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Taking Information to Limpopo Communities



The Limpopo Office of the Commission for Gender Equality (CGE) held a series of stakeholder engagements focused on gender mainstreaming, outreach advocacy and access to justice programmes across various municipalities. On 22 March, CGE provincial officials visited the Elias Motsoaledi Local Municipality where they conducted a gender mainstreaming and capacity building workshop. The workshop was in engagement with the Municipality Mayoral Management Committee, MMCs, Chairperson of Various Oversight Committees, Support Staff, amongst others.

This was followed by an outreach advocacy and access to justice programme in the same area the following day. The campaign proceeded to Tiyani village in the Collins Chabane Local Municipality on Monday where CGE educated community members on its mandate, child maintenance, and Gender-Based Violence issues.

The Tiyani village Chief expressed his gratitude for the knowledge shared in the session, "It was important that I be a part of this engagement, to get this first hand so I will be able to share information with the community at large," said Chief Nkanyani.

Debunking GBV Myths and Misinformation in the Free State

The CGE Free State office hosted a Gender and Development training workshop session on 23 and 24 March in Bloemfontein to strengthen the capacity of organisations to implement gender responsive programmes aimed at achieving gender equality. The training targeted Human Rights ambassadors within the Mangaung Metro.

The CGE also partnered with the Tholoana-e-Molemo NGO to discuss issues related to sexual orientation, and gender identity and expression (SOGIE). The session included discussions on gender concepts, relevant legislations, and debunking of myths and misinformation around Gender-Based Violence.

"We have observed that there is still a one-dimensional view on who is a perpetrator and who is a victim. Some individuals find it hard to understand that men can also be victims of abuse," said Free State Provincial Manager, Samantha Britz. During one of the activities held with the participants, one of them raised a request for more interactive knowledge engagements to assist in helping communities to better understand the complexities of Gender-Based Violence and access to justice. "It was widely expressed that some women fear reporting abuse cases, afraid of being shunned by their communities or what those around them will say or think," concluded Ms Britz.

Human Rights dialogue with Western Cape Women and Students



CGE in the Western Cape held stakeholder engagements in Moselbay, Nyanga and Phillipi in Cape Town as part of human rights month activities. On 18 March, the Education Officer, Leonard Macakathi, facilitated a Human Rights dialogue focusing on gender inequalities and discrimination. The dialogue was with students from Mosselbay College and Women from the Smart Start organisation in collaboration with the Mosselbay Museum.

On 23 March, CGE Western Cape officials were at Nyanga and Phillipi. These areas record some of the highest rates of murders and Gender-Based Violence. The Provincial Legal Officer, Mamello Matthews, addressed stakeholders about issues that might be a cause effect to domestic violence, violation of human rights based on their Genders and Gender inequalities within marriages and relationships.

Assessing Police Stations in Mpumalanga



CGE Commissioner Lindiwe Ntuli-Tloubatla has paid oversight visits to several police stations and victim care centres in areas of Mpumalanga. This is part of CGE's national programme to monitor the capacity of police stations and care centres to cater for victims of gender-based violence. The CGE has visited other stations in all nine provinces since last year.