

# THE BULLETIN

Official external publication of the Department Social Development – January- March 2025



NPOs RECEIVE FINANCIAL BOOST

DEPARTMENT REMAINS COMMITTED TO SERVICE DELIVERY

COOPERATIVES GET ASSISTANCE FROM DEPARTMENT

SASSA GOLD CARDS CONTINUE WORKING







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ear readers, we welcome you to the last edition of The Bulletin publication for 2024/25 financial vear.

The Bulletin as you know, is one of the most important non-vocal, verbal communication tool that we use to keep track of the services that we render as a department. It is also a means through which we assess the impact that we make as we touch the lives of ordinary citizens and the general recipients of our social services.

We hope to sustain the production of this publication going forward so that our readers are timeously informed of our services and more importantly about the departmental and provincial plans of service delivery in the 7th Administration. In July 2023, North West provincial government launched a groundbreaking service delivery programme Thuntsha lerole at Ipelegeng in Mamusa local municipality. The Thuntsha Lerole programme is aligned with the District Development Model which is designed to address problems with service delivery by allowing all spheres of government, from local municipalities to national government, to work together in a more effective and coordinated way.

For some time now, communities across the breath and length of the province are conversant with Thuntsha lerole drive which has been doing the rounds in all the municipalities.

government departments are participating in Thuntsha lerole by rendering services at the door-step of the residents.

Since its launch, Thuntsha lerole has attracted the attention of many people including political analysts commend it for averting rampant service delivery protests in the province. Barely a month after it was launched, the Deputy President Paul Mashatile had this to say about it: "The accelerated service delivery, like the Thuntsha Lerole Programme of this province, is not a luxury; it is a necessity. It is a human right, as enshrined in our Constitution. It is the key to unlocking the full potential of our communities and ensuring a brighter future for generations to come."

Bringing accelerated service delivery closer to home, MEC for Social Development Basetsana Rebecca Sussana Dantjie introduced a flagship programme called 'Re thuse re go thuse to unlock service delivery challenges in the NPO sector, intervene in the plight of individuals and households facing hunger and undue hardships and engage communities on gender based violence and other related issues.

Re thuse re go thuse programme underscores MEC Dantjie commitment to fostering a robust and effective NPO sector that is capable of delivering essential services to communities across the province in partnership with the National Lottery Commission, the South African Revenue Services, the Provincial Treasury, the National Development Agency and national Department of Social Development and our sister departments.

are on course to deliver indispensable social services to the communities across the province.

Have a nice read

**Petrus Siko Editor-in-Chief** 

### FROM MEC'S DESK



am pleased to meet with you once again over The Bulletin publication. This is the vehicle through which we communicate the departmental programmes and services to the general public. As we get to grips in our various portfolios in the 7<sup>th</sup> Administration, we do so subject to the adoption of the five year Medium-Term Development Plan. This is a critical period which requires us to put all our ducks in a row to achieve strategic priorities such as inclusive growth and job creation, reduction of poverty and tackling the high cost of living, building a capable, ethical and developmental state.

Dear readers, we are living in a country with a legacy of apartheid and social pathologies and economic inequalities. In pursuit of addressing these challenges, civil society organisations are better placed to render indispensable services to our people particularly in far flung and marginalised areas in our province.

While we acknowledge the role of civil society organisations in changing the lives of our people, we must also admit that these organisations grapple with compliance to legislation that governs the NPOs. Many of them are not non-compliant. Others face possible deregistration and they will not forfeit any financial resources from the funders.

Recently, the national Department of Social Development indicated that a total of 203 279 organisations comprising of non-profit organisations, voluntary associations and trusts across South Africa face the risk of deregistration for failure to comply with the requirements to submit annual reports as per the provisions of section 18 (1) of the Non-Profit Organisations Act (Act No. 71 of 1997, as amended through the General Laws Amendment Act 22 of 2022).

To date, the Department has issued 41 787 notices of non-compliance to NPOs. Of this number, a total of 6 221 NPOs have been deregistered for failure to honour their obligations in terms of the NPO Act. The consequences for non-compliant NPOs are severe as they will no longer be able to access certain privileges such as tax exemption, letters of support and funding from government, donors and private institutions that uphold accountability and the rule of law.

The majority of these non-compliant organisations are based in Gauteng, with 64 221, followed by KwaZulu-Natal (36 605), Western Cape (20 371), Limpopo (19 982), Eastern Cape(19 202), Mpumalanga (15 102), North West (12 363), Free State (10 661) and Northern Cape (4 770). These organisations provide a wide range of services to children, youth, persons with disabilities, older persons and humanitarian relief.

