on economic growth for women

By Lucrecia Prince; GCIS, Northern Cape

The main official event to commemorate Women’s Day was held in Pofadder in the Namakwa district of the Northern Cape on 9 August 2024. As part of the celebrations, different government departments, the local municipality, sector education and training agencies and non-profit organisations exhibited their services. The year 2024 marks the 68th anniversary of the historic 1956 women’s march to the Union Buildings.

This year’s Women’s Month programme focused on elevating the voices and stories of women who are beneficiaries of government programmes. During the celebrations, local business owners and entrepreneurs exhibited and sold their products to locals. Ms Beanca Brandt, a business owner, said “this event has given us a great opportunity to showcase what we as women have achieved.”

Ms Elize Beukes says if she looks back on the last 30 years, she sees the growth of women in the country. “We as women have been disadvantaged in the past, but with time we have the freedom to do what we can with the help of our leaders,” she said. During his keynote address at the Women’s Day ceremony, President Cyril Ramaphosa said: “On this day, I pay tribute to South African women; they are the pillars of our communities, the anchor of the families, backbone of our nation, as we say *abafazi, imbokodo.*”

He also called on government to create more jobs and economic opportunities for women, so that they are less vulnerable to exploitation and abuse. The President, Premier of the Northern Cape, Dr Zamani Saul and other senior government officials and men, signed the pledge for South African Men to end gender-based violence.



Different stakeholders coming together to render services at the Women’s Day event.



The Department of Sport, Arts and Culture displaying the work of various artists.



Children playing games at the Women’s Day celebrations in Pofadder, Northern Cape.

## PRIORITY 6: SOCIAL COHESION AND SAFER COMMUNITIES.

### Women in the Central Karoo attend dialogue

By Monique Warden; GCIS, Western Cape

On 6 August 2024, the Government Communication and Information System (GCIS), in partnership with various stakeholders, launched Women’s Month at the Restvale Primary School in Nelspoort. The stakeholders included the departments of Justice and Constitutional Development; Social Development; Employment and Labour (DEL); and the National Prosecuting Authority (NPA); Nelspoort Advice and Development Office, Central Karoo Farm Community Association and the Central Karoo District Municipality.

The Nelspoort community has been affected by gender-based violence (GBV) in the last few months and the stakeholders wanted to bring women together to hear their stories and assist them. More than 60 women from the town and surrounding farms attended the dialogue.

The NPA shared information on the amended GBV legislation, namely the Criminal and Related Matters Amendment Act, 2021 (Act 12 of 2021), the Criminal Law (Sexual Offences and Related Matters) Amendment Act, 2021 (Act 13 of 2021) and the Domestic Violence Amendment Act, 2021 (Act 14 of 2021). Women were encouraged to seek assistance and refrain from withdrawing GBV cases.

The Western Cape Department of Health and Wellness provided health-related information and health screenings for, among others, breast cancer, tuberculosis and HIV.



Prosecutor Gail Adams unpacking the amended GBV legislation.



Sister Shirley Delpoit engaging the Nelspoort women on health issues affecting them.



Women receiving health screenings from one of the mobile health units.



Community members listening attentively to speakers.



Warrant Officer Anemarie de Kock discussing safety issues affecting the Nelspoort community.



Ms Dendalene McKenna from the DEL talking about employment services and the free online courses women can do to improve their skills.