



social development

MPUMALANGA PROVINCE
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



BUDGET VOTE 12 POLICY AND BUDGET SPEECH 2019/20

Tabled Tuesday, 09 July 2019 by

Ms Blessing Thandi Shongwe (MPL)

MEC for Social Development at the
Mpumalanga Provincial Legislature



Mpumalanga Department of Social Development

2019/20 POLICY AND BUDGET SPEECH

Tabled by: MEC Ms BT Shongwe
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for the Mpumalanga Department of Social Development Tabled at
the Mpumalanga Provincial Legislature on Tuesday 9 July 2019 by
the MEC for Social Development Ms BT. Shongwe

1. Honourable Speaker Ms BP Shiba
2. Honourable Deputy Speaker Mr PV Mkhathshwa
3. Honourable Premier Ms R Mtsweni-Tsipane
4. Members of the Executive Council
5. Honourable Members of the Provincial Legislature
6. Acting-Director General Mr Mohlasedi
7. Head of Department Mr MV Mahlalela, Management of the Department of Social Development and all its employees
8. All Heads of Departments
9. Management and Staff of SASSA and NDA
10. Acting Provincial Chairperson Cde Mandla Ndlovu and the Leadership of our glorious movement the African National Congress.
11. Leadership of the Opposition Parties represented in the Legislature
12. Leadership of Labour
13. Executive Mayors and Councillors present here,
14. Community Based Organisations
15. Non Profit Organisations
16. Non-Governmental Organisations
17. Members of the Media
18. Esteemed Guests
19. Ladies and gentlemen

Sanibonani.

INTRODUCTION

1. Madam Speaker, it's a pleasure for me to table before this august house the policy and budget speech of the Department of Social Development Vote 12.
2. We are at a moment of renewal as a country, and we remain focussed and continue to follow our path of development, growth and transformation guided by our commitment as the ANC-led government to eradicate the triple challenges of poverty, inequality and unemployment.
3. As the ANC-led government, we understand the challenges that continue to stubbornly frustrate our people following the interactions we had with all our communities in the province during the election campaign period.
4. We are ready as the sixth administration to write a new chapter in the province that pursues shared prosperity and inclusive growth so that we can protect the vulnerable in society including women and children. We will continue working towards redressing the legacy of apartheid where women were relegated to the periphery through the entrenching of patriarchy and sexism.
5. We are a generation that is deepening transformation in our society and our programmes seek to ensure that women in the province are allowed to be economically active and to prosper. In instances where women especially those coming from disadvantaged backgrounds are violated and need to be assisted, we will intervene accordingly and expose and deal harshly with perpetrators of all forms of women violations.
6. As South Africans, we draw strength and lessons from our women struggle icons - Mama Albertina Sisulu, Mama Adelaide Tambo, Mama Winnie Madikizela-Mandela, Mama Nokuthula Simelane, Mama Thoko Mabena and Mama Letta Shongwe among others - who fought gallantly for the eradication of poverty, women abuse, inequality and injustice.

7. Honourable Speaker, we stand here today in a province, where the people have once again affirmed their trust in the ANC-led government in terms of addressing their needs and aspirations. The people have entrusted us with an overwhelming mandate that we have accepted with greater humility as we are their humble servants.
8. It goes without saying that they have spoken and therefore this is no time for ease in comfort but it is time to dare and endure. The Department of Social Development is well placed to deliver on the commitment of the African National Congress of ensuring social justice and the provision of socio-economic security to the citizens.
9. Our mandate as a department is to build an inclusive and responsive social protection system that will ensure that no one slips below the poverty line whilst at the same time building and utilizing the capacities of individuals, households and communities.
10. Madam Speaker, despite the interventions by our government, the challenges facing our communities continue to haunt us.
11. The increase in numbers of children living on the streets, numbers in child headed households and children in conflict with the law further compounds the environment within which we operate as a department. Unfortunately, this is the reality we find ourselves in and we have no choice but to strengthen our resolve to make better the lives of our people
12. We have recently been inundated with reports of parents killing their children and then committing suicide because they have lost all hope in life. We have been called to act against the acute abuse of people with albinism and the constant abuse of older persons by no other than those people they stay with, in their own communities.
13. Somlomo lohloniphekile – Ngikhatsatekile ngekwandza kwetigameko tekubulawa kwebantfu besifazane, babulawa ngebalingani babo. These, and many such societal ills, call on all of us to act very urgently and decisively.
14. Honourable Speaker, the Department of Social Development stands at the coalface of addressing the challenges faced by the most vulnerable members of our society.