While the Department acknowledges the significant contribution of NPOs in providing the much-needed services to the vulnerable, deregistration of non-compliant NPOs is a regulatory requirement aimed at fostering accountability and transparency within the NPO sector.

To mitigate this challenge, we have introduced MEC's flagship programme called 'Re thuse re go thuse NPO Support programme to assist all the NPOs that fall within the social sector. Re thuse re go thuse programme underscores our commitment to fostering a robust and effective NPO sector that is capable of delivering essential services to communities across the province in partnership with the National Lottery Commission, the South African Revenue Services, the Provincial Treasury, the National Development Agency and national Department of Social Development and our sister departments.

Have a nice read!

Ms Basetsana Rebecca Sussana Dantjie MEC for Social Development

#### **ON THE COVER**

Re thuse, re go thuse in full swing: Pictured here – MEC Dantjie assists one of the beneficiaries at Myra to ferry social relief of distress food hampers to her house.

# NPOs RECEIVE MASSIVE FINANCIAL BOOST FROM DSD

#### **By James Moche**

- The North West Social Development MEC, Basetsana Dantjie, called upon community members to apply for new South Africa Social Security Agency grants card as early as possible
- Tlhokomelang service club, (TSC) which caters for the general welfare of elderly people, were recipients of a cheque of more than R100 000. The donations were part of the North West provincial government's Thuntsha Lerole accelerated service delivery programme.

two registered non-profit making organisations which provide critical services to vulnerable groups, are recipients of two cheque donations worth thousands of rands from MEC for social development Basetsana Dantjie, on behalf of her department.

Good Morning After Care (GMAC), which provides services aimed at improving the social, physical, mental, emotional and cognitive development of schoolgoing children, received a cheque of about R500 000.

Tlhokomelang service club, (TSC) which caters for the general welfare of elderly people, were recipients of a cheque of more than R100 000. The funding were part of the North West provincial government's Thuntsha Lerole accelerated service delivery programme, which was held in Klipgat in the Madibeng local municipality.

Supervisor and founder of the Klipgat-based GMAC Nonokai Muzivi says her organisation feel blessed to have received the funding because they are a new NPO. She says the money came at the right time because they did not have enough resources to fully

implement their programmes.

"Our aim is to take more children away from the streets to minimise their exposure to social ills and create employment for local adults," says Muzivi.

TSC Administrator Betty Maphasa said the funding has made her overwhelmed with joy. She says her organisation is doing a lot of things for older persons which need money.

"We will consider connecting water and building a structure from where we will work," concluded Maphasa.

Addressing the same Thuntsha Lerole accelerated service delivery programme meeting at which the two NPO's were given cheques, MEC called upon community members to apply for new South Africa Social Security Agency grants card as early as possible.

Responding to a resident who raised a concern that organisations are not being supported by government, Dantjie committed the department to looking into the issue in the 2025/ 2026 financial year.

# THE DEPARTMENT REMAINS DETERMINED TO PROVIDE EFFICIENT SERVICES TO COMMUNITIES

#### By Petrus Siko

- Through Social relief of distress and food security programme, more than ten thousands eight hundred (10 800) families benefited from the departmental's SRD programme
- Victim support services remain a priority to the department. Therefore, the department has established three fully functioning shelters for victims of gender based violence (GBV) in Vryburg, Mahikeng and Rustenburg.
- In the current financial year, we dare not to leave no one behind as we deliver integrated social services in our communities across the province. We have introduced MEC's flagship programme called 'Re thuse Re go Thuse'

he Department of Social Development will this financial year intensify the fight against substance abuse by funding community-based organisations that provide a range of services to service users.

We are mitigating the impact of substance abuse by providing psychosocial support, treatment, rehabilitation services at the JB Marks Treatment Centre while the Taung Treatment Centre provides outpatient, community-based and after care programmes and interventions in collaboration with Department of Health. The in-patient treatment section will be operational this year.

Through Social Relief of Distress and food security programme, more than (10 800) families benefited from the departmental's SRD programme by receiving food parcels, while other six thousand seven hundred (6700) received dignity packs. This include, needy families, child-headed households, people with

disabilities, the homeless as well as people affected by disasters.

