



LEGIS-THETHA

Promoting tolerance, equity,
diversity, integrity, dignity,
equality, respect and justice



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COMMEMORATING MANDELA MONTH

By Bethmery Cloete



During the month of July, the Public Education and Outreach (PEO) section hosted workshops with various community-based organisations in celebration of Mandela Month and International Mandela Day.

The organisations included:

- Fountain of Hope Community Projects based in Paarl, founded by Ms Vanessa Adams;
- Ndzondi Meals on Wheels Community Services based in Khayelitsha, coordinated by Mr Lungile Kolweni;
- Hope and Light Community Welfare School based in Somerset West, of which Mr Neville Petersen is the Director;
- Oudtshoorn Community Representatives, coordinated by Community Developers Mr Franklin Booyesen and Ms Winnie Xame; and
- People's Rural Organisation in Porterville, founded by Mr Leeroy Joseph.





This year marks 14 years since the United Nations declared 18 July as International Mandela Day. It is also the 10th year since the passing of the former President of South Africa and the commemoration of his legacy.

This year, Mandela Month has been celebrated under the theme “Climate, Food and Solidarity.”



The crucial message of this theme is to shed light on societal issues and to bring forth solutions to these challenges we are facing in our communities. The potential to dismantle poverty and to create resilient food security is vested in all citizens and should be seen as our responsibility towards one another.

On Tuesday, 25 July, the PEO section hosted youth participants from the People’s Rural Organisation in Porterville, for an educational programme in commemoration of Mandela Month.



In this programme PEO collaborated with MOT South Africa, a non-profit organisation aiming to prevent social problems by instilling soft skills in the youth.



MOT South Africa is one of the recently established partnerships of the WCPP and the organisation implements values and attitudes aimed at equipping the youth to take better care of each other and improve conscious choices.

Public Education Officer Ms Bethmery Cloete, commenced with the commemorative programme by facilitating an educational session on the principles of democracy; the Constitution in correlation with Nelson Mandela’s legacy; the separation of powers; the mandate of the WCPP, as well as an overview of the law-making- and submissions processes.



The educational session aimed at equipping the youth with the necessary knowledge about their human rights and the responsibility to respect each other’s rights - the vision Nelson Mandela had for South Africans and had fought for, for 67 years.



Ms Viola Manuel, Country Director of MOT South Africa, conducted a session with the youth on the core values of MOT, which are: the courage to care, the courage to live and the courage to say no. Reflecting on the legacy of Nelson Mandela, the youth learnt the power of listening, which is an essential skill for all of us, reflected by the courage to live value. The courage to say no value empowered the youth to confidently set boundaries and how to say no gracefully. The courage to care value taught them the importance of self-care and showing compassion to others, embracing diversity.



“The youth thoroughly enjoyed their experience at the WCPP and have a better understanding of their human rights as they are enshrined in the Bill of Rights, as well as the role and functions of the WCPP and how to utilise the public participation platforms that the institution has,” says PEO Officer Bethmery Cloete.