15. We will never give up on our vision to realise a “Caring and Developed Society”. In this regard, we reaffirm our unshakeable belief that we shall overcome the legacy of socio-economic exclusion of our people which is a cause of their hardships.
16. We are nine days into the Nelson Mandela month, therefore I believe it is appropriate to share a quote that reflects his optimistic nature. He once said:

“Part of being optimism is keeping one’s head pointed toward the sun and one’s feet moving forward”. Unquote

17. Madam Speaker I use this quote because in my entire life I have never been a pessimist and even in the face of these overwhelming challenges, I believe our eyes should remain on the goal: to make sure that no one falls off from the safety net.
18. I also believe that we will not achieve great things if we do not do the small things in a great way and we therefore need to broaden our horizons and adopt an innovative approach so that we can best respond to the challenges faced by our people.
19. As stated by the Honourable Premier Ms Refilwe Mtsweni-Tsipane in her State of the Province Address, we will further improve the lives of our people by working towards a comprehensive social security network and expand access to the security net.
20. Former President Nelson Mandela once said:

“Overcoming poverty is not a gesture of charity. It is the protection of a fundamental human right, the right to dignity and a decent life”. Unquote

21. When President Cyril Ramaphosa recalled the song by Hugh Masekela titled “Thuma-Mina”, he was indeed evoking the lyrics of an immensely popular traditional chorus with the intention of highlighting the theme of self-sacrifice, individual responsibility and indeed the importance of personal change in mind-set.

22. It is therefore within the context of this spirit that the Department of Social Development plans to advance its course in developing our communities.

POVERTY AND SOCIAL RELIEF OF DISTRESS

23. Honourable Speaker, the economic climate facing the country and its people continues to be unfavourable and families and individuals are constantly confronted by a great deal of hardships. We therefore have to act in response to these challenges of extreme distress due to poverty and disasters of acute neglect.
24. The most comprehensive interventions by government to address poverty in the country is the Social Security System, administered by the South African Social Security Agency, known by most as SASSA.
25. Almost 1.5 million people in Mpumalanga benefit from different types of grants that they receive monthly.
26. To respond to emergency needs identified in families and communities affected by disasters, and other social conditions resulting in undue hardship, the department has prioritized the provision of social relief of distress to reach **8 000** individuals.

DIGNITY SANITARY TOWELS PROGRAMME

27. The province has headed the call to ensure access to Sanitary Towels by girls. The Province successfully hosted the National Launch of the Dignitary Sanitary Towels Programme at Mkhondo Local Municipality in February.
28. The roll out of the programme has been implemented focusing on the most vulnerable girls namely those in Quintile 1 and 2 high schools where we reached 177 540 girls.
29. Madam Speaker, we are working with stakeholders to ensure better coordination, increased coverage and sustainability of the programme. Our target is to increase our reach to Quintile 3 schools, young women out of school and those in shelters.

30. In due course, we will be formalising a Public Private Partnership to ensure the full implementation of the Dignitary Sanitary Towel Framework that encompass Water and Sanitation and Hygiene, referred to as (WASH). The programme will not only be aimed at supporting girls and women, but it will ensure that women empowerment becomes part of the value chain.

COMMUNITY FOOD AND NUTRITION DEVELOPMENT CENTRES

31. In spite of our best efforts, hunger is increasing in some of our communities.
32. The department will expand the access to nutritious meals through Community Nutrition and Development Centres. The number of Centres will be increased from the current nine (9) to eleven (11).
33. Two new centres will be established in Emakhazeni and Victor Khanye Local Municipalities.
34. Over **50 000** people will also access food through other food subsidies that form part of funding provided to different centres providing welfare services.
35. Honourable Speaker, while addressing immediate needs of our people, the department will also invest in building the capabilities of communities in an effort to break the cycle of poverty in households.
36. We do this by supporting household development initiatives with the aim of increasing their household income and reducing their vulnerability.
37. Madam Speaker, please allow me to acknowledge some of these beneficiaries who received our support and have been able to change their lives and that of their families for the better.
- Mr Pardington Mashaba from KwaMhlanga is engaged in grass cutting and gardening services. He received equipment and tools and he has even expanded his services and he currently employs five youth from his community. He has also completed a seven roomed house for his family.