Victim support services remain a priority to the department. Therefore, the department has established three fully functioning shelters for victims of gender based violence (GBV) in Vryburg, Mahikeng and Rustenburg. Another shelter will be opened in Potchefstroom this year, this is the effort of the department to fight against the scourge of gender based violence.

Through child care and family care services we provide alternative and residential care services to children who are declared to be in need of care and protection. We have lived up to this statutory requirement by placing 26 undocumented children who resurfaced at Stilfontein Illegal mines in Matlosana.

The efforts are made to ensure that these children are repatriated and reunified with their families in the countries of origin.

In the current financial year, we dare not to leave no one behind as we deliver integrated social services in our communities across the province. We have introduced MEC's flagship programme called 'Re thuse Re go Thuse' with the aim of taking Social Development Services to communities at a brisker pace.

Through Re thuse Re go Thuse programme we will continue to do household and community profiling to determine the needs of our people and intervene in their plight.

# LEARNERS RECEIVED FREE SANITARY TOWELS FROM THE DEPARTMENT

#### By Petrus Siko

- Lack of sanitary products negatively impacts girls' hygiene, health, and educational participation, highlighting the need for continued support to learners from needy households.
- The sanitary towels drive is an outreach initiative that aims to enable learners to access basic necessities so that they can continue with their studies without having to miss classes.
- Learners from disadvantaged backgrounds have received free sanitary towels from the Department of Social Development for a number of years.

earners at two schools in Khuma in the North West received donations of sanitary towels during the second leg of the Thuntsha Lerole Reloaded accelerated service delivery programme.

The programme saw the MEC for Social Development, Basetsana Sussana Dantjie visit

Tumisang Primary School and Dirang ka Natla High School in the City of Matlosana Municipality.

During her visit, Dantjie emphasised that the lack of sanitary products negatively impacts girls' hygiene, health, and educational participation,

highlighting the need for continued support to learners from needy households. sanitary towels will be distributed to disadvantaged learners in rural schools across the province.

The sanitary towels drive, Dantjie said, is an outreach initiative that aims to enable learners to access basic necessities so that they can continue with their studies without having to miss classes.



"The importance of sanitary towels cannot be over-emphasised." the MEC said.

"Girls need them. It is for this reason that we are offering sanitary towels for free to them. It is our way of contributing to their education as this gesture will enable them to attend school during their menstrual cycle," Dantjie told residents at Dirang ka Natla High School.

The school visits formed part of the Thuntsha Lerole Reloaded initiative, aimed at improving basic services and community engagement across the province.

As part of Dantjie's departmental annual performance plan for 2024/25, a total of 6 625

Learners from disadvantaged backgrounds have received free sanitary towels from the Department of Social Development for a number of years.

Expressing her profound thanks to the authorities during the short handover ceremony, the deputy principal at Dirang ka Natla High School, Mampho Ramohapi, said: "We are so happy for this positive gesture. It is a great relief to us as teachers because we used to buy some sanitary towels for learners. We wish the department could bring more sanitary towels to our school."

# WE STARTED A LAUNDRY SERVICE IN OUR VILLAGE AFTER QUALIFYING AND NOT GETTING JOBS

- The department is advancing to rebrand itself, together with the agencies, to migrate from a hand to mouth approach linked to food parcels towards a welfare approach which engages communities to present what they already have, and how government programmes assist them to produce more sustainable livelihoods.
- The NDA is a national poverty eradication agency of government that seeks to support, financially and non-financially, youth and vulnerable groups that have operational community enterprises that demonstrate the ability to create additional jobs, contribute towards skills development and sustainable livelihoods.

okone Bophirima MEC of Social Development, Ms Basetsana Sussana Dantjie, handed over a cheque to the enterprise as part of launching the department flagship programme Re thuse, re go thuse previously dubbed Taking DSD to Communities alongside the department agencies, NDA and the South African Social Security Agency (SASSA). Loosely translated it means help each other.

The department is advancing to rebrand itself, together with the agencies, to migrate from a hand to mouth approach linked to food parcels towards a welfare approach which engages communities to present what they already have, and how

government programmes assist them to produce more sustainable livelihoods. The graduates at MaRocks approached NDA for assistance to expand on an existing operation. I hope these graduates here, inspire other young people to follow suit says the MEC.

