Vuk'uzenzole

Produced by: Government Communication & Information System (GCIS)



Vangasali campaign strengthens early childhood development

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Sanitary towels bring dignity to young women

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SA moves to Alert Level 1

SOUTH AFRICANS are celebrating the country's move to Coronavirus (COVID-19) Alert Level 1, which came into effect at midnight on 20 September.



Allison Cooper

resident Cyril
Ramaphosa recently
announced the good
news to the nation, explaining that the number of positive COVID-19 cases has
dropped from an average
of 12 000 cases a day, two
months ago, to less than 2
000 new cases a day.

Since the national state of disaster was declared six months ago, over 15 000 South Africans have lost their lives and over 650 000 have been infected with the virus.

"We now have a recovery rate of 89 percent... There has been a gradual, but steady, decline in new infections, hospitalisations and deaths. Demand for hospital beds, ventilators, oxygen and other essential medical requirements has also reduced steadily.

"We have succeeded in overcoming the worst phase of this epidemic, while protecting the capacity of our health system," the President confirmed.

He applauded South Africans for this achievement and for the thousands of lives that have been saved through their collective actions. "This achievement has also been recognised by the World Health Organisation," he said.

A deadly epidemic

While the country has made great progress, people are still getting infected with the virus and some are losing their lives.

"By any measure, we are still in the midst of a deadly epidemic. Our greatest challenge now – and our most important task – is to ensure that we do not experience a new surge in infections," the President said.

He explained that several countries around the world, that had passed the peak of the virus and thought they had brought it under control, have been hit by a 'second wave' of infections. "In many cases, the

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EZIVELA EZINDLINI **ZOMBUSO**



Abezindaba baseNingizimu Afrika bayinsika yentando yeningi labantu

mazweni amaningi emhlabeni jikelele, ubhubhane lwegciwane le-corona lunciphise inkululeko yomphakathi lwaphinde lwalinga ubumbano lomphakathi.

Kodwa amazwe anezikhungo eziqinile, izinhlelo zobulungiswa eziqaphile kanye nabezindaba abanamandla akwazile ukugwema ukuthi amalungelo abantu abukelwe phansi nokuhlukunyezwa kweziphathimandla zombuso.

Sekube yizinyanga eziyisithupha selokhu kwamenyezelwa isimo senhlekelele kazwelonke. Ngaphezu kwesimo esingakaze sibonwe sesifo kanye nezingqinamba zokubeka izwe elinabantu abayizigidi ezingama-58 ngaphansi kokuvalwa kwezwe, senze kahle kakhulu. Sikwazile ukunqanda ukubhebhetheka kwegciwane ikakhulukazi ngenxa yokusebenza ngokubambisana nokuqaphela kwazo zonke izakhamuzi.

Lokhu akuyona into encane ngenxa yokusebenza ngokuzikhandla kwabezindaba bakithi.

izintatheli ezisebenza kanzima nangokuzimelela zase-Ningizimu Afrika. Bezilokhu zinikeza abantu bakithi ulwazi ngokusabalalisa imiyalezo yezempilo yokuqhelelana kubantu kanye nenhlanzeko. Zikwenze lokho ngaphansi kwezimo ezinzima, esikhathini esiningi nezinsizakusebenza zinganele.

Zisitshele ngezindaba zemiphumela yokuvalwa kwezwe ezimpilweni zabantu kanye nasemabhizinisini abo. Beziphumile ziye emakhaya,



emadolobheni nasemadolobhenikazi, ziletha izindaba zabantu abajwayelekile futhi zidonsa amehlo esizwe ezinkingeni okubhekenwe nazo ezibhedlela nasemitholampilo, zigqugquzela ukuthi uhulumeni asukume.

Abezindaba bakithi basikhanyisele indlela ebesingeke siyibone nje. Bayifezile indima yabo emphakathini ngokuvundulula izenzo zenkohlakalo nokungaphathi ngendlela, basusa inkulumo-mpikiswano enkulu kuzwelonke ekuphenyweni kwamacala asezingeni eliphezulu. Ngalokhu kubika kwabo sebezuze ukwethenjwa ngabantu.

Inkululeko yabezindaba ayi-Kumele sizibonge kakhulu yona isiphetho. Ingukugcina nokuphakamisa intando yeningi labantu. Ngesikhathi salolu bhubhane, abezindaba bakithi abadlalanga nje indima yabo emphakathini eyaziwayo, kodwa benze umsebenzi womphakathi ekwesekeni umzamo kazwelonke wokunqanda igciwane le-corona.

> Ngenxa yokubaluleka kwabezindaba ekuphileni kwentando yeningi yethu, kukhathaza kakhulu ukuthi njengayo yonke eminye imikhakha yomnotho, inkinga

yegciwane le-corona ihlasele kanzima abezindaba. Ezinye izinkampani ezishicilelayo zilahlekelwe ingenisomali engamaphesenti angama-60 ezinsukwini zokuqala zokuvalwa kwezwe. Izinkampani eziningi kwamele zinciphise amaholo, zinciphise inani labasebenzi noma zinciphise amahora asetshenzwayo. Okubuhlungu, ezinye izinkampani ezishicilelayo ziphoqeleke ukuthi zivalwe, phakathi kwazo ngamaphephabhuku asungulwa kudala futhi aziwa kakhulu eNingizimu Afrika.

