



MEC: Social Development
Ms B.P Shiba

{ THE 2018/19 POLICY AND BUDGET SPEECH }

"Tlutfuka Uvikeleke"



social development
MPUMALANGA PROVINCE
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA





Mpumalanga Department of Social Development

2018/19 POLICY AND BUDGET SPEECH
Vote 12

Tabled by: MEC Ms BP Shiba
Date: Friday, May 25, 2018.
Venue: Mpumalanga Legislature

2018/19 POLICY AND BUDGET SPEECH

Department of Social Development tabled at the Mpumalanga Provincial Legislature on 25 May 2018 by the MEC for Social Development Ms Busisiwe Paulina Shiba

1. Honourable Speaker
2. The Honourable Premier
3. Members of the Executive Council
4. Members of the Select Committee for Public Accounts (SCOPA)
5. Members of the Portfolio Committee
6. Honourable Members of the House
7. Esteemed guests
8. Leadership of Organized Labour
9. Head of Department Mr. MV Mahlalela, Management of the Department of Social Development and all its employees
10. Heads of Departments
11. Management and staff of SASSA and NDA
12. Members of the media
13. People of Mpumalanga
14. Ladies and gentlemen

Honourable Speaker, I feel privileged and honoured to be addressing this august house and the people of Mpumalanga. It was on Tuesday 23rd May 2017 when I stood on this podium to give an account of what the department of Social Development had achieved and what it was planning to achieve. It all sounds like it was yesterday and indeed time flies.

So true of **Ralph Waldo Emerson** who once said:

“The days come and go like muffled and veiled figures sent from a distant friendly party but they say nothing. And if we do not use the gifts they bring; they carry them silently away.”

It is therefore true that every day presents us with some sets of responsibilities, some challenges and indeed opportunities to turn every minute into some practical life fulfilling experience for our people out there.

The ANC’s January 8 Statement 2018, declared among other things as follows:

“This year, we will also celebrate the centenary of the birth of Albertina Nontsikelelo Sisulu, a stalwart of our struggle who is remembered for her strength, compassion and tireless commitment to the people of this country. As a prominent leader of the ANC, ANC Women’s League, Federation of South African Women and the United

Democratic Front, MaSisulu represented the epitome of selfless service to the people. We will use this year to remember her life and outstanding contribution to the cause of freedom and democracy”

This declaration is a cold reminder to all of us to emulate MaSisulu’s compassion, tirelessness and selfless service to the people. We, who follow in the footsteps of that great giant have no reason to betray the struggles waged by such time-tested leaders. Inspired by Mama Albertinah Sisulu we must recommit ourselves to doing our best in bringing a new tomorrow for every South African, and indeed every woman, every child and those in need amongst our people.

Honourable Speaker, the department of Social Development derives its mandate from several pieces of legislation and policies including the White Paper for Social Welfare (1997) and the Population Policy (1998). It has the responsibility to develop and implement programmes aimed at eradicating poverty, the provision of social protection and social development amongst the poorest of the poor and the most vulnerable and marginalized.

However, the limited resources have exposed us to yet another challenge, not

only as a department but also as the broader government. The department has unfortunately been unable to absorb and place all Social Workers and Community Development Practitioners who had received funding for their studies from the Department of Social Development previously.

Not for Profit Organizations (NPOs)

Honourable Members, the services provided for by NPOs remain very critical. They serve as an arm of government in the provision of the many services that our people so desperately need. We strongly appreciate the amount of work they do towards our people. This year we are planning to provide support and capacity to **four thousand one hundred and nineteen (4119)** NPOs to ensure good governance, improved financial management and promote compliance to the NPO Act. We are further planning to capacitate **five hundred and fifty (550)** new organizations to register as NPOs.

However, we are confronted with the mushrooming of organisations providing social development related services. These organisations generally are reluctant to comply with the relevant regulations. We would like to encourage our communities

to consult this department for registration of any services they would like to provide to communities.

Early Childhood Development

Ubunzima obubhekene nezingane ezincane emakhaya buseyinselelo enkulu. Ukunakekelwa nokuvikeleka kwazo kufanele kubekwe ezandleni zabazali bazo. Noma kunjalo uHulumeni uyisiphephelo sazo uma kubonakala emiphakathini ukuthi izimo eziphila ngapahansi kwazo azemukeleki futhi azinabuntu.