- Ms Refilwe Mapeya from Empumelelweni is involved in a registered cooperative - Peacemaker Sewing, which has five members. They are supplying textile garments to local churches and social clubs. They are also registered with SASSA for supply of school uniforms to vulnerable children. The cooperative is now extending their business to eMalahleni and surrounding areas.
38. Honourable Speaker, in the current financial year, the department will prioritise more women and youth as the most affected sectors of society.
 39. Over **400** people from vulnerable households and **15** Cooperatives will benefit from financial support, equipment and production implements to enhance their development work.
 40. A total of **1 500** work opportunities will be created in various programmes through the Expanded Public Work Programme (EPWP). These programmes render social protection services in communities, including ECDs, Protective Workshops for People with Disabilities, Youth Development Centres and Service Centres for Older Persons.
 41. After addressing immediate situations of distress, the department is also responsible for the more holistic protection and development of **VULNERABLE GROUPS** - Those who are most at risk of falling through the safety nets.

WOMEN DEVELOPMENT

42. Madam Speaker, women continue to be largely affected by poverty, unemployment and inequalities especially women in rural areas as well as single mothers and widows. The Department acknowledges that women are mostly affected but they remain the pillars and hope of their families which depend solely on them.
43. The Department has a mandate to create an enabling environment for development of women and also to develop and implement empowerment programmes that seek to improve their livelihoods.

44. A total of **4 714** women will benefit from various empowerment programmes in the current financial year, including women in cooperatives where they will have access to financial support and capacity building. This is done in collaboration with other stakeholders.
45. Honourable Speaker, we believe in the notion that says, “**When you empower a woman, - you empower a nation**”; and we call on the women of our province to continue making a difference in their households and communities.

CHILD PROTECTION

46. Madam Speaker, the care and protection of children remains one of the primary responsibilities of the department.
47. The Foster Care programme is one of the key tools that assist in ensuring that children who are vulnerable as a result of having lost their parents, and due to abuse, neglect or abandonment, are placed on foster care.
48. Here with us, we have Reginald Nkosi from eMalahleni who was placed in the Foster Care Programme. He lost both his parents and was placed under the care of his grandmother in 2012. Last year (2018) he passed his matric with flying colours and he is currently studying towards a Bachelor of Science Degree in Engineering at the University of Cape Town.
49. We currently have **35 090** children in foster care and we plan to place an additional **2 527** children in foster care. In order to ensure that foster parents are able to discharge their parental role effectively, we will also capacitate and equip them with parenting skills so that they do not subject these children to further abuse.
50. Honourable Speaker, too many children still experience violence and abuse that can cause lasting physical, mental and emotional harm, and inflict on children’s ability to become responsible, self-reliant and productive members of society.

51. During the 2018/2019 financial year, 887 cases of child abuse were reported in the Province. Of these, 34% were cases of sexual abuse.
52. We are still recovering from the horror of the news about a young mother from Klarinet, who allegedly killed all four of her children, the matter is before the courts where the mother is awaiting trial.
53. Madam Speaker, Child neglect is another problem and recently a mother was arrested after neglecting her four children who have since been taken to a place of safety while the mother is awaiting trial. We applaud the community member who exposed this problem and also the uncle and community who showed the spirit of Ubuntu by assisting these children. In the same breath, I want to thank the Premier who came in swiftly and provided food and clothes to the children. Working together, we can do more.
54. We therefore plan to train 150 Child and Youth Care Workers to implement the Community Based Prevention and Early Intervention programme known as “Isibindi Programme”. These young people will provide community based interventions to children in child-headed households and ensure that they are identified early and provided with the services that they will require.
55. A total of **22 151** children will be reached through the community based prevention and early intervention programme.

EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT

56. Honourable Speaker, one of the most vulnerable periods in a life of a person is during early childhood, when children are completely reliant on adults for care. This is also the phase of development that lays the foundation for the development prospects for the rest of the life.
57. We continue to emphasize the importance of the first 1000 days in the development of a child. And this assertion therefore requires that we put programmes in place to ensure that issues relating to Early Childhood Development are prioritized and adequately resourced.

