

#### **EPWP Bi-Weekly Bulletin**

# FREE STATE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND INFRASTRUCTURE HOST EPWP WORKSHOP FOR MUNICIPAL COUNCILLORS

**Article & pictures by Karen Mthombeni** 



The role of local government is vital in the successful implementation of the Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP). This message came out clearly during a recent municipal councillors' EPWP workshop that was held in Bloemfontein in the Free State.

The two-day workshop was hosted by the South African Local Government Association (SALGA) together with the Free State

Department of Public Works & Infrastructure (FSDPW&I) and was aimed at providing the councillors with information about the EPWP Phase 4 as well as getting a political buy-in and support for the Programme.

Some of the key topics that were presented and discussed included the overview of EPWP Phase IV and its 5 year targets, EPWP policy, Audits, Recruitment Guidelines, Technical Support to Municipalities and the role of Non-Profit Organizations within the EPWP.

Councillor Augustine Matebello Ratsiu of Manganung Metropolitan Municipality shared an overwhelming testimonial of how the EPWP assisted 27 young men who lived in the streets of Bloemfontein with work opportunities and that today those youths are earning a monthly wage and are no longer living on the streets.

The EPWP Chief Director in FSDPWI, Ms Masego Tshabalala, delivered a presentation on the performance of EPWP on previous phases and how it is currently performing.

Municipal councilors who attended the event came from all five districts in the Free State.

## **Upcoming events**

**GENDER-BASED** 

**VIOLENCE** 

The Department of Public Works and Infrastructure will on 10 October 2019 participate in a Learnership, Education and Technology Skills Career Day Exhibition in Eastern Cape.

The Department of Public Works and Infrastructure will on 11 October 2019 host a National Youth Service (NYS) graduation ceremony in Bloemfontein in the Free State.

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### **EPWP START AND IMPROVE YOUR BUSINESS TRAINING**

**Article and Pictures by Ofentse Letswalo** 



The Department of Public Works and Infrastructure (DPWI) recently hosted a four (4) days Start an Improve Your Business (SIYB) training for Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP) participants in Pretoria. The training was spearheaded by the Department's EPWP Enterprise Development Unit and its aim is to unlock and encourage entrepreneurial spirit and aspiration among EPWP participants.

The 17 participants who attended the training came from five cooperatives that are supported by EPWP. These EPWP supported cooperative are all providing cleaning services at some of the facilities that are owned by the Passenger Rail Agency of South

Africa (Prasa) in Pretoria; Soshanguve; Saulsville; Mamelodi East; Winterveldt and Akasia.

#### Participants' testimonials

The participants expressed gratitude to DPWI for the SIYB

Ms Linda Mokone from Tirisano said the SIYB training has been important because it has given her new ideas on how to grow her small business. On the other hand, Ms Mokgadi Leshabane from Pfaranan said the training has given her vital skills in marketing strategies, stock control and business strategic planning.