While statistics show a slight reduction in unemployment within the province, she says the department still has a long way to go. Unemployment can be challenged by youth, and other vulnerable groups, taking up opportunities offered by government, including learnerships. Poverty speaks directly to the mandate of this department, this programme will allow for two-way engagements with communities, programmes formulation and the measurement of the impact thereof. "We are now a fully-fledged, competent and competitive laundromat since acquiring the machinery and equipment from the NDA funding. Even during loadshedding, we can offer our services because as we have a back-up generator, the consistency of water supply through the tanks also makes business continuity a breeze for us. Our production capacity has doubled, and we are making a profit whilst still maintaining income for the four members. Two additional people have been trained to assist when we have many big orders. We now offer a local delivery service which has allowed a job opportunity for another person, says Tsholofelo Moeng, one of the managing members who completed her studies in Economic Management and Analysis from



Tshwane University of Technology and a post-graduate certificate in Teaching from North-West University.

Katlego Thateng, a local delivery service provider, has partnered with MaRocks Laundry Services to offer delivery services to their customers a good partnership as it allows both our enterprises to grow soon I will also be able to purchase another delivery scooter and employ another person if the business continues to grow, he says.

The NDA is a national poverty eradication agency of government that seeks to support, financially and nonfinancially, youth and vulnerable groups that have operational community enterprises that demonstrate the ability to create additional jobs, contribute towards skills development and sustainable livelihoods. Our intention is to identify these community enterprises and capacitate them before providing funding to advance their enterprises. We do not do this in isolation, we rely on other partners including municipalities to come on board, however for every grant recipient that we are able to take off the system towards a more economically viable livelihood, we start to win the fight against poverty eradication. We are excited to continue working with these graduates and grow their value chain prospects, says Mr Thabani Buthelezi, the NDAs Acting Chief **Executive Officer** 

#### **DEPARTMENT ASSIST WOMEN**

#### **COOPERATIVES**

- Department of Social Development is doing a great job in assisting women cooperatives as now we are able to put food on the table and take care of our families.
- Women empowerment is very crucial to women as it helps them to fend for themselves and it can also save them from becoming victims of gender based violence.

Ngaka Modiri Molema By: Keolebogile Gwabeni

enalemang Motswadira from Deelpan started her business with the hope that it will assist her in taking care of her family as she is unemployed. She started her chicken business with chicks that she grew in order to sell them and make a

living.



When Deelpan was hit by floods, Motswadira lost her 400 chickens and she became defeated. Hope was not lost as she started her business from scratch and was able to grow 100 chickens. Social

Development then came to her rescue when they bought chicken feedings

and medicine for her business. From the profit she made after receiving assistance from social development, she managed to grow her chickens from 100 to 200.

"Unemployment is high in Deelpan and it became worse after we were affected by floods. I am happy that the department came to my aid and now I am able to pay school fees, my debt and society on time" expressed Motswadira.

I would like for my business to grow so that I can employ people because now I am doing everything on my own, from feeding the chickens to cleaning their compound. Department of Social Development is doing a great job in assisting women cooperatives as now we are able to put food on the table and take care of our families. I want to urge women to not sit at home and do nothing. They must start their businesses so that when government comes, they find their business already functioning.

"The department gave me hope that my dreams will come true and that my business will grow. But, in order for your business to grow you must love what you do. I love my chickens to the point that when I eat, I ask myself if my chickens have eaten" concluded Motswadira.

#### Bojanala

By: Lerato Digoamaje and Sophy Ntsimane

rom being retrenched during Covid-19 to starting a business is a true definition of "Mosadi o tshwara thipa ka fa bogaleng".

Thato Makgwane from Brtis started her home restaurant and catering business "Thatolicious" in June 2020 after being retrenched. She decided to start her business by doing something that she loves, which is food. I was struggling a bit because I did not have equipments that could help me grow and run my business smoothly.

"Department of Social Development helped me a lot when they donated chafing dishes, pots and stove to my business, now my business is running smooth and I have now employed people but on a temporary bases. I am very grateful for their help and have hope that my business will grow so that I can be able to employ people on a full time basis" said Makgwane.

I have now started manufacturing sauces like hot and extra hot sauces and lemon. I am now on the process of making sweet chilli sauce as I want it to be different from those that are already on the market. I have gained clients because I advertise my business on social media like Facebook and Instagram .Thatolicious is going places and I see it succeeding as I have envisioned it. I want it to become a household name and sell to chain supermarkets.

"The department should continue supporting women because women empowerment is very important to us women as it helps us to fend for ourselves and it can also save us from depending on men and becoming victims of gender based violence. Once you have financial freedom and independence, you are able to think clearly and blossom" expressed Makgwabe.