58. In order to ensure that the safety, care and stimulation of these children take place, infrastructure is a major requirement. We have managed to open 4 ECD centres in the previous financial year. This year we are again completing two ECD centres at Mbuzini in Nkomazi sub-district and Standerton in Lekwa sub-district.
59. President Cyril Ramaphosa pronounced in the State of the Nation Address that Early Childhood Development will migrate to the Department of Education. We are currently awaiting proclamation by the President to guide the process forward. We are working closely with the Department of Education to ensure that systems are put in place for the smooth transition. However, as a Province we are aspiring to migrate in a shorter period than envisaged by the national government.
60. This year the Department of Social Development will continue subsidizing 61 000 children to access services through ECD Centres.

OLDER PERSONS

61. Madam Speaker, older persons play a critical role in their families and community.
62. It is through them that our children continue to be protected and cared for in the absence of their parents. However, they are also prone to abuse and neglect as they become older and more frail.
63. The Older Persons' Act seeks to advocate for the rights of older persons to participate in the developmental, political, social, cultural and economic activities of their country and not to be regarded as mere beneficiaries.
64. The Department will facilitate services to older persons that are accessible, equitable and affordable, and conform to prescribed norms and standards.
65. These services are intended to improve the quality of life of older persons, ensuring that they enjoy and live active, healthy and independent lives.
- In collaboration with all stakeholders, we will ensure the roll out of Active Ageing programme at ward level, create an enabling and supportive environment to older persons; and provide continuous care and support to those older persons in need.

66. We plan to reach a total of 15 599 older persons through prevention services and Active Ageing programmes.

PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

67. The Department of Social Development is the Custodian of promoting and protecting the rights of people with disabilities, guided by the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, in particular, Chapter 2, the Bill of Rights.
68. For many years, Albinism was not recognised as a disability and yet people with this condition experience prejudice and discrimination fuelled by mythical beliefs, that can even lead to ritual killings and human trafficking. The province and entire country was shocked with the abduction and brutal killing of Gabisile Shabane (13) and Nkosikhona Ngwenya (15 months), who were killed solely because Gabasile was a child with albinism. The Department of Social Development received 435 vanity packs from Albinism SA to be distributed to Persons with Albinism in the province. The packs contain things like sunscreen and lip balm, that assist in managing the condition.

SUBSTANCE ABUSE

69. As a province, we continue to be faced by the two edged sword of vulnerability and social ills. As vulnerability due to poverty and unemployment increases, this result in an increase in a number of **SOCIAL ILLS** such as gender based violence, substance abuse, family disintegration, HIV and AIDS, to mention but a few.
70. Honourable Speaker, the problem of substance abuse in South Africa and in particular Mpumalanga Province is spiralling out of control in some areas of the province, and is affecting all ages, rich and poor, employed and unemployed. Collaborative efforts by government and civil society needs to be strengthened.

71. The department is planning to intensify prevention services targeting children under the age of 18 years as well as youth and adults. We aim to reach a total of 114 380 beneficiaries this year.
72. Mpumalanga has 11 borders or ports of entry which must be supported by all Justice and Crime Prevention structures to deal with the smuggling of drugs and Human trafficking.
73. The Department will continue to deploy Social Workers to Lebombo and Oshoek border posts during festive seasons and other calendar holidays to deal with Human trafficking and child smuggling cases which are high at these border ports.
74. Concerted efforts should be directed to the following areas that are highly affected by the scourge of substance and drug abuse: Victor Khanye, eMalahleni, Govan Mbeki, City of Mbombela, Thembisile Hani and Bushbuckridge. These areas are characterised by high levels of unemployment and migration between settlements.
75. The 2018 South African Community Epidemiology Network on Drug Use (SACENDU) report indicated that the most prevalent drug treatment received in Mpumalanga are for dagga, nyaope, heroin and lately over-the-counter drugs such as paracetamol.
76. The Department will continue to support the Provincial Anti Substance Abuse Forum, which was appointed by my predecessor in June 2017. 18 Local Drug Action committees were established in the local municipalities promoting accessibility to both treatment and prevention services
77. The Department will officially open a state of the art 50 bed inpatient treatment centre in Nkangala district, that will provide a much needed service to those afflicted by substances abuse.
78. The department has increased the bed capacity at Swartfontein Inpatient Treatment Centre here in Ehlanzeni District from 50 to 100 beds, to respond to the demand for inpatient services.
79. Communities are encouraged to utilise these facilities so that individuals and their families can benefit from the assistance they will get from the centres. On average, these two facilities will reach 490 beneficiaries annually.

