



MY DISTRICT TODAY



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PRIORITY 2: EDUCATION, SKILLS AND HEALTH.

Event honours an icon

By Kaone Lekgetho: GCIS, North West

On 6 February 2020, the Government Communication and Information System (GCIS) joined Ngaka Modiri Molema District Municipality and the South African National Defence Force (SANDF) in commemorating the life of Dr. Silas Modiri Molema through a memorial lecture at the Mmabatho Convention Centre in Mahikeng.

The lecture was aimed to educate community members about the political and social impact made by this revolutionary pioneer, historian, author and medical practitioner. More than 400 citizens attended the event and young people were encouraged to bring along their curriculum vitae to submit applications for the advertised SANDF skills development programme.

The ceremony was attended by the Molema family, North West Premier Job Mokgoro, Executive Mayor Tshepo Makolomakwa, Botswana delegation, local chiefs and SANDF dignitaries. The GCIS used the platform to create awareness about the State of the Nation Address.



GCIS officials distributing information material at the event.



SANDF exhibitions at the event.



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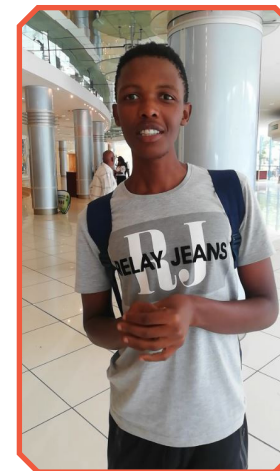
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Onthatie Mokhoba said:

"I have learnt a lot when it comes to various career opportunities under the SANDF. I have always wanted to join the army."



Austin Mogolodiwa said:

"I am hopeful and wish to join the SANDF as I am applying for skills-development posts today."

PRIORITY 5: SOCIAL COHESION AND SAFE COMMUNITIES.



Sibongile Sibiya said:
 “I realised that there are so many gay and lesbian people living among us. I also learnt that they must not be discriminated against.”



Princess Mnyakeni said:
 “The event was helpful because we were made aware of how to treat gay and lesbian people living within our communities and beyond.”

Campaign addresses LGBTIQ community

By Reki Skosana: GCIS, Mpumalanga

On 31 January 2020, an information awareness campaign that sought to create awareness about the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Intersex, and Queer (LGBTIQ) individuals was held at Vezubuhle Community Hall. The event was led by the Government Communication and Information System (GCIS) in partnership with Thembisile Hani Local Municipality, Khulisa Social Solutions, Healthcare Development and Training Institute, Nkangala District Municipality, Kangala Community Radio Station, Moutse Community Radio Station, Love Life, South African Police Services, Department of Education, Department of Health, drug action committee and local institutions of higher learning.

The event commenced with Councillor Ria Mnguni educating the community members about LGBTIQ, how they are perceived and how they view themselves. Mnguni also spoke of the way in which the community should treat them, thus encouraging people to interact with them which could also help minimise conflicts that arise as a result of people being less informed about the LGBTIQ community.

The General Manager for Social Services in Nkangala District Tebogo Matuane, requested that more parents be invited for the next session, as they are the ones who experience more difficulties in accepting and understanding the LGBTIQ individuals. “Educating parents can help create harmony in communities and once they have an understanding of the characteristics they possess, tolerance and support towards gay and lesbians will grow from strength to strength”, she added.

Community members had an opportunity to access health screening services at the event. Condoms and lubricants were distributed and young people accessed information on career opportunities from various tertiary institutions who exhibited on the day. The GCIS shared government information pertaining the State of the Nation Address, distributed gender-based violence flyers, *Insession* and *Vuk’uzenzele* newspapers, and shopper bags.



Community members engaging with various stakeholders.



One of the stakeholders addressing the community.



Kutloano Kgosimang said:

“I would really appreciate it if the President enforces harsher punishment for gender-based violence (GBV) perpetrators. Our women and children are suffering in the hands of people who are considered protectors in the community. In 2019 the President declared GBV as a state of emergency, so I expect him to address this issue.”



Tumelo Selakgwe said:

“I expect the President to focus his speech on higher education. There should be a proper system put in place for funding in colleges. Funds should be released earlier in the year for necessities such as accommodation, books and other essentials. School cannot commence without students having books, we need to follow the lecturer during a session with our books in order to make notes.”



John Mathudi said:

“My main expectation for SoNA is for the President to address youth unemployment. We keep encouraging our children to go to school and become skilled, however, the sad reality is that they cannot be absorbed in the corporate world. This is a huge crisis and I would really urge both government and the private sector to continuously work together to resolve this dilemma.”

PRIORITY 6: A CAPABLE, ETHICAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL STATE.

Awareness on the State of the Nation Address

By Moleboheng Maphutsi: GCIS, Northern Cape

The Government Communication and Information System in partnership with the community development workers embarked on a street activation near Thlokomelo Thusong Service Centre in Galeshewe on 10 February 2020. The session was aimed at creating awareness about President Cyril Ramaphosa’s State of the Nation Address (SoNA), delivered on 13 February 2020 under the theme “Grow South Africa”.

During the activation, citizens were informed about the importance of the SoNA, which affords the President an opportunity to address the nation on the general state of the country. They were also encouraged to engage on various social-media platforms such as Facebook and Twitter by sharing their expectations and views. The social-media campaign aims to challenge citizens to be active participants.

Furthermore, citizens were urged to watch the live broadcast of the SoNA on the South African Broadcasting Corporation’s radio and television stations, and online platforms.



Government officials engaging with the community of Galeshewe.

PRIORITY 6: A CAPABLE, ETHICAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL STATE.

GCIS takes services to the people

By Valencia Rachuene: GCIS, Head Office

The Government Communication and Information System (GCIS) embarked on a monthly journey to market their services and its Information Resource Centre during an activation at Ga-Rankuwa train station and Dr George Mukhari Hospital on 7 February 2020.

GCIS officials distributed government publications such as the *Vuk'uzenzele* newspapers, the Constitution and Masters of High Court booklets and also encouraged community members to listen or watch the State of the Nation Address to be delivered by President Cyril Ramaphosa.

Community members were also encouraged to download the *Vuk'uzenzele* App to be able to access the various issues of the publication from their phone as the newspaper also includes advertised government jobs.



GCIS officials distributing information materials to community members.