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#### **DEPARTMENT ASSIST WOMEN**

### COOPERATIVES... Continue from page 8

- It is important because when government comes to assist you, they find that you already have something that is functioning.
- The department came to my rescue and I am very pleased that I was one of their beneficiaries.

#### Bojanala

#### By: Lerato Digoamaje and Sophy Ntsimane

osing work can cause a lot of stress for everyone and it was no different for Bonolo Mogakabe from Ledig in Moses Kotane.

She started her business during lockdown after being retrenched from work. Just like anyone who lose work, stress was the order of the day for her. She then decided to sell food so that she can be able to put food on the table. After seeing that her business was becoming a success, she decided to venture into catering. Living close to mines, hospitals, schools and Bakubung Lodge has helped Mogakabe to grow her business.

Department of social development assisted her with appliances like a big toaster that can toast four slices of bread for sandwiches, double deep fryer for chips, hot water boiler (urn) and a fridge. This has helped Mogakabe's business to grow and run smoothly.

"The business is growing as I sell for mines, hospital and schools that are around me and I am also offering catering services to them. I want to have a lawn in front of my house and set up tables and chairs so that tourists and community members can come chill and enjoy our meals." explained Mogakabe.

Her plan is to expand the business by selling kotas, traditional food, having a pizza hut and opening a car wash in order to attract more tourists who make reservations at Bakubung lodge and other lodges around her. She has currently employed 6 employees but only 3 are permanently employed, which is something that Mogakabe would like to change.

"I am so excited and ready to expand my business as these appliances will help me a lot as we open at 6 in the morning to cater breakfast for mines and hospital staff when they go to work. I am very grateful to the department as they have given me hope that one day my dreams of operating a tourist attraction facility will come true" said Mogakabe.

I also want to encourage women to stand up and start their business. When they have an idea, they must run with it. I know that it is not easy to start something when you have nothing but one should believe in themselves and that one day they will also get help. It is important because when government comes to assist you, they find that you already have something that is functioning.

### Dr Ruth Segomotsi Mompati By: William Sejeso

nemployment can cause a lot of stress but as a women you cannot just sit down and do nothing when you have children to feed and, that is what encouraged Kgomotso Gomolemo to start her business.



Gomolemo from Huhudi in Vryburg started her fat cakes business in 2012 with a small pot and one bucket. Her business was stagnant until she received help from Department of Social Development in 2020. They assisted her with appliances that can help grow her business and not only focus on selling fat cakes.

Gomolemo received 3 deep fryers, fridge, big enamel dishes/bowls, cooler box, gazebo, braai stand, microwave, popcorn machine, table and a big rubbish bin.

"The department came to my rescue and I am very pleased that I was one of their beneficiaries. I did not have a plan of how I was going to grow my business but the equipment that they gave me will help me to expand and think out of the box. I wish that they can also help other women so that they can be able to take care of themselves and their children" explained Gomolemo.

My business is growing and now I can sell cold drinks, ice, braai meat and popcorns. My clients are able to sit and eat under the gazebo and have their meals warm as now I have a microwave. My place is now clean as my customers use the rubbish bin I received to throw waste. This really shows that "Mokodue go tsosiwa o o itsosang".

## ALL FRAUDULENT COVID-19 SRD GRANT – R370 AUTOMATICALLY CANCELLED.

- SASSA implemented this activity to ensure that the Agency pays social grant to the right people and avoid fraud.
- When the beneficiaries check their status and find out that it states "referred" it means that the SASSA system
  is suspecting fraudulent activity therefore the beneficiary must contact SASSA immediately to resolve the
  case.

outh African Social Security Agency would like to inform all Covid-19 SRD grant beneficiaries that the Agency is mandated to cancel the fraudulent grant payments. After the grant has been canceled the beneficiary is allowed to reapply. SASSSA implemented this activity to ensure that the Agency pays social grant to the right people and avoid fraud.

