EzasEmalahleni

UNITY IN DEVELOPMENT





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OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER

EMALAHLENI MUNICIPALITY

UNITY IN DEVELOPMENT

From the editors desk



This is your third edition as from the beginning of this year which the President of the Republic Mr Jacob Zuma affirmed as **"The Year of Action"**. As the section that is mandated to giving you information we are pushed by that in mind as we view that it is information that lead to accomplishment as you cannot do anything if you are not informed. Service delivery is all about being informed hence the saying **"Knowledge is Power"**. Indeed it is because if you are looking for help you have to use your knowledge whether it is less or advanced to get assistance; you have to communicate what kind of help you are looking for before anyone can be on a better position to assist you.

Our area is vast it then need profiling of the programmes and projects that are taking place on various areas of the municipal area of authority so that the inhabitants of this area know for sure that their needs as clearly documented on the Integrated Development Plan are taken care of. The programmes that we cover are not based on a certain ward but are a true reflection of what is happening on the entire area.

Hoping that you are enjoying the world's mega event, the FIFA World Cup as it is taking everyone by storm. This event know no age, culture, class and boundaries as on the stadiums and public viewing areas you can notice that there is no one who is interested to understand the above stated elements. South Africans and Africans are so far proud to host this once off event in everyone's lifetime to host.

Letters to the editor are always welcomed as this Newsletter cannot be a success without your views as this is the only tool that can help us thrive in giving you information.

Till next time
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MAYORAL OUTREACH

At the beginning of the year Emalahleni Executive Committee under the leadership of the mayor Councillor Nolitha Lali visited all the projects that were still in progress by that time. The main aim of the visit was to have first hand information when it comes to service delivery as reports are submitted regularly to the respective standing committees and those reports are channeled to all the relevant levels up until they reach the entire council.



During this exercise it was learnt that with other projects there are problems like the issue of non payments of workers by the contractor that then lead to non-compliance with the time projected for the completion of the project. At the same time with other projects it was clear that due to proper workmanship the projected time frames will be beaten and work will be completed far earlier than expected i.e at Ngqanda Multi- purpose hall.





TWINNING REWARD

Emalahleni Municipality receives a delegation from Netherlands on the 31 May 2010 as the continuation of the engagements which started long ago. The twinning agreement between the two municipalities is now underway and people on the ground are quite confident that the velocity it is taking will be maintained that was clearly seen on the members of the Dordrecht community that were workshoped on various skills including starting your own business. Dordrecht forum that was workshoped show a delegation that they have a fast number of raw business ideas that need to be nurtured i.e mining, recycling to mention but few.



The Netherlands team also meets with the project team in trying to get to understand the work done after they left last year. As the way forward the Department of Human Settlement and Estate was involved so that moving onward they work hand and glove with the municipality for a speedy progress. That was a four day sitting here roles were attached to individuals to ensure commitment when it comes to reporting.



AGNES REST CLINIC OPENING

The Department of Health opened a clinic at Mgqukwebe location in Ward 8 at Emalahleni Municipal area.

Councillor Philiswa Mapete said when doing the welcoming people of this ward did not turn back on their oath hence they insisted that this clinic must be opened and even on that decided to contribute 100% in preparations.



Mr Vuyo Tyawana who is the clinic committee member when giving the background of the clinic said "people of this community are used to be uneducated in such a way that they were working as contract workers in places like Gauteng. One time when they were back they came up with an initiative to build a clinic as they noticed difficulties when it comes to health care. Christina Dideka Vanqa was sent to come down here with their donations and a clinic was started in community houses, next to the schools and at the church. People of these communities contributed and we have managed to build this old house that is still in existence. Sometimes it was damaged by the storm and we were accommodated at Mrs Christina Dideka Vanqa's shop."



As the committee we traveled a lot and as we speak many of the clinic committee members are no more. We are very thankful to all the people who have helped us to have this clinic and I hope that tonight they will rest well as this clinic is opened said Mr Tyawana.