GENDER BASED VIOLENCE

80. Madam Speaker, the scourge of gender based violence within communities has a devastating impact on the victims, their families, communities and society at large.
81. The department has made a concerted effort to ensure that communities receive the necessary care, support and education on gender based violence.
82. Noticeably is the emerging trends where the LGBTIQ (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Intersex and Queer) are targeted. The Departmental programmes also extends to these vulnerable groups.
83. The Department has two shelters for victims of crime and violence and is also funding 22 shelters that are providing services to them. The services include life skills programmes and development of vocational skills.
84. These shelters are managed by Social workers and trained care workers to provide 24-hour accommodation, care and support.
85. In 2018/19 financial year, these shelters provided support to 2 000 victims of crime and violence and their immediate family members.
86. Honourable Speaker, the department is planning to reach 20 000 people through prevention on gender based violence programmes. The objective is not only to provide protection and support, but also for developmental programmes. For example, Ms Esther Maphanga, was a victim of domestic violence, received assistance and entrepreneurial skills, she is now running her own business and is economically and financially independent.
87. The department will also continue to create awareness in communities, schools, border posts and churches on the emerging phenomena of Human trafficking mostly affecting young girls and boys. Victims are lured by fake job opportunities and false marriage proposals ending as sex slaves.

HIV AND AIDS

88. The socio economic impact of HIV and AIDS on families and communities is enormous. And further weakens already vulnerable family and community systems.
89. The Department will intensify provision of psychosocial support to eight thousand four hundred and sixty (8460) beneficiaries, to build resilience of vulnerable groups.
90. To achieve the goals of the National Strategic Plan for HIV, TB and STI's 2017-2022, various community structures will be used to champion HIV and TB prevention through social and behaviour change in order to close gaps associated with risk perceptions, gender norms, gender inequality and unequal power dynamics.

DISINTEGRATION OF FAMILIES

91. Most of the social ills afflicting our communities have their roots in the dysfunctionality of families.
92. Honourable Speaker, in order to change the current situation, it is important that families are strengthened and capacitated to reach self-determination.
93. The department is fully aware that a number of teenagers that are parents themselves. There is a greater need to capacitate them on parenting to ensure that the cycle of dysfunctional families is broken. We will be capacitating teenagers (including teen parents) through a Teen Parenting Programme.
94. The role of men in fostering family stability can never be overemphasized. We are also well aware that there are families where fathers are not playing their roles as parents. We therefore also plan to conduct capacity building sessions targeting fathers where we will empower them on their roles as fathers.
95. The department plans to reach **14 051** families through family preservation, parenting skills, family reunification and marriage enrichment programmes.

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

96. Honourable Speaker, as a department we have noticed that we have an increasing youth population without adequate empowerment and economic opportunities. This make them vulnerable to all of these social ills I have mentioned.
97. In this regard we have built Youth Development Centres as a powerful entry point into communities to address such social ills in a developmental manner.
98. A recent study to evaluate work done in Youth Development Centres revealed that 51% of the beneficiaries have children that they are responsible for. This leaves room for integration between the Youth Development Centres and Family programmes in the Department to provide parenting skills to young parents or guardians.
99. In the previous year, the department reached over **100 000** youth through various empowerment programmes.
100. And we will continue to support **90** Youth Development Centres (YDCs) spread throughout the province to benefit **108 000** youth with empowerment services.
101. A total of **450** work opportunities for the youth will be created, and will receive monthly stipend while rendering services in these centres.
102. As we set our targets on becoming part of the fourth industrial revolution, it is of utmost importance that the previously marginalized communities have access to basic information technology. These services will also be extended to youth affected by substance abuse while receiving treatment in the In-patient Treatment Centres.
103. In collaboration with the South African Association of Youth Clubs (SAAYC) and, an International Accredited ICT Programme will also be implemented in the current financial year in **12** Youth Development Centres across the province.
104. We also partner with the National Youth Development Agency (NYDA) and MRTT through the youth centres on Entrepreneurial Skills training and Financial Support to those who have an interest in business.

105. The department is completing construction of two Departmental Youth Development Centres in the City of Mbombela – to benefit the communities of ka'Daantjie and Msogwaba.
106. Madam Speaker, all young people are encouraged to use these freely available empowerment services in their local communities for their own development and a better future.
107. We also want to appreciate the valuable partnership with the private sector, and in particular SASOL on their commitment to improve the conditions of the Youth Development Centres in communities. This includes proper infrastructure, equipment and internet connectivity.
108. SASOL is supporting **26** eligible centres in Gert Sibande District. In the current financial year, SASOL has committed to expanding to Ehlanzeni District starting with **11** Youth Development Centres in the City of Mbombela.
109. We hope that this relationship will continue to reach all the municipalities in the province; and our appeal to other private companies is that they also open their generous hands and invest in our youth.