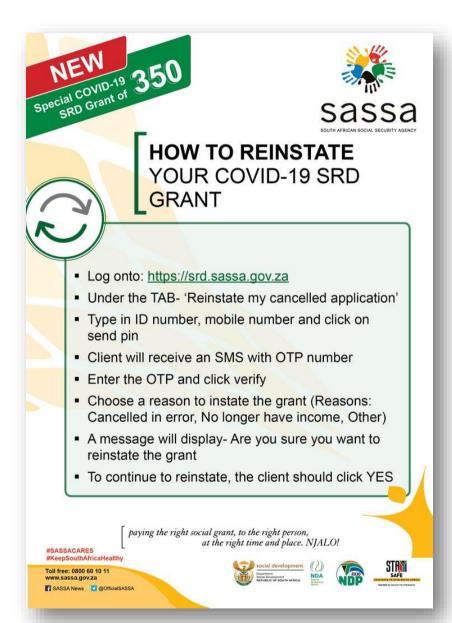
The Agency is encouraging people to take responsibility to make sure that their Identity numbers are not utilised for fraudulent activities. SASSA beneficiaries must ensure that they do not share their identity numbers with strangers to avoid becoming aiding fraudsters.

SASSA has well trained officials who are assigned to deal with Covid-19 SRD grant cases. If the beneficiary or applicant is suspecting fraudulent activity, he or she must not hesitate to contact SASSA toll free line or WhatsApp.

When the beneficiaries check their status and find out that it states "referred" it means that the SASSA system is suspecting fraudulent activity therefore the beneficiary must contact SASSA immediately to resolve the case.

Beneficiaries are warned not to keep on changing their banking details and contact numbers because those processes delay the payment processes.

For more information contact toll free during working days/hours 0800 60 10 11/ [013] 754 – 9428/9363 during working hours Monday – Friday, and WhatsApp 082 046 8553.



### SASSA Gold Cards to continue working **beyond 31 May 2025**

By SAnews.gov.za



reat news for millions of South African grant beneficiaries is that SASSA Gold Cards will remain operational beyond 31 May 2025, ensuring uninterrupted access to social grants.

The announcement, comes as a relief for beneficiaries who have not yet migrated to the new Postbank Black Cards, putting an end to any uncertainty about payment disruptions.

In a statement. Postbank reassured users that Gold Cards will continue to function across all payment platforms, including ATMs, retail stores, and POS devices. This means beneficiaries can still withdraw cash, make purchases, and access their funds as usual - no immediate switch is required. "We remain committed to ensuring no beneficiary is left without access to their grants," said Postbank CEO Nikki Mbengashe.

"In keeping with our commitment that we made that Postbank will ensure that no beneficiary will be left with no access to their grants and that there will be no disruptions in payments of grants, Gold Cards will continue to work until every beneficiary transitioned to the new black card.

"We are therefore hopeful and confident that this announcement addresses any concern relating to the payments of any beneficiaries that may not have yet obtained their Black Cards," Mbengashe, explained.

The CEO advised social grant beneficiaries to ignore any call that they must change banks, as

this is unnecessary. "We plead with them to be wary of misleading information that their Gold Cards will not work and

that they need to change banks this," because of she said.

Beneficiaries are also asked to always only respond to Postbank published

communication when it comes to their SASSA Gold Cards and the Black Cards, as the only authorised entity that is responsible for the issuing of these cards.

Beneficiaries are further advised that whenever they come across any information regarding their cards that has not been communicated by Postbank, they should not believe what is being said.

Postbank said this will prevent beneficiaries from being misled as the entity observes increased amounts of incorrect information communicated about the SASSA cards recently.

"As the Gold Cards will continue to work and all beneficiaries can continue to use those cards and their Black Cards to access payments, Postbank notifies the beneficiaries that it has put a temporary suspension of the distribution of new Black Cards in its sites until further notice. "This, however, has no impact on anyone who currently has a Postbank Black Card, as that card will continue to work as per normal," the entity said.

The Postbank card distribution sites, however, will remain open and available to beneficiaries to access the following services: •PIN

- · Reissuing of Black Cards for any beneficiary that has experienced a lost/stolen card incident.
- Beneficiaries seeking to register for the cardless payment alternative







# You have not changed your **Gold SASSA Card yet?**

- Worry not because your Gold SASSA card will continue to transact until further notice.
- Please note that the issuing of black cards is temporarily placed on hold and card replacement sites are no longer operational.















paying the right social grant, to the right person, at the right time and place. NJALO!

**#SASSACARES** 

Toll free: 0800 60 10 11 Website: www.sassa.gov.za

Online Applications Grants: services.sassa.gov.za Online Applications COVID-19 SRD: srd.sassa.gov.za

Email: GrantEnquiries@sassa.gov.za

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# THE NDP SETS OUT A VISION FOR SOUTH AFRICA FOR 2030. IT AIMS TO ELIMINATE POVERTY, AND REDUCE UNEMPLOYMENT AND INEQUALITY BY 2030





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