The District Manager for the Department of Health Mrs Nomeko Kizza said, "We are supposed to come together so that we meet the set standards of primary health care. The utilization rate at the moment is low but we are hoping that the situation will be better now as there are 10 doctors to be given to Lady Frere area and plans are already in place for them to visit clinics. Take care of your health do not wait for the health professional as protection is better than cure" she said.

The MEC for the Department of Health Mr Phumulo Masualle when doing the key note address first said "If you would say to us you want to name this clinic after one of you we would not disagree. We are here to celebrate your hard work that bears fruits we reap today. The success of the department of Health will be measured by the number of people that are coming here, the more they come sick we will be able to see to it that we are faced with a problem. Let us strengthen home care so that we can support our primary health care service. We have to take good care of ourselves as the Department of Health is like a workshop to cars".



As a country we are measured by the death of children, death of mothers when giving birth and HIV/AIDS and tuberculosis and as such we are viewed as not doing well. For pregnant women we are supposed to identify her as we visit homes at an early stage. Death of children is due to the fact that pregnant women go to the clinic at a later stage where it is already difficult to prevent a child from getting infected by the mother if the mother is HIV positive. We cannot say we are grateful of our freedom while people are dying.

This is a Voluntary Counseling and Testing site; let us regularly visit health institutions to monitor our health status as for every illness it is good to be noticed at an early stage as it can be managed or cured. As the Eastern Cape Province we set a target of 2 million by July 2011 of people who undergone VCT. It is good to prevent than to react on diseases said, MEC.

EMALAHLENI YOUTH FIELD BAND FOUNDATION

Emalahleni municipal council has a project known as the Field Band Foundation which is housed in the office of the mayor. This is the first investment through music and dance project with the aim of instilling a culture as the municipal area is characterized with diverse cultures. The main aim of this project is youth development in the form of music and dance. It looks on taking away the youth from crime and drugs as caused by lack of activities designed for the youth. The programme is done in conjunction with schools where consultations and demonstrations were conducted in Dordrecht and Indwe schools and communities with the aim of getting their full commitment.



This year this programme is piloted in these two towns in 2010-2011 financial year and in 2011/2012 financial year it will be disseminated to Lady Frere so that it can cover the entire area.
FBF project is the first of its kind in the area with the target group being the youth from 7- 21 years old in and out of school and the number expected this year is 125 per town.





The main programmes and services which are taking place on the **FBF project** include:

- Arts development programme
- HIV/AIDS, Life skills and Social development programme

  These programmes are done through the Social Development Officer as well as Tutors and band Coordinators that are hired to take of the children that are participating in the project.

This initiative can create employability for the youth as graduates of this programme can be absorbed by the Field Band Foundation as tutors and instructors. FBF also creates relationships with potential employers such as South African National Defence Force and Arts organizations. There are capacity building opportunities that can undergo as members of the band are expected to do a year's training in places like Norway that is offered by highly qualified teachers and a three months exchange training programme is one of the expected possibilities.





CAPACITY BULDING FOR OPERATORS

A month long training programme was held for Emalahleni Municipality operators and plumbers that are tusked with a remarkable responsibility of ensuring that people of the area have quality drinkable water. Seven operators and two plumbers were engaged amongst other things on water treatment training also known as conventional treatment. The training touched as well the issue of natural purification where it was stressed that this process is done by natural elements found in water i.e sand particles, grass/trees. The purpose of the water treatment was said to be done to observe three things: Micro-organisms (To kill) as they are unwanted in water, Solid particles (To take them out) as they are unnecessary in water and to minimize dissolved salts and minerals in water as they are needed in water as valuable ingredients.



The trainees show insight on what they were taught as they are the operators and plumbers based on water plants of Emalahleni municipality. The training programme was tailored to be based on knowledge as they were expected to fully participate on the programme by taking into account their respective water plants.

