

Business-skills workshop a success

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DISTRICT Nine Libraries recently held a business-skills workshop for the community at Motala Heights and Emmaus.

According to Motala Heights librarian Angela Hounsell, the library plays a fundamental role in the community and the growth of unemployment has made it crucial for all citizens to empower themselves.

“Libraries form a platform for information and resource sharing in the community. Community libraries are a link between the community and various stakeholders.

“Small businesses within the community are growing rapidly. The business-skills workshop allowed citizens to share various business ideas and skills.

“Libraries provide a platform for formal and informal communication and the workshop assisted in empowering all Motala Heights and Emmaus citizens who are business-minded. Local businesses were empowered on how to run and sustain their businesses.

“The business support department gave information on how to establish a business.”

She said the workshop’s purpose was to promote local business, to encourage networking among small and big businesses in the ar-

ea, to promote entrepreneurship in the community, to encourage engagement in the community and to provide citizens with a diverse range of opportunities for learning and enrichment.

“The workshop’s aim was also to develop the disadvantaged members in our community such as the youth and the unemployed, to create partnerships with businesses and organisations in the community, to empower small businesses within the municipality and to bring the community together as a social event.”

The day was filled with educational talks from various speakers, namely Nathi Mzila from Small Enterprise Development Agency (Seda), Thulani Ndlovu of eThekweni Municipality Academy, Phumelele Gwacela from eThekweni Municipality Business Support, Mandla Shange from Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP) social sector, Nomthandazo Mdletshe representing supply chain management, Siphesihle Gazu of iThala Bank and Dr Padalkar of Bizfarm.

“Ward 15 councillor Sifiso Ngcobo also attended and supported the event.

“The day ended with motivational talks from two business owners from the community, namely Mali Govender who has a tree-felling business and Tracy Shivaraja who is an Avon consultant.”



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Motala Heights librarian Amitha Hiralall.