Mhlonishwa Somlomo, ucwaningo luveze ukuthi izakhiwo zezinkulisa emiphakathini yethu ziseyinselelo enkulu. Lokhu kubeka izimpilo zalezizingane engcupheni. Kukhona izinyathelo ezithethwe umnyango ukuzama ukuqondisa lesisimo. Sikwazile ukuvuselela izakhiwo **ezingamashumi amahlanu-nanhlanu (55)** wezinkulisa ngohlelo lomxhaso.

Sizoqhubeka futhi kulonyaka sivuselele izakhiwo zezinkulisa **ezingamashumi amathathu-nanhlanu (35)**, ukuze zikwazi ukulandela umthetho obhekelele ukuphepha kwezingane, Children's Act No 38 of 2005.

Honourable Speaker, we have also constructed 3 new ECDs to improve the

environment whereat early development for the children is taking place. These centres were built at Siyabuswa under Dr JS Moroka Municipality, Tweefontein under Thembisile Hani municipality and Wesselton under Msukaligwa municipality. These centres are handed over to communities under the management of the management committees who are expected to secure and protect them.

This Financial Year, the department is targeting **sixty-six thousand seven hundred and sixty-eight (66 768)** children who would be accessing registered ECD programme to improve access to quality ECD services, and **four thousand four hundred and twenty-three (4 423)** children will access non-centre based ECD Programmes.

Community Based Care and Services for Children

Honourable Speaker, the department still remains committed to playing the critical role of ensuring that those of our children in need of care and protection are identified timeously. We promised this house that we would ensure that **thirteen thousand and thirty-five (13 035)** children would be reached through the services provided through ISIBINDI model.

The department was able to reach **thirteen thousand nine hundred and twenty-two (13 922)** children through ISIBINDI Model,

an achievement slightly higher than our initial target. Our intervention through this programme has ensured that the most vulnerable children in communities are identified early and provided with support that includes assisting them with laundry, home-work, matric support and other services.

This financial year, we shall continue with the provision of these services to **twelve thousand and forty (12 040)** orphans and vulnerable children. This involves the provision of counselling and support services, referral to relevant stakeholders for care and protection of orphans and vulnerable children.

Also, we have successfully recruited a total of **two hundred and sixty-two (262)** Child and Youth Care Workers through the National Association for Child Care Workers (NACCW). They are currently undergoing **SETA** Accredited training towards a qualification as Child and Youth Care Workers. They will be completing their training during this financial year.

Child and Youth Care

The Department indicated to this house that it intended to fund twenty-five (25) Child and Youth Care Centres (CYCCs) which are managed by Not-for-profit organizations (NPOs) in the past financial

year. True to our word, the **twenty-five (25)** Child Youth Care Centres were indeed funded and accommodating **nine-hundred and twenty-nine (929)** children in need of care and protection.

We are however, committing ourselves to ensure that those children that are absolutely in need of CYCCs services do get the necessary services.

Child protection

Honourable Speaker, the department is mandated to ensure care and protection of vulnerable children. Children in need of care are placed in foster care to provide a safety net and enabling environment. At the end of the last financial year we had reached **two thousand eight hundred and seventy-six (2 876)** children. We were able to link **three hundred and twenty-four (324)** children exiting foster care to various forms of sustainable development. Such interventions have ensured that these children are not left to fend for themselves when their foster care placement expires. One child, Malebu Ndlovu, who has been under the foster care programme, has been invited to participate as a competitor and guest at the 2018 Songahm Taekwondo world expo in Little Rock, Arkansas in USA. A true testimony to our intervention programmes.

However, the recent incidences of child abduction and abuse are quite concerning. The department wants to urge all stakeholders and the communities to rally around the department's efforts to ensure care and protection of the children and to further appeal to parents and care-givers to be more vigilant in their respective areas.

Youth Empowerment

Honourable speaker, the youth unemployment and helplessness is a challenge for us all. According to Community Survey 2016, of the youth population of **one million six hundred and sixty-four thousand six hundred and fifty-eight (1 664 658)**, 30,8% are unemployed in the province.

In our contribution towards creating job opportunities, **four hundred and fifty (450)** youth benefited through the funding of 90 Youth Development centres. In these centres young people are supported through various programmes including entrepreneurial skills, free access to internet services and basic computer literacy as well as general life skills workshops.

Let me take this opportunity and appreciate the contribution made by Red Cross SA for providing a learnership on Project Management in the YDCs to be completed by the end of June 2018. The department

has in addition implemented another Learnership on Community Development which started in November 2017 with **eighty-five (85)** Learners placed in the Youth Development Centres in Thembisile Hani and Bushbuckridge Municipalities. These will increase the skills and employability of the youth in their communities.

