



**LIMPOPO**

PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

DEPARTMENT OF  
SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

*E-News*



**Welcome, Dr. Namane Dickson Masemola,  
MEC for Social Development**

*July 2022*

*"A Caring and Self-Reliant Society"*

# DEPARTMENT WELCOMES NEW MEC DR. NAMANE DICKSON MASEMOLA

*By Adèle van der Linde*

Dr. Namane Dickson Masemola is the new MEC to lead the Department of Social Development. During a meet and greet session at Olympic Towers, the head office building of the Department, MEC was introduced to the executive and senior management of the Department.

Addressing the team, MEC Masemola emphasized that, "Our people demand nothing less but our best and therefore we dare not fail. We are ready to mobilise our communities to play a crucial role in fighting all the social ills like Gender Based Violence and Femicide, substance abuse and more, as we endeavour to build a better society".



MEC Masemola also thanked former MEC Nkareng Rakgoale, "Who led the Department with distinction, great determination and a higher level of commitment towards serving the people of the Province."

Head of Department, Mr. Desmond Mahopo responded by officially welcoming MEC Masemola and thanking former MEC Rakgoale. "She distinguished herself in ensuring that the fight against GBVF, substance abuse, child abuse and poverty are tackled with determination. We wholeheartedly welcome the MEC and once again reiterate our unwavering and utmost support to work hard in pursuit of a better life for all our people," Mr. Mahopo concluded.



# DEPARTMENT WELCOMES NEW MEC DR. NAMANE DICKSON MASEMOLA

MEC Masemola is no stranger to the public of Limpopo. He has served as the MEC for Education, Transport and Community Safety as well as Public Works, Roads and Infrastructure. He holds various Postgraduate Degrees and Certificates as well as a PhD in Administration. He is a husband and father, who is born and bred in Ga-Marishane, in the Sekhukhune district. He cut his political teeth at a young age owing to various influences that ranged from senior political leaders to progressive royalty.

As an active young person he participated in the village youth structures and also mobilization of the Marishane Mountain Lions Football Club and Marishane Youth Organisation under SEYO which was part of SAYCO. He became part of the student movement and the broader youth movement where he led in various capacities in the SANSCO (South African National Students Congress), SASCO (South African Student Organisation) and the SRC (Student Representative Council) at Dr CN Phatudi College.

He began his involvement in the African National Congress while still a youth and participated in the processes of rebuilding structures of the ANC in the country after the unbanning of the ANC. He was a volunteer and Party Agent of the ANC in the first democratic elections in 1994 and grew through the ranks of the ANC from the then Marishane Branch until the most senior Provincial level where he became the ANC Provincial Deputy Chairperson, having led the ANC in Sekhukhune Region in many capacities as well as becoming the Regional Chairperson earlier.

He has contributed immensely in the local government sphere where he served in various roles including participating in processes that led to the formation of SALGA (South African Local Government Association), facilitated a Session of International Union of Local Authorities (IULA) Conference in Mafikeng, attended the United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG) Founding Congress in France. He also served as Executive Mayor of Sekhukhune District Municipality for three terms.



**2022**

**NELSON  
MANDELA  
INTERNATIONAL  
DAY**




MEC Namane Dickson Masemola joined fellow members of the Executive Council and other dignitaries at Ukuthula Primary School, Mageva Village in Greater-Giyani Municipality, for this year's provincial Nelson Mandela Day activities. This year's Nelson Mandela Day was celebrated under the theme: "Do what you can, with what you have, where you are".

Before the main event which involved planting seedlings and trees at the school, MEC Masemola handed over social relief of distress to a vulnerable family who recently lost one of their young relatives in a horrific road accident.

**18 JULY 2022**

**MANDELA DAY**

THIS YEAR WE ENCOURAGE YOU TO

**DO WHAT YOU CAN  
WITH WHAT YOU HAVE  
WHERE YOU ARE.**

FUND  
PLANT  
FEED  
SUSTAIN

**NELSON  
MANDELA  
DAY**

A NELSON MANDELA FOUNDATION INITIATIVE



# 2022

# NELSON MANDELA INTERNATIONAL DAY



*By Koena Hlahla*

The Department of Social Development celebrated Nelson Mandela Day by spending 67 minutes for Madiba doing charity work across all districts of the province. The celebration took place on the 18th July 2022 with the theme “do what you can with what you have, where you can”.

Amongst the various engagements on the day, one took place at the Polokwane Welfare Complex. Sasko formed part of the 67 minutes by donating 40 loaves of breads, 40 buns & 40 rolls to the Centre. Rosebank College also donated clothes and snacks with Two Mountains Funeral Services also donating 9 boxes of sanitary towels, while Mr. Price donated



**Centre manager Mr. Motanti Monyamane, receives boxes of sanitary towels from Two Mountains Funeral Services.**

ed three 25L tanks of sanitizers and food parcels. The South African National Defence Force (Limpopo signal unit) volunteered to the day by replanting the vegetable garden in the complex. A number of walk-in volunteers from the local community also contributed positively by helping with cleaning the nursery and various other rooms within the facility. The Centre Manager Mr. Monyamane thanked all for the dona-

ed three 25L tanks of sanitizers and food parcels. The South African National Defence Force (Limpopo signal unit) volunteered to the day by replanting the vegetable garden in



***Ms. Adelaide Phukubye, Director Women and Youth Development, tidies up the laundry area and children's rooms.***



tions that came forward and indicated that it will help to bring a smile to the children at the centre. "To you it might be little but to us it is a lot", he added. 67 minutes are dedicated to helping others every year on Nelson Mandela's birthday, 18 July. It is 67 minutes to mark the 67 years of Nelson Mandela's political career serving the people of South Africa. This day is celebrated world wide.