Ukulahleka kwemisebenzi okubangelwe ukuvalwa kwezwe sekwandise inkinga yezinkampani zabezindaba ezivele zibhekene nezinselele ezifana nezimali zokukhangisa, ukusatshalaliswa kwephephandaba kanye nesabelo semakethe esesihlwithwe izindaba ezikhishwa ngomakhalekhukhwini nangobunye ubuchwepheshe. Lezi zingqinamba zemali zihlasele yonke indawo, kusuka kuzindaba zaku-inthanethi kuya kulwazi olubhalwe ephepheni kuya kubasakazi.

Lolu olunye lodaba olwaphakanyiswa ngesikhathi sezingxoxo zami zakamuva nje nenkundla Kazwelonke yaseNingizimu Afrika Yabahleli i-South African National Editors' Forum. Esikhundleni sokubalisa ngekusasa labo, kunalokho, imboni yabezindaba isebenza kanzima ukuhlela kabusha ibhizinisi, ukuza nezindlela ezintsha kanye nokugcina abasebenzi ngayo yonke indlela.

Ngaso leso sikhathi, abezindaba bayibhizinisi elehlukile kunoma imuphi umphakathi ngenxa yokuthi abasebenza kulona bafezekisa indima ebaluleke kakhulu kwintando yeningi labantu. Basebenza ukugcina umphakathi unolwazi nokugcina abaphethe emgqeni.

Sidinga izintatheli eziningi, hhayi ezimbalwa. Yingakho nje ukulahlekelwa ngisho yintatheli eyodwa kungalahlekelwa imboni kuphela kodwa silahlekelwa njengezwe.

Sidinga omakadebona bezintatheli bakithi, abazoletha isipiliyoni kanye nezikhumbuzo zabezindaba, futhi abazokwazi ukuletha imibiko ebucayi nenolwazi. Ngaso leso sikhathi sidinga izintatheli eziningi ezisencane ezazi ezobuchwepheshe, ezihambisana nezindlela ezintsha zokuxoxa izindaba futhi ezixhumene nezinkinga ezibhekene nentsha.

Njengomphakathi kumele seseke ngokuphelele abezindaba. Noma ngabe kumele sikhethe ukuthi sikhokhele okuqukethwe izindaba, ukusekela izintatheli ezixhaswe ngeminikelo yomphakathi, ukukhokhela amalayisensi akwa-SABC noma nje ngokuthenga iphe phandaba, sonke singadlala indima yethu ukwesekela le

mboni esenkingeni. Njengohulumeni, ngaphezu kwesimo somnotho ontengantengayo sizoqhubeka nokukhangisa kulabo abashicilelayo nabasakazayo, ikakhulukazi abezindaba basemphakathini.

Umkhakha ozimele kumele nawo uqhubeke nokweseka le mboni ngokukhangisa kanye nokusebenzisana nabezindaba ekukhiqizeni izindaba ezintsha ezisezingeni lomhlaba. Labo abanesihe balapha ekhaya kanye nezinhlangano ezinikelayo kumele nabo bangenelele basekele amabhizinisi abezindaba, njengoba kunjalo kwintando yeningi labantu.

Ukwanda kwezindaba ezingelona iqiniso ngesikhathi sobhubhane, ikakhulukazi ezinkundleni zokuxhumana, kwengeze isidingo esiphuthumayo sezindaba eziningi ezinembayo, ezilungile futhi ezingathathi cala. Ngalesi sikhathi abantu bakithi bathembele kwabezindaba ngolwazi, futhi sibukela phansi ukubaluleka kwabo njengezinsika zentando yeningi labantu.

Njengoba siqala umsebenzi omkhulu wokwakha kabusha umnotho wethu emva kwemiphumela vobhubhane, imboni yabezindaba izodinga ukuthi siyisekele kakhulu kunakuqala. Inkululeko yabezindaba yake yachazwa 'njengomnakekeli ongalali walolonke ilungelo elikhulula amadoda nabesifazane'. Njengoba sibethulela isigqoko ngendima yabo kulolu bhubhane, asenze lokho esingakwenza ukuqinisekisa ukuthi abezindaba abakhululekile nabahlukene ezweni lethu bayakwazi ukunqoba nokuphokophelela phambili. 0

GBV victim's life saved by NGO



Silusapho Nyanda

victim of longterm genderbased violence (GBV) – who was beaten, threatened with murder and shot – says if it were not for Masimanyane Women's Rights International, she would be dead.

Lindelwa Ntanta (59), an East London resident, went through 18 years of abuse at the hands of her ex-husband, who she finally managed to divorce in 2018.

She says his abuse led to one of her three children committing suicide. It started with psychological and verbal abuse but quickly escalated to physical assault.

