

KZN COMMUNITY FEEDBACK SESSIONS REPORT

26 - 28 JULY 2023



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KWAZULU-NATAL PROVINCE COMMUNITY FEEDBACK SESSIONS REPORT

To	Mr. TL Ramaru Acting Secretary for Police Service
From	Dr. MM Maisela Acting Chief Director: Inter-Sectoral Coordination and Strategic Partnerships
Date	28 September 2023
Subject	KWAZULU-NATAL PROVINCE COMMUNITY FEEDBACK SESSIONS REPORT.

1. INTRODUCTION

The report herein presented to the Acting Secretary Director provides information about the KwaZulu-Natal community feedback sessions campaign held at Inanda, Ntuzuma, KwaMashu (INK), KwaDabeka and Newlands East areas from the 26th to the 28th of July 2023. The feedback session was held to provide feedback on the campaign held in October 2022, which included School Safety, Sober Sunday and Dialogue sessions.

2. DISCUSSION

The session was hosted by the Civilian Secretariat for Police Service (CSPS) in partnership with the Department of Community Safety in KwaZulu-Natal and the Provincial South Africa Police

Service (SAPS). The community feedback session program started with the community activation and blitz on 26 July 2023 to mobilise and activate the community participation in the anti-crime feedback session. The second day covered the community feedback stakeholder engagement session held at Inanda police station on the 27th July 2023. The last day of the program comprised of the campaign's sport against crime on the 28th July 2023.

The community feedback session campaign was supported by civil society organisations attending such as the Gugu Dlamini foundation, Zazi, Brothers for Life, neighbourhood watch, Abaphelezeli Community Crime Prevention Association (CCPA) and business support unit.

The community activation and blitz commenced at Midway mall which is part of Newlands East policing area. Community police interactions commenced with the mall patron and the general population passing by. Anti-crime information exchange was conducted on different safety issues, how to report crime as well as reporting police misconduct. The team then moved to Riverdene Ten City tavern where engagements were made with the tavern owner(s) as well as customers on liquor trade compliance and responsible alcohol use and related individual safety and responsibility.

The team then moved to Rivederne taxi rank and business area. The team met an elderly woman, Mrs. Dlomo who complained about her grandson Manqoba who is abusing her, steals from the house from the neighbours and uses drugs. The team visited her house at 2146 Westridge where another son Sthembiso was in the house with a young man who looked like he was also high on drugs. The elder reported that Sthembiso had been chased away from the house but he keeps coming back. The Newlands East police officers committed to assist Mrs. Dlomo to get a protection order against the two men.

The team proceeded to KwaDabeka shopping complex wherein the anti-crime campaign interaction with the shop owners and customers was conducted.

2.2 Community feedback stakeholder engagement session held at Inanda SAPS on 27th July 2023

The session was led by the Civilian Secretariat for Police Service, the Department of Community Safety and Liaison in KwaZulu-Natal, the SAPS from Inanda, Ntuzuma, KwaMashu and from the districts of Newlands East and KwaDabeka.

The following entities were in attendance: - safer cities; Department of Education circuit; Department of Social Development; KZN liquor authority; Siyabaphelezela CCPA; Qinamhlali CCPA; Ihawu Lesizwe CCPA; Umkhumbi CCPA; Mbombela CCPA; Deep Ink organization; LGBTQI+ community; INK Religious leaders; Sweats NPO; Imveloyesizwe; business licensing; traditional leaders; traditional healers; tavern owners; Memeza Shout; Aheco, Eyerus and the CPF for KwaDabeka KwaMashu and Inanda.

The session began with a visit to Hillview secondary school where Memeza installed rapid response alarms in October 2022 for the protection of school infrastructure against theft and vandalism. Ms. Ryan informed the team that the alarm was working properly although the response time was a challenge at inception. It was resolved that the incident responders to the school will include the security companies in order to get the maximum impact and deter any criminal intention.

The task team proceeded to Inanda police station for the formal program. The opening prayer was rendered by Bishop Mbuyazi and councilor Gcabashe welcomed all the stakeholders attending campaign feedback session. He appreciated all the community members who participated in fighting crime and the Departments who took an initiative of bringing different stakeholders together in finding solutions on crime-prevention strategies.

Advocate Bell from the CSPA presented the purpose of the engagement and highlighted the mandate of the CSPA department. She pointed out that the CSPA is constituted to exercise civilian oversight over the SAPS; provides guidance to CPFs and associated community safety structures; facilitates their functioning and implement partnerships aimed at finding solutions for safety and security of communities. The CSPA monitors the performance of police, recommends corrective measures, enforces the implementation and compliance of the Domestic Violence Act (DVA).

