

MORE JOBS FOR BLOUBERG RESIDENTS AS CWP LAUNCHED IN WARD 14 AND 20

One-hundred-and-nine(109) unemployed people from Ward 14 and 20 now have jobs following the launch of Community Work Programme(CWP).

Blouberg Local Municipality Mayor, Her Worship Cllr Maria Thamaga officially launched the programme at Sekiding sa Mampote and Slaaphoek village respectively.

CWP is a community-driven government initiative aimed at providing employment to unemployment community members whereby they work number of days a month and receive a stipend in a bid to alleviate poverty. This is a Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs.

34 year-old Olga Maela from Slaaphoek village is one of the CWP beneficiaries. Maela, a single mother of three whom, CWP is her first job said, she is happy to be a participant.

" I'm very happy to be one of the beneficiaries. This is my first time working and I'm so relieved that the stipend will help me buy food and school uniform for my children".

Doreen Morata, 39, from Sekiding sa Mampote is a single mother of three whom one of her children no longer qualifies for child grant due to over age. She said, she is happy to be part of the programme as the money will be of great assistance as it will supplement the child grant.

Caron Phukubje, a 35-year-old single mother of three from Ga-Mochemi said she is happy to be one of the beneficiaries.

"This job is very important to me, i'm a breadwinner so I'm happy that I will be able to pay society, buy groceries and electricity with the monthly income."

Over 1178 participants in Blouberg were placed on the programme since its inception.The programme is being implemented in 11 wards in the municipality.

The South African Youth Movement (SAYM) coordinates the programme on behalf of CoGTA. SAYM District Manager, Mr Dauglas Mabe indicated that, the municipality has been allocated 109 participants due to good performance.He further indicated that, CWP focus on work tasks that uplift and support communities while at the same time ensure that beneficiaries acquire skills.

" CWP pays stipend and I always encourage participants to not always look at the stipend, Blouberg alone has five projects that were established by CWP participants. We are proud of them, they are successful. There are projects that manufactures polish, pig farming, food gardening and others and they make money. We would like see more projects in these wards." He said.

The Mayor said the municipality is happy to receive more participants of CWP as the initiative will alleviate poverty to many more community members who struggle to make ends meet. She called on participants to use their stipend wisely and respect their jobs.

" We are here today, to launch this great initiative of government which is meant to lift our communities out of poverty. With your stipend you can do meaningful things with it, you can form a stokvel group and at the end of the day you can be able to build a room or two. You can as well start something on the side, it can be a food garden to supplement your income. There are five projects established by CWP participants in Blouberg, we can do more, the department is here to assist you to establish your own projects. Utilize the opportunity." Said the Mayor.

The participants will work two days a week/eight days a month, assist in environmental management programmes; cleaning of public spaces, day care centres, home based care assistance and community gardens among other duties.

Recruitment of participants is done through referrals from councillors, Community Development Workers(CDWs) and Ward Committees and final decisions taken by the Local Reference Committee(LRC) working together with the municipality.