In so far as rendering developmental services and programmes towards the empowerment and development of youth, the department is targeting **one hundred and eight thousand (108 000)** youth utilizing services through Youth Development Centres. In partnership with the Department of Higher Education, a total of **one hundred and eighty (180)** youth workers in the YDC will be trained on Career Development Services Programme known as **KHETHA** Services to assist learners with information on carrier choices and on-line applications for admissions in institutions of higher learning.

To emphasize our commitment to youth development, we have started with construction of the new Youth Development Centres at Msogwaba and KaDantjie in the Mbombela Municipality.

We have also budgeted for planning and preparation to construct 3 new Youth Development Centres spread in all 3

districts. The consultation processes and the identification of sites will start soon.

Special Sanitary Towels Project

Honourable Speaker, sanitary towels are a necessity to girls who have reached the stage of menstruation in their lives. They don't have a choice. As a result, and through the support of treasury, the department has budgeted **nineteen million rand (R19million)** to provide sanitary towels to **one hundred and five thousand five hundred and fifty-three (105 553)** girls in schools between the age of 14-21 years. This will provide protection and dignity, reduce their vulnerability and improve their school attendance. We note that the number to be reached is only a fraction of the number of girls who are indigent and vulnerable out there. We therefore urge the private sector to support the department in its endeavor to restore the dignity of our girl children. The project will be linked to the **"I AM FREE CAMPAIGN"** that is aimed at restoring dignity and values to the school going children.

Over and above, the Department has set aside a budget **one million two hundred thousand rands (R1 200 0000)** to provide to **one thousand five hundred (1500)** dignity packs to indigent learners in **fifteen (15)** schools.

Care and Support Services to persons with Disabilities

Honourable Members there is a need to strongly move to undo the myths and taboos that communities have passed onto one another generations ago about people with Albinism. Derogatory words like “**inkawu**” cannot, and should not be used to refer to another human being. These are derogatory and in turn reduce persons with albinism to something less human, less important and undeserving of any human rights. Processes are already underway to elicit the support of the South African Language Board to invent respectful and dignified names.

The abduction and subsequent killing of Gabsile Shabani and Nkosikhona Ngwenya in Nkangala, the barbaric and shameful exhumation of the body of Xolani Mkhize in Pienaar are signs that somewhere in society there are those people who hold views that are far from civilized. These are signs that there are views among society that deserve complete condemnation. We want to make a call to all our people in Mpumalanga to desist from these brutal and heinous crimes against people who deserve our support.

We had committed to reach a total of **one thousand eight hundred and eight (1 808)** persons with disabilities in **sixty-two**

(62) protective workshops funded by the Department. Again we can announce that **two thousand three hundred and eighty (2 380)** persons were reached in **sixty-two (62)** protective workshops financially supported by the department. Today, we commit ourselves to ensure that **one thousand eight hundred and sixty (1 860)** persons with disabilities access services in the funded protective workshops.

Honourable Members, let me take this opportunity to congratulate **Mr. Nkosinathi Ndlovu**, (deaf) from Ka-Nyamazane who was presented with the Order of the Boabab Silver by President Cyril Ramaphosa at the Presidential National Orders ceremony held in Pretoria on the 25th April 2018. He was awarded for his excellent contribution to the fight for the recognition of the rights of people with disabilities in the province. These are indeed **GOOD NEWS**.

Substance Abuse

Honourable Speaker, we promised this house that in partnership with the departments of Education, Health and Community Safety Security and Liaison, a total number of **one hundred and fifteen thousand two hundred and seventeen (115 217)** children under the age of 18 years were reached through the Ke Moja programme and **forty-three thousand eight hundred and sixty (43 860)** people from 19

years and above were reached in 2017/18. The department together with its partners intensified prevention services especially in areas and schools where the scourge of substance abuse is rife. Municipalities are in the process of establishing and launching their Local Drug Action Committees.

As part of its provision of integrated substance abuse prevention and treatment programmes the department will ensure that **thirty thousand (30 000)** people aged 19 and above are reached through substance abuse programmes in the 2018/19 financial year and **seventy-five thousand (75 000)** of those that are 18 years and below.

HIV and AIDS

Honourable Speaker, the strides made in the fight against HIV and AIDS are noted, however, the issues around behavioral change are still a challenge. Our efforts in dealing with these challenges should be strengthened more than before.