CRIME MAPPING

Emalahleni Municipality took a stride in helping fight crime in the area by embarking on crime mapping initiative. This crime mapping programme is done in order to contribute towards safety and security in the area. The aim of the project is to utilize the use of Geographical Information Systems (GIS) crime mapping and analysis in order to improve and strengthen criminal justice and reduce or prevent crime. The justification of the project lies in that it will generate planning information for reduction and prevention initiatives in the area such as police stations jurisdiction realignment, setting up police stations in appropriate areas and strengthening policing efforts in partnership with various stakeholders.

Emalahleni Municipality come up with this programme due to the fact that the area of authority of police stations in the area put commuters in awkward positions in times of plight as someone from Bengu community is forced by the policing jurisdiction to go to the police station based in Bolotwa going via Lady Frere town where there is a nearer police station.

This programme involves all the relevant stakeholders in safety and security issues i.e South African Police Services, Justice and Constitutional Development, Correctional Services, Police Forums, Councillors, Community Development Workers, Ward Committees, Traditional leaders and the entire community as the survey is done at community level involving community members.

YOUTH CULTURE FESTIVAL

In May, 2010 youth groups of Emalahleni Municipal area were engaged on what is popularly known as the youth cultural festival that is championed by the Department of Sport Recreation Arts and Culture. The winners of the local competition were expected to represent the area at the district level to be held at Intsika Yethu Municipality at the beginning of the youth month.
Results were as follows:
Drama – Butterflies – position 1 with 43 marks-
Mhlanga Cultural- position 2 with 24 marks

Umngqungqo- Ngcuka- came first with 48 marks



Praise singers- Siphakamise- came first with 35marks
- Xolani- came second with 29 marks

- Thokozani- came third with 14 marks

Poetry – Nombulelo- position 1 with 26 points



Gospel (Acapella) – Masikhuthale- came first with 40 points
- Siyazama- came second with 32 points
- Mhlanga- came third with 30 points

Gospel (instrumental)- Messengers of God came first with 42 points

Contemporary Dance- Midnight came first with 35 points

Hip-Hop – Rasta Yamz came first with 40 points
- Dj Athi came second with 35 points
- San Family came third with 30 points

Groups and individuals that were expected to represent the area at the district level are only those that came position one on music and cultural genre.

NATIONAL SERVICE DELIVERY CAMPAIGN

This was a programme that was marshaled by the Department of Home Affairs in an effort to ensure that all South Africans have proper documents that are confirming their citizenry. This national service delivery campaign at Emalahleni local area took five days. 15 trucks and 4x4 vans were deployed to sixteen wards of the area including the surrounding farms. The only outstanding section is the Department of Correctional Services inmates that will be attended very soon.



Identity applications collected in all areas is 894, with 97 applications for late birth registration, 326 birth applications were collected and issued, 27 marriages were solemnized and certificates issued and the enquiries were 1791.
This was a successful campaign checking to the number of people that were serviced during this period.

The work is still in progress so far we have already received 867 ID's and the distribution in some area already started.

DUMPING SITE

Emalahleni Municipality is rehabilitating its dumping site as a short term plan in an effort to keep the hygiene standards as expected. In making that to run smooth and quick 10 temporal workers are employed for a period of three months. This dumping site is situated in Lady Frere is planned to serve as the main site for the entire area where Indwe and Dordrecht will only have collection sites and after collection a waste will be transferred to the main site.

At the moment the site is being cleaned, fenced and secured so that after all this had been finalized the site can be licensed. After it had been licensed employment opportunities will emerge as there will be people to manage the site, weighing points so that things like recycling are possible. From July a cleaning up campaign is planned to be in progress whereby 20 temporal employees are expected to be employed. A suitable truck for waste collection is being ordered as at the moment we are using a truck and a tractor not suitable for this work.
On a long term plan awareness campaigns on mindset or behavioral change will take place to educate people so that they can be more knowledgeable on waste management.
One of the objectives for this programme is beautification of our towns.

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