NOT-FOR-PROFIT ORGANISATIONS (NPOs)

110. A unique characteristic of the work done towards social protection, is the collaboration between government and the Non Profit Organisations.
111. The department will continue to support to **1 641** NPOs rendering different types of social protection services to our people. However, our concern is the mushrooming of NPOs in communities which in most cases are used as means of employment rather than a community service addressing a need.
112. The department will continue to monitor and ensure compliance with the NPO Act 71 of 1997, by providing Capacity Building and support to NPOs. More than **4 000** NPOs are targeted for capacity building in the current financial year.

INFRASTRUCTURE FOR SOCIAL PROTECTION

113. Honourable Speaker, let me reflect on the need for specialized infrastructure to cater for the diversity of social services required by our communities as this need continues to be underestimated, and whilst there are still huge gaps that still exist.
114. Mobile offices were also provided at the Leandra Branch Office in an attempt to alleviate the need for office accommodation.
115. In the current financial year, the branch office in Embalenhle, the ECD centre in Mbuzini as well as the Youth Development Centre in Ka-'Daantjie will be completed. Construction of the Centre in Msogwaba will continue while Evander and Leroro have also been targeted to receive mobile offices.

SHORTAGE OF STAFF

116. Although the department treasures our close working relationship with NPOs, there is an over reliance on NPOs to provide statutory services. This has its own challenges as the staff turnover in NPOs is very high.
117. Honourable Speaker, in order to ensure that the department has complete control over statutory services provided, it is important that the internal capacity of the department be improved through additional personnel.
118. In order for the department to deliver service effectively and efficiently, there is a need for additional personnel.
119. Social workers play an important role in implementing statutory regulated services. These are services that the department has a responsibility to provide and failure to do so could open the department up for litigations.
120. By its very nature, social welfare services are often required after hours and over weekends. This places pressure on staff. In some cases, services at border post are required on a 24-hour basis.

121. The Department currently employs 427 Social Workers, translating to a ratio of 1 social worker to 10,500 population. The national norm which the province is also aiming to achieve is 1 social worker for every 5,000 population. In order to achieve this, the department will need to employ an additional 445 social workers.
122. There are 305 unemployed Social Work graduates and 63 Community Development graduates that are unemployed, many of whom received bursaries from government.
123. We are encouraged and excited by Honourable Premier Mtsweni-Tsipane's announcement during the State of the Province Address that we will increase the number of Social Workers in the province.

CONCLUSION

124. Honourable Speaker, the Budget we table before this house today provides an expenditure framework that supports the plans expressed in the National Development Plan (NDP). This Budget is not about numbers. It is about addressing the challenges, the needs and hopes of our people. It is indeed, about building families, our communities, the safety and well-being of our society.
125. In conclusion, Madam Speaker, it is my request that this House approves the 2019/20 budget for Social Development (Vote 12), which is 1 billion, 656 million, and 599 thousand Rands (R1 656 599.00).
126. This allocated budget is divided among five (5) programmes, as follows:
- Programme 1: Administration R355 252 000
 - Programme 2: Social Welfare Services R269 439 000
 - Programme 3: Children and Families R628 877 000
 - Programme 4: Restorative Services R204 312 000
 - Programme 5: Development and Research R198 719 000

WORDS OF APPRECIATION

I wish to acknowledge the work done by all our officials in the department, in particularly the Head of Department Mr MV Mahlalela and his Senior Management team;

The Chairperson of the Portfolio Committee and the members of the committee;

The Non-profit organisations;

Our Social Sector partners, NDA and SASSA

Let me thank the Honourable Premier, Ms Refilwe Mtshweni-Tsipane for her leadership and support.

My colleagues in the Executive Council.

Ngiyabonga!

NOTES

NOTES

“ABOUT US

The department aims to provide services to the vulnerable groups of society, the poorest of the poor, and the marginalised. These vulnerable groups are identified as children, women, young people, people with disabilities, older persons and people infected and affected by HIV and AIDS. The Department is committed to the transformation of the people of Mpumalanga by reducing poverty, inequalities and promoting social integration.

MPUMALANGA SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT



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