She says: "I got a protection order against him and he was told not to come to my house. Within a few days, he broke the order and I had him arrested. After he was released, he came back with a gun and shot me in the legs, saying that he was going to kill me."

Over the years, despite not living with them anymore,

he continued to harass the family, often targeting the spaza shop Ntanta ran by destroying her stock.

Ntanta says Masimanyane Women's Rights Interna-

"The reason we have offices at police stations is so that we can help GBV victims the moment they go to report a case."

tional, an NGO funded by the Department of Social Development, has provided tremendous support over the years. The Masimanyane team helped Ntanta obtain several protection orders over the years, assisted her with counselling and in getting her granddaughter's school fees reduced.

"I am alive because they have protected me from my abuser. Even now, they are assisting me with legal matters as my ex-husband is trying to sell the house we live in," says Ntanta.

Masimanyane is an anti-GBV organisation that has been in existence since 1996. It has offices in Mdantsane and East London Magistrate's Courts, as well as staff based at the Fleet Street, Buffalo Flats and Duncan Village police stations.

Community project manager for Masimanyane, Buyiswa Mhambi, says the organisation offers support services to victims of abuse, including counselling, shelter, abuse awareness and computer and craft skills.

"The reason we have offices at police stations is so that we can help GBV victims the moment they go to report a case," says Mhambi.

Visit Masimanyane Women's Rights International's office in Scenery Park township or go to their website: www.masimanyane.org.za

I-CGE ihlinzeka ngentuba yokufinyelela kwezobulungiswa

Dale Hes

zisulu zodlame olubhekiswe kubulili ■obuthile (i-GBV) ezisokolayo ukuthola usizo kanye nokwesekwa ezikudingayo ziyanxenxwa ukuthi zixhumane neKhomishana Yokulingana Ngobulili (i-CGE).

I-CGE ingasiza mayelana nemali yesondlo somntwana, ukunukubezwa kwezocansi, ukubandlululwa ngokobulili kanye ne-GBV, futhi inikezela ngokwelulekwa kwamahhala kwezomthetho kanye nezinsiza kwizisulu.

Owalekhomishana u-Mofihli Teleki uthi indima edlalwa yi-CGE wukuthi isize izisulu ukuba zivule amacala enkantolo. "Umnyango wezomthetho uphelezela lowo onesikhalo ukuya enkantolo kamantshi ukuyovula ama-



cala odlame lwasekhaya futhi usize ukugcwalisa wonke amafomu okufanele agcwaliswe. I-CGE iphinde idlale indima ekuqapheni amacala, abandakanya ukudlwengulwa kanye nokuphulwa komthetho wezocansi, ukunukubezwa ngokwezocansi kanye nokubulawa kwabesi-

I-CGE iphinde isize isisulu ukuthi sithole incwadi yomyalo wenkantolo yokuzivikela kanti futhi isebenzisana noPhiko Lwezokushushisa Lukazwelonke ukuqinisekisa ukuthi izisulu zithola ukugculiseka ngamacala. "Kulesi simo, i-CGE ilandela ukubhekwa kafushane kwecala i-Watching Brief futhi ibhekisise nomsebenzi owenziwa ngamacala e-GBV kanti futhi iphinde ihlaziye izingqinamba ezingumgogodla, ezifana nokungabi nazwelo kuziphathimandla eziphethe icala, ukuphinde kuhlukumezeke kabili kwalabo abasindile kanye nokungabi nazwelo uma kuphoswa imibuzo," kuchaza

Umangabe izisulu ziyakusokolela ukuthola ubulungiswa Ezinkantolo ezibhekelele Udlame Lwasekhaya, i-CGE ingakwazi ukuzikhulumela, ngokuhlinzeka ngokumelwa kwezomthetho. Iphinde futhi ikwazi ukudlulisela izisulu ukuze zithole ukwesekwa ngokwengqo-

Insiza ebalulekile

I-CGE beyiqhubeka nokusebenza njengenye yensiza ebalulekile nangesikhathi sokuvalwa kwezwe.

"Nakuba amanye amacala ezinkantolo ehlehlisiwe ngenxa yomonakalo wokuvalwa kwezwe, izimo eziphuthumayo ezihlanganisa udlame lwasekhaya kanye ne-GBV kuzoqhubeka kunakwe ngaphansi kwezindlela zobulungiswa," kusho u-Teleki.

I-CGE iyakuqinisekisa ukuthi amalungelo omphakathi ayavikeleka. "INingizimu Afrika iyizwe elinenkululeko, elizinikele ekubalulekeni kwamalungelo abantu, kubandakanya ilungelo lokulingana kanye nokwazisa isithunzi somunye umuntu, njengoba kubekiwe kuMthetho-sisekelo."

Bhalisa isikhalazo

Izisulu ze-GBV kanye nokuhlukunyezwa zingashayela inombolo ye-CGE yamahhala ethi: 0800 007 709 ukuze zibhalise isikhalazo. Bangaphinde futhi bathumele umlayezo kwikhasi le-Facebook elithi: Gender Commission of South Africa.