Other functions of the CSPA as presented to the stakeholders for information is to provide strategic support and as a technical advisor to the Minister. The campaign feedback session was thus held to provide feedback to the community following participants, complaints and reported case follow-up that was held in October 2022. The 2022 campaign focused school safety dialogue, sober Sunday campaign and compliance enforcement with tavern owners; fighting

GBV&F with churches, case-closed campaign and community dialogue. In closing she indicated that it was significant to hold such sessions in order to assess impact, successes and short comings from the previous anti-crime campaign so that we can plan better for future community safety campaigns.

2.2.1 School safety and fighting GBV& F with faith based organisations.

Mrs. Mbongwe-Director in the KZN Department of Community Safety provided feedback of the campaign implementation focused on school safety and visit to churches. She reported to stakeholders that the school safety campaign focused on 20 schools around Clermont, Newlands, Ntuzuma and Inanda. The school were selected and received installation of the Memeza rapid response alarms for protection of the school infrastructure.

✓ A dialogue was held with learners from Riverdene Secondary school, Newlands East Secondary, Mandlenkosi High School, Senzokwethu High school, JE Ndlovu High School, Thandolesizwe High School, Mandlakazulu High School, Ntuzuma Primary School, Gobhogobho Primary School, Buhlebemfundo High School, Khulumagqame Primary School, Christianenburg Primary School, Buhlebemfundo High School, Ilanga High School, Umqhele High School, Ziphathele High School, Sithengile High School, Sithokozile High School, Mcopheleli Primary School, Phephile Primary School and Clernaville Primary School. The focus of the discussion on the fight against GBV&F and common abuse and crime-prevention strategies to ensure safety and security to learners and educators in schools.

✓ On the 16th of October, the campaign task team visited churches to address the fight against GBV&F, the significance of knowledge of the Ministerial 6-point plan and its implementation by the police when attending to those reporting such cases. A common point from churches was a request for a program planned where they will be included to gain knowledge on crime-prevention strategies and solutions in combating crime in their Ministry duties with communities.

✓ The campaign task team also visited; Comfort Zone (KwaDabeka), Uhuru Afrique Foods (KwaDabeka), Silvern Horn (Inanda - Newtown A), JM Liquor Store (Inanda – Newtown A), Manjoes Lounge (Inanda- Newtown A), Just Roberts (JR), Zoos Tavern (Inanda Amaoti) and Kuhle Tavern (KwaDabeka) taverns. These taverns were fined for liquor trade non-compliance,

for not displaying certified copies of licences as well as related terms and conditions. Tavern patrons were also engaged on safety issues and responsible alcohol use.

✓ On the 17th of October, a case-closed campaign was held at Ntuzuma police station. The community was invited and mobilized to come and check on pending cases reported to the police. An update on the status of the cases that were handled was presented and the status thereof.

✓ On the 18th of October, the community safety campaign hosted a dialogue aimed at stimulating community discussions in line with crimes and the problem of Gender-Based Violence and Femicide (GBV&F) as it affects the community and substance abuse. This was intended to build safer communities and a just society whereby communities are encouraged to come up with solutions in promotion of safety and crime prevention through collaboration.

Mr. Luyanda Qhomfo from the Civilian Secretariat for Police Service expressed the support of the update presentation to the community as it emanated from collaboration by different units in the public and private sector to coordinate and implement the community anti-crime campaign. He reported that Domestic Violence and DNA complaints remain a priority and should be taken seriously. He also advised the stakeholders of the processes to be followed to register their complaints of dissatisfaction with the service by the police as the CSPA has a unit that focus and deal with such complaints.

Captain Simelane representing the SAPS highlighted that the school safety ^{should} ~~could have~~ involved all schools in the region due to the crime related problems and social ills that the police have to handle coming out of school learners. He encouraged that all schools must establish a school safety committee where in programs such as crime awareness should be discussed. Crime prevention measures must be implemented by the school safety committee and include awareness campaigns such as discussion on the effect of a criminal record on the learner's career prospects, drugs, bullying and substances abuse.

She said that SAPS never inform the school principals about search and seizures to be conducted at schools because such information may be passed on to perpetrators who carry drugs with or without knowing. She also indicated that schools experience GBV cases such as rape, assault GBH and common assault incidences among learners with some filtering from incidences that

happened outside the school environment. Capt. Simelane then mentioned that the police station has a victim friendly room (VFR) with two Sergeants who are there to assist victims of sexual offences and domestic violence.

2.2.2 Messages of support

Induna yenkosi, Induna Magwaza appreciated the department for the anti-crime campaign initiative and for providing feedback from the October 2022 community safety campaign. His message of support was that such initiatives should be ongoing whereby the community safety structures are briefed and provided with feedback on campaigns. Induna Magwaza emphasized that the SAPS should have ongoing interactions and training of community safety structures, so that they feel recognized and contribute their effort more to fight crime.

Induna Magwaza stated that he sees progress in the fight against crime. He pleaded with the community that they should also protect themselves and avoid unnecessary movements which can expose them to criminal attacks. He pointed out that they have a problem with young women who walk at night and end up being victims of crime. Concluding his speech, he requested the community to have respect for the Community Policing Forum.

