

Work Opportunities/EPWP

CENTRAL to our offer to the people of Tshwane is the idea of job creation and the creation of work opportunities, notably through our Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP), launched in December 2017 called *Gata le Nna*.

This programme gives effect to our commitment to the generation of these work opportunities for our people.

The City of Tshwane made significant changes to the EPWP recruitment policy to relieve pressure on staff and councillors, and eliminate patronage and nepotism.

We adopted an open and inclusive recruitment and lottery selection system, giving every qualifying individual equal opportunities at securing employment through the EPWP programme.

To date we have held three lotteries – the latest being in February 2018 -where beneficiaries are randomly chosen giving each applicant a fair chance of being selected.

City of Tshwane departments and regions are implementing projects guided by EPWP methodologies and principles. The City's contribution is in three main sectors: the infrastructure sector; the social sector and then the environmental and cultural sector.

The infrastructure sector will contribute 12 200 work opportunities out of the target of 23 000. The social sector will contribute 10 250 work opportunities out of the target of 23 000. The environmental and cultural sector will



EPWP registration held at the City of Tshwane.

contribute 550 work opportunities out of the target of 23 000.

As the Executive Mayor my office will have its own dedicated programme using 200 EPWP beneficiaries for rapid service delivery response and support in the city.

This programme will hence-

forth be known as **Thusa le Rona**.

When we opened up the recruitment process, more than 120 000 job seekers registered on the database.

Should operators in the private sector want to draw beneficiaries from this database, the City will

be more than willing to assist in that regard.

Some of the main projects that beneficiaries are working on include the replacement of the water network project in Garsfontein, a project by PRASA to restore railway lines in Tshwane,

re-gravelling and maintenance operations of roads in Bronkhorstspuit along with participants who are working as administrators and data capturers in various City of Tshwane clinics and many other projects.

“...significant changes to the EPWP recruitment policy to relieve pressure on staff and councillors, and eliminate patronage and nepotism...”

Chartered Accountants Training programme

The City of Tshwane embarked on a programme to train Chartered Accountants through the South African Institute of Chartered Accountants programme. This is a 3 year learnership programme that allows trainees to qualify as finance professionals. The first batch of nine learners commenced in November 2017.

Tshwane is the first municipality to implement such a programme.

The Chartered Accountants Training Programme is expected to enrol around 10 trainees per year from previously disadvantaged communities, thus assisting to advance the BEE objectives of the City while at the same time addressing unemployment amongst the youth.

The programme will create a pool of finance professionals

within the City. The spin off for the municipality is that it will have access to critical skills from an internal source and reduce reliance on consultants.

The programme is expected to positively contribute towards improvement of governance within the City and across the public sector as a whole.

Free transport for job seekers in the capital city

At the beginning of Transport Month in October 2017, the department of Roads and Transport initiated a youth pilot project to assist job seekers with free transport in Bronkhorstspuit Region 7. This project is the first of its kind in the country.

The then Chilwavirusiku Mine was about to start operation in Bronkhorstspuit, and the mine was looking for just over 100 employees during its first phase.

Substance Abuse

A consequence of joblessness is the proliferation of drugs and drug abuse which can ultimately lead to other forms of crime. In order to combat the scourge of drugs the city adopted an integrated and holistic approach which provides comprehensive and lasting solutions.

We are deeply concerned about the scourge of drugs on our communities, particularly our youth.

The continued use of drugs has left many people unproductive, pushing them further into poverty, or driving them deeper into drug-related crime and other illicit activity.

This often includes theft which targets city infrastructure and leaves it damaged, which has devastating consequences for our ability to provide reliable services to our people.

Realising a need for a specialised drug operations team, we immediately established the TMPD Anti-Drug Unit with the sole purpose of fighting and eliminating drug abuse in the communities of Tshwane.

Members of the unit were given additional training and equipment to take this battle to the next level, and we are happy to say that across the City, drug lords and peddlers are now feeling the heat.

However, the war on drugs will not be won by law enforcement alone, but has to include social interventions to prevent drug abuse while providing a safe haven for those who suffer the consequences of drugs and substance abuse.

The City's Health Department is currently funding the Department of Home Medicine at the University of Pretoria, who developed the evidence-based Community Oriented Substance Use Programme (COSUP).

To date, over 2000 people were enrolled on the COSUP programme and more than 12 000 follow-up visits were conducted for intensive interventions.

This excludes people reached through awareness and education campaigns. It is estimated that we have reached more than 40 000 people through outreach and education.

As we speak, COSUP is also providing skills training to 92 rehabilitating substance users.

This programme not only assists addicts to overcome their addiction, but also helps them to face the social and psychological challenges that contributed to their addiction.

Every day, our 24-hour call centre, Hope Line, takes calls and refers callers for assistance, and at the same time provides a basic transport service, accommodation, food and blankets in case of emergencies. Callers in need of support are also contacted and served by social workers who follow up on calls and ensure that the needs of callers are properly dealt with.

HOPELINE is one of the five response interventions to fight the scourge of drug and substance abuse and we are pleased to announce that since the launch of the HOPELINE, the City of Tshwane has registered an increase in the number of calls and has dealt with all the pleas for help by those affected by drugs and drug abuse.

From its launch in August 2018



The City has signed 23 service level agreements with NPOs dealing with drugs and substance abuse.

until March 25 2018, the City of Tshwane has registered 422 calls from residents looking for help with respect to locating the nearest drug rehabilitation centres. In July 2017, we signed 23 service level agreements with NPOs dealing with drugs and substance abuse.

Our preoccupation is to fight the drug problem while creating the opportunities for employment and productivity across the City.

In July 2017, we also signed 23 service level agreements with NPOs dealing with drugs and substance abuse. We are committed



to fighting drug and substance abuse problems to reverse the devastating impact it has on our communities.

We will continue to fight the scourge of drugs while creating opportunities for employment and productivity across the City, so

that those wishing to break the chains of addiction may too live a better life.

THE CONTACT NUMBER FOR HOPELINE IS 012 358 5001



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