***The South African National Defence Force Limpopo signal unit replants the vegetable garden at the Polokwane Welfare Complex.***



# Limpopo celebrates World Population Day

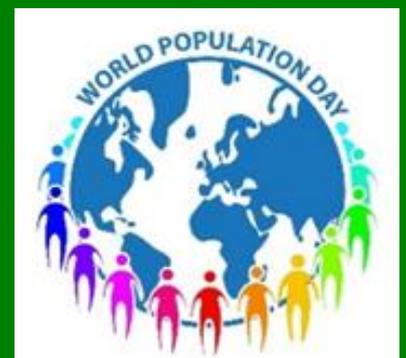
*By Khutso Molokela*



The department of Social Development (DSD) Limpopo held a commemorative world population day event on the 11th of July 2022. The auspicious celebration took place at Senwamokgope community hall in the Greater Letaba local municipality under Mopani District. The local mayor, Cllr. Dagma Mamanyoha as well as the executive mayor of Mopani district Cllr. Pule shayi and various other stakeholder representatives were amongst the dignitaries present at the occasion.

MEC for Social Development Dr. Namane Dickson Masemola gave the main address to the housed full to its capacity.

The commemoration of the world population on the 11th July every year follows the first milestone of the world population in 1987 when the total number of the population reached five billion according to the Council of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). This year's commemoration is held under the theme; A world of 8 billion: Towards a resilient future for all – Harnessing opportunities and ensuring right and choices for all. MEC Masemola in his speech outlined the importance of the day as it seeks to focus attention to the urgency of global population issues with the local social sector prioritising development plans and programmes put in place to curb such social ills. He further more stated that it is key that the United Nations at the humanities leadership level decided that we must look at human progress through



# Limpopo celebrates World Population Day

the extent to which the social development through a classified agenda impact meaningfully on people from the down shorted situations making their lives very miserable.

Dr. Namane Dickson Masemola encouraged communities to join hands and work together to ensure sustained development and self-reliance. The event attracted local entertainers who graced the audience with song and dance as a form of celebrating the world population day through the arts. Mopani district director for Social Development Ms. Gloria Mnisi expressed high grounds of gratitude to the MEC and sector officials as an occasion of this calibre gives hope to the masses and propels the department towards finding solutions for population issue.



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*Nahakwe Agricultural Primary Cooperative displayed and sold their fresh produce at the event. The cooperative is functioning extremely well after previously being funded by the Department.*

# LUCKAU CDPs EMPOWER YOUTH

*By Eric Mamukeyani*



Luckau Community Development practitioners are making remarkable changes in the lives of the youth at Luckau, Sekhukhune district. Since the beginning of this 2022/23 financial year they have been working tirelessly to empower the youth to develop their livelihoods. Mr. Tshivhase, a community development worker, indicated that the youth in rural

areas are plagued by many social ills such as unemployment, drugs, and crime, hence Community Development (ComDev) services are crucial in the community. Community Development is a division in the Department of Social Development outside of Social Work services which works closely with non-government and community-based organizations on community projects and programmes focusing on community development to ameliorate the lives of people. Ms. Manyaka, a fellow ComDev worker, added that the youth have a potential which they are probably unaware of, so they need to be assisted to awaken their true potential and be empowered to do things for themselves and by themselves so that they can change their lives.

The Luckau office of ComDev have been working hand in glove with the National Youth Development Agency (NYDA) from Groblersdal, to empower youth on business management, funding and applications. When rendering their services, the Comdev practitioners involve different interest groups, stakeholders, people whose livelihood projects are geared at improvement; government and non-governmental bodies; funding organizations; project experts and executors. These stakeholders work together to bring a significant change to the lives of people in various communities.

# GBVF IMBIZO and OUTREACH

*By Mulalo Ratshibvumo and Adèle van der Linde*



***MEC Masemola listens attentively as the mother of a GBV victim relays her tragic story. SAPS Mankweng Station Commander Brig. Tsebe, social worker Patience Napo and Capricorn District Director Mr. Dinko Selala, look on.***

On the 27th July 2022 MEC Dr Namane Dickson Masemola conducted door to door visits to the families of the victims of gender based violence (GBV) at Mankweng and surrounding areas in the Capricorn District on 27th July 2022. The campaign is aimed at creating awareness among people regarding Gender Based Violence and Femicide. The MEC was briefed at Andrew Mehlape Social Development offices before setting off to the three families. The National DSD command council, ward councilors, the SAPS, social workers and community development workers among others, were part of the campaign.

