

# Vuk'uzenzele



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**STAY SAFE**  
VACCINATE TO SAVE SOUTH AFRICA  
TOGETHER WE CAN BEAT THE CORONAVIRUS



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## Gogos' vaccine joy



■ **Nomamelika Philiso (119)** is all smiles after receiving the COVID-19 vaccine.



■ **Chithekile Hlabisa (101)** has already beaten COVID-19 once and has ensured she is protected from the virus by having the vaccine.

### More Matshediso and Ndyebo Kopo

**P**hase 2 of South Africa's mass vaccination programme is reaching the elderly across the country, at vaccination sites and in their homes.

Recently, 119-year-old Nomamelika Philiso of Mandleni village in KwaBhaca in the Eastern Cape received her first dose of the Pfizer vaccine.

Community health workers visited Philiso's home during a door-to-door campaign to register those who are over 60 years of age on the Electronic Vaccination Data System (EVDS).

They registered Philiso on the EVDS and not long after she was vaccinated at her home by senior health professional Thobeka Ludidi from Madzikane KaZulu Hospital.

Ludidi first screened Philiso before administering the vaccine.

### Happy and grateful

Philiso expressed gratitude to government for ensuring that she benefited from the vaccination programme.

"I am short of words. I am just happy and grateful," she says.

While Philiso's husband passed away in 1964 and eight of her nine children have also passed away, she is looking forward to spending time with her grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Another recently vaccinated gogo is 101-year-old Chithekile Hlabisa from Mzingazi in Richards Bay.

She received the first dose of the vaccine at Ngwelezana Hospital.

Hlabisa is extremely grateful to have received the vaccine as she spent four weeks in hospital due to the Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) earlier this year.

Having battled with a heart condition for most of her life, she says it was only by God's grace that she survived. Unfortunately, one of

her daughters succumbed to the disease.

### Waiting patiently

Chithekile encourages other senior citizens to take the jab.

"I have been waiting patiently for the vaccine. Having survived COVID-19 and being hospitalised for this virus can be a scary episode.

"I was happy to hear that now we are vaccinating. All people my age and younger than me should take the vaccination as soon as possible."

While she admits she was initially afraid, Hlabisa says receiving more information about the vaccine put her mind at ease.

### Pulling out all the stops

Efforts are being made by various sectors to ensure that as many people over the age of 60 as possible register on the EVDS.

Pension payout points, where thousands of the elderly queue for their

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# Abantu abatsha basesona siphawo sethu sixabisekileyo

**N**ge-16 kweyeSilimela 1976, ulutsha lwaseSoweto kunye nelakwezinye iindawo apha esizweni laphakama ngokuchasene nobugwenxa beMfundo ye-Bantu Education.

Ngolo suku nangeentsuku ezalandelayo, abantu abaninzi baphulukana nobomi babo. Babulawa ngurhulumente ongenalusini owayengabukhathalelanga kwaphela ubomi babantu abantsundu, kwaye ongacingi nto ngokuthulula iimbhuhulu kubantwana besikolo abangaxhobanga, benxibe iyunifomu.

Ezi ziganeke zaluqinisa kakhulu uluvo lwamazwe aphesheya ngokuchasene nolawulo localucalulo, lwazelanika amandla ngakumbi kumzabalazo wenkululeko.

Abantu abancinci bahlala behleli phambili kuqhankqalazo lwentlalo, ukususela kuqhankqalazo lweminyaka yoo-1950 olwaluchasene nolawulo e-Latin America, ukuya kuthi ga kuqhankqalazo olwenzeka kwi-Afrika iphela kwiminyaka yoo-1960.

Imbali irekhoda ngokuthembekileyo igalelo lesizukulwana sika-1976 lombutho wabafundi wamazwe aphesheya kunye nokuma kwawo ngokuchasene nengcinezelo kunye nesenzo sentswelo-bulungisa.

Esi siganeke seminyaka engama-45 esadlulayo sisaqhubeka ukukhunjulwa e-Afrika nakwihlabathi liphela.

Kuyaphazamisa ke ukuba ulwazi lwe-16 kweyeSi-

limela luyancipha kulutsha lwaseMzantsi Afrika. Ngakumbi kwisizukulwana esibizwa ngokuba yi-Generation Z, okanye abo bantu abatsha bazalwe phakathi komnyaka ka-1997 noka-2015.

Uphando luka-2019/2020 loMzantsi Afrika lweZimozoluntu olupapashwe li-Bhunga loPhando lweNzululwazi zaBantu lufumanise ukuba phantse ama-40% e-Generation Z zange evangeziganeko zembali yomhla we-16 kweyeSilimela. Ipesenti