Let me report to this house that the department provided psychosocial support services to **eight thousand five hundred and thirty-five (8 535)** beneficiaries through Drop-in centres. The Department has successfully trained the **fifteen (15)** organizations on social and behavior

change programme in order to strengthen the capacity to implement the programme and integrate Social Behaviour Change in all the interventions aimed at preventing the spread of HIV, TB and STI and mitigate the impact thereof.

We are proud to announce that in partnership with the organizations funded by SANAC **twenty-one thousand three hundred and twenty-five (21 325)** beneficiaries were reached. This financial year, to address the social and structural drivers of HIV, TB and STI, the department is planning to reach **thirty-six thousand (36 000)** social behaviour change services focusing on vulnerable individuals.

Women empowerment

The department remains committed to advancing the empowerment of women through various interventions. We have trained **hundred and forty-one (141)** women. A total of **two hundred (200)** Women in Co-operatives completed an accredited training in Governance, Financial Management and Bookkeeping in different local municipalities.

This year, **one hundred and seventy-eight (178)** women in cooperatives will be enrolled and supported through an incubation programme. Funding has been

set aside to support **(12) twelve** women-led cooperatives through poverty alleviation programmes to improve their capacity. A total of **two thousand one hundred and ten (2 110)** women will be reached through the empowerment programmes.

Victim Empowerment

Honourable Speaker, it must be noted with serious concern the continuous abuse and violation of human rights meted against women accompanied by both domestic and sexual violence. We therefore call on all men to take a stand to fight against violence on women and children. Through Gender-based violence prevention programmes targeting schools, women's formation, clinics and community gatherings, we have reached a total of **forty-five thousand one hundred and sixty-four (45 164)** people. It's worth mentioning that Men's Voice, an organization operating at Govan Mbeki municipality has recorded the highest number of male youth reached.

We will continue to fund **twenty-two (22)** Victim Empowerment Programme Centres/shelters, and **two (2)** government owned facilities rendering services to victims of crime and violence. A total of **three thousand nine hundred and forty-four (3 944)** victims of crime and violence received counselling and services on life skills in the **twenty-four (24)** VEP facilities.

To strengthen Victim Empowerment Programmes the department is planning to reach **twenty thousand (20 000)** persons through prevention on Gender Based Violence. We shall further provide counselling and support services to victims of crime and violence to **two thousand eight hundred (2 800)** victims of crime.

Social Relief

The province is one of the poorest provinces in the country. This is further exacerbated by the unforeseen natural disasters that have been experienced. The department provided support to **six thousand two hundred and eighty-three families (6 283)** in desperate need of social relief of distress. We further commit to support a total of **eight thousand (8 000)** individual and families in need. The collaboration with SASSA in responding to this call is appreciated.

Services to Older Persons

Honourable Speaker, the role of older persons as a foundation in families and communities cannot be under-estimated. In response to Madrid plan of action on active aging, **four thousand one hundred and three (4 103)** older persons were reached through this program. Also, a total of **six thousand three hundred and eighty-four (6 384)** older persons through Community Based Care and Support Services. We were also able to reach **one thousand two**

hundred and sixty (1 261) older persons in **twenty-three (23)** funded residential facilities.

Conclusion

In conclusion, Honourable Speaker, it is my sincere request that this House approves the 2018/2019 budget for Social Development (**Vote 12**) which is **one billion, five hundred and fifty-one million, five hundred and eighty-four thousand rand (R1,551,584,000.00)** allocated as follows:

Programme 1: Administration
R310 527 000

Programme 2: Social Welfare Services
R257 695 000

Programme 3: Children and Families
R598 829 000

Programme 4: Restorative Services
R176 121 000

Programme 5: Development and Research
R208 412 000

Honourable Members, let me take this opportunity to express my sincerest appreciation and gratefulness for the oversight and support provided for by the Honourable Members of the Legislature, specifically the Portfolio Committee on Health and Social Development led by Honourable DP Manana.

I am humbled and grateful for the guidance, leadership and support of the Honourable Premier Ms. R Mtsweni and the entire Executive Council.

I wish to thank all the employees of the Department of Social Development under the stewardship of HOD, Mr. MV Mahlalela for their hard work and commitment.

Our appreciation goes to our agencies, NPOs and the partners in the private sector and many others whose support has always been immeasurable.

My family has always been my source of strength and courage. Without them, I would not have been able to carry the tasks at hand. I thank them all.

We say Mpumalanga Tfutfuka Uvikeleke.

I thank you!

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"Tfufuka Uvikeleke"