MEC Masemola visited 3 families in Ga Molepo, Mamotintane and Mentz respectively, handing over food hampers, blankets and care packages. At the first house visited, the MEC was deeply touched by the incident of GBV in which the woman was shot in the head by her partner and needed further medical care, as

# GBVF IMBIZO and OUTREACH

the bullet was still lodged in her head. In the other families assisted, were survivors of rape or multiple rapes, and the MEC promised the families that they will get the proper assistance with regards to shelter, health, and food. He reiterated that we need to bring an end to gender-based violence.

The next day, on the 28th, saw stakeholders such as advocacy groups, civil society organisations, social workers, community development workers and the SAPS gather at Andrew Mehlahe DSD Office terrain, for GBVF dialogues and a feedback session. Under discussion was, amongst others, power dynamics in

communities, root causes and contributing factors for GBVF and the economic development and emancipation of women. In his reply to the outcomes of the dialogues, MEC Masemola reiterated that the church needs to play a fundamental role in restoring the



moral fabric of society and that society needs a reconstruction of the soul, in the words of the late former president Nelson Mandela, whose birth month—among others—was the reason for the intensifying of the fight against GBVF. All information from the feedback sessions will be used at the Presidential summit on GBVF.



*Photos: Dr. Namane Dickson Masemola, MEC for Social Development, personally carries food hampers and other necessities into the homestead of one of the victims of GBV—a woman who was shot in the head and is incapacitated to the extent that she can't feed her nine month old baby.*

# GBVF IMBIZO and OUTREACH



*Pictures clockwise from top left: MEC for Social Development, Dr. Namane Dickson Masemola; Women Taking Back Safety's Mabotse Mothiba; Caroline Thema from CT Foundation; Mopani District Director Gloria Mnisi directs the programme, SAPS's Sgt. Lekota.*

# **STOP THE VIOLENCE!**

## **REPORT GBV and Child Abuse:**

**SAPS Crime Stop: 08600  
10 111**

**SMS Crime Line: 32211**

**DSD 24-hour Command  
Centre: 0800 428 428 (toll-  
free) or request a social  
worker \*120\*7867# (free)  
from any cell phone.**

**Child Welfare South Africa:  
0861 424453.**



# DIALOGUES FOR SOCIAL SECTOR SUMMIT

*By Adèle van der Linde*

On 15th July 2022, the Department of Social Development conducted dialogues in preparation for the National Social Sector Summit, involving stakeholders from various civil society groups in all the districts of the Limpopo Province. The Summit is an acknowledgement of the critical role that civil society plays in tackling poverty, inequality and related social problems. The previous summit in 2019, came as a result of President Cyril Ramaphosa's announcement during his 2018 maiden State of the Nation Address, that such a summit is needed to improve the interface between the state and civil society and to address challenges facing the sector.

The dialogues were held at Bolivia Lodge in Polokwane and was addressed by Nedlac's Dan Sebabi and the MEC for Social Development, Dr. Namane Dickson Masemola. Dr. Masemola emphasized the important role that civil society organisations play in restoring the values and assisting government in caring for the people of South Africa. He praised their indispensable work and commitment to the cause of building a caring and progressive society.



# E-News contributors

*Karakana Mantshimuli  
Communications*



*Editor: Adèle van der Linde  
Communications*



*Khutso Molokela  
Communications*



*Koena Hlahla  
Communications*



*Eric Mamukeyani  
Social Worker/Author*



*Mulalo Ratshibvumo  
Communications*



# HEAD OFFICE CONTACT DETAILS

Olympic Towers  
21 Biccard Street  
Polokwane 0699  
Private Bag X9710

## DISTRICTS

### SEKHUKHUNE DISTRICT

Old Parliament Building Zone F  
Lebowakgomo  
Tel; 015 632 9900  
Fax; 015 633 7113  
Postal Address:  
Private Bag X80

### MOPANI DISTRICT

Unigaz Road, Giyani  
Tel: 015 811 4300  
Fax: 015 811 4357  
Postal Address:  
Private Bag X9689

### VHEMBE DISTRICT

Old Parliamentary Building  
Thohoyandou  
Tel: 015 962 4958  
Fax: 015 962 4623  
Postal Address:  
Private Bag X5040

### CAPRICORN DISTRICT

Moolman Building  
34 Hans Van Rensburg Street  
Polokwane  
Tel: 015 290 9069 | Fax: 015 291 5917  
Postal Address: Private Bag X9709  
Polokwane, 0700

### WATERBERG DISTRICT

Cnr. Elias Motsoaledi & Thabo Mbeki Drive  
Modimolle, Opposite Hoer Skool Nylstroom  
Tel: 014 718 1700 | Fax: 014 718 1780  
Postal Address:  
Private Bag X1051  
Modimolle, 0510



**COVID-19**

Together, we can beat  
Coronavirus

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*A Caring and Self-Reliant Society*

E-mail: [info@dsd.limpopo.gov.za](mailto:info@dsd.limpopo.gov.za) | Website: [www.dsd.limpopo.gov.za](http://www.dsd.limpopo.gov.za) | Contact us: 0152304300/ 4330 | Fax: 0152912335/ 2182