Mr. Shangase from the faith-based organisations appreciated the campaign task team work and the stakeholders attending for the initiative. He requested the departments to include faith-based organisation in anti-crime campaigns in order to address issues of spirituality and moral regeneration in communities and encourage a change of behaviour and attitude towards crime with their congregants. He also stated that anti-crime campaign information sessions at churches should be ongoing.

Mr. Goge standing as the CPF chairperson of KwaDabeka was appreciative of the anti-crime initiative by the SAPS, CSPA, the Department of Community Safety and private partners participation. He encouraged the support for structures that are being utilised to fight crime and advised schools to utilize the junior commissioners' program as a platform to engage on crime-related issues at schools.

Mr. Zungu from the Department of Basic Education reported that schools in the area administratively fall under the department but they remain and are located in the communities.

Therefore, the community must work towards protecting the schools against vandalism. Mr. Zungu then mentioned that there are committees that connect the school and the community. The department assessed and evaluated the committee's capability to conduct its work but it was found that the committee has limitation to fulfil that role which could do with the support of the community. He pointed out that the significance of the Memeza response alarms which were installed at schools.

Ms. Mthembu from the KZN liquor authority encouraged the community and parents and alcohol traders not to sell alcohol to children under the age of 18. She pointed out that illegal alcohol traders are the biggest contributors to the challenges that come with selling alcohol and the impact thereof.

Mr. Jabulani Magwaza representing the word of the traditional healers supported the anti-crime campaign and indicated that they also want to be involved in the fight against crime as traditional healers. He highlighted that most of the time people use their calling to hurt other people which reflects bad on them. He indicated those practicing witchcraft used Inanda Dam to do conduct harmful practices including "Ukuthwala".

He reported that they throw money and leave animals at the dam and these are later taken by others and sold back to the community which in their view creates a vicious circle of a curse. They also go to the dam for ritual practices such as ukuthwala where they leave bad omens. People should be taught about the good and the bad about traditional healers as some of the Pastors come to consult for cleansing.

Mr. Mike Khumalo valued the work done by CPF and street patrollers in trying to keep Inanda crime free. He said that as a tavern owner, he was not happy when his customers get hurt after leaving his premises. He offered to support the CPF and patrollers with reflector jackets and vests and two-way radios to continue their community safety work.

Mr. Musa Shezi presented a safety application (APP) that could be utilised to report and record criminal activities. The app is said to also request urgent assistance from security companies from the shake of a cellphone. Mr. Shezi promised to return to the community safety structures to install and practically show them how the APP worked. Ms. Phumla Jingxi closed the feedback session program and thanked all the stakeholders for their contributions and participation.

2.3 Community Feedback Session: Sport Against Crime on 28 July 2023

The sports against crime day program was addressed by Dr. Love- a GBV&F ambassador. His message focused on community safety with the aim to motivate the youth encouraging them to focus on their personal development as well as their studies. He advised young people to improve the level of respect for elders, listen to their advices and pay attention to them.

Dr Love cautioned the youth about the effects of substance abuse and encouraged them to stay away from alcohol, drugs and crime in order to be successful in life. He pointed the importance of Black children to be consistent in positively nurturing their talents. Dr. Love pleaded with the youth to participate in sports activities such as soccer, rugby, tennis and others.

He elaborated that playing soccer only today will not change anyone's life but that consistent playing or participation and inviting more young people will surely change the future of the youth as well as the area. The youth was also provided an opportunity to participate in sports such as soccer and netball which resulted in Cassino boys football club (FC) team winning the soccer game and Dream Girls winning the netball game.

3. RECOMMENDATION AND CLOSURE

At the conclusion of the anti-crime campaign feedback session activities the following recommendations were made:

- The district will engage with the tavern owners regarding a project to sponsor community safety structures aligned with the CPFs with reflectors and two-way radios.
- The district will engage the traditional healers to partner and conduct more projects to educate the community as well as traditional healers against criminal activities
- More case-closed campaigns will continue to be implemented.
- A follow-up will be done with Mrs. Dlomo for the protection order against his grandson and son.

Report Submitted and Edited by




Ms. J Mlotshwa

Acting Director: Communications

Date: 28/09/2023

Supported / ~~Not Supported~~

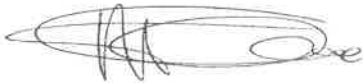


Ms. L Chauke

Acting Director: Public-Private Partnerships

Date: 28/09/2023

Recommended / ~~Not Recommended~~



Dr. M Maisela

Acting Chief Director: Inter-Sectoral Coordination and Strategic Partnerships

Date: 29/09/2023

with amendment
Approved / ~~Not approved~~



Mr. TL Ramaru

Acting Secretary for Police Service

Date: 29/09/2023