

## TOKAI

# All-women firefighting crew graduates

**T**he first all-women firefighting crew, made up of 19 Chrysalis Academy graduates, was stationed at the Chrysalis Academy from Monday 25 November.

The trained crew is the result of the academy's collaboration with the NCC Environmental Services. They, together with 187 young women, who hail from every corner of the province, graduated from Chrysalis Academy on Saturday 23 November.

The majority of youth were unemployed when they joined the academy in August. They have all started one-year internships on Monday 25 November, through the de-

partment of community safety's Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP).

"From all the reports received on past placements, the majority of Chrysalis Academy graduates are doing well in their placements, and we have no doubt that the new graduates will do the same. We wish them every success," says provincial minister of social development Sharna Fernandez.

Some students were placed at Portia Primary School while others started internships at municipalities, city improvement districts, community health centres, hospitals, the National Prosecuting Authority (NPA) and the academy.

"We are pleased that all students will be productively engaged for the next 12 months.

"We are grateful to all the partners of the academy for these opportunities and we encourage them to continue to support our graduates," says Fernandez.

The course included a rigorous physical fitness programme, as well as community service in Ocean View and at the academy. The students also participated in a walk against gender-based violence as part of their community phase.



206 young women, who hail from every corner of the province, graduated from Chrysalis Academy on 23 November.