

Youth celebrates completion EPWP

Lazarus Dithagiso

SASOLBURG, - At least seventy youths from Orangeville benefited after completing a nine-month Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP).

This is thanks to the initiative of the Free State Department of Public Works and Infrastructure in conjunction with Metsimaholo Local Municipality.

The youth were awarded certificates by the Executive Mayor of Metsimaholo Municipality, Lindiwe Tshongwe, CTC College Principal, Mpho Madzibadela and Senior Vice president of Sasol's Sasolburg Operations, Rightwell Laxa.

The function was hosted at Boiketlong Sports Centre on December 4.

The unemployed participants, between the ages of 18 and 35, took part Metsimaholo Youth Development Programme which forms part of Government's Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP).

The programme entailed a skills training

and development intervention that provided life skills training, work experience and mentoring.

“For the past 69-year history, we have achieved the regional industrial, growth and socio-economic development. The socio-economic interventions are driving force to changes in the youth also to prepare them for the future economical sustainability,” said Laxa. “We trust that the programme will contribute to the development of the youth.” Councillor Tshongwe acknowledged the hard work by the youth to complete the course. “The government gives youth such opportunity to change their lives. We are aware that others join the programme without experience.

“Today they are smiling all the way to receive certificates. At least the knowledge aquired will make you be able to fast track your life for the better,” said Tshongwe. “Its about time you work together and see how best you can serve the community.”



The officials during the award-giving ceremony for the EPWP Youth Development programme at the Boiketlong Sports Centre, are from left to right: Masego Tshabalala (Chief Director at Department of Public Works), Zimbini Zwane (Corporate Affairs), Mpho Madzibadela (CTC College Principal and CEO), Executive Mayor Lindiwe Tshogwe and Rightwell Laxa (Senior Vice President at Sasol of Sasolburg Operations). Photos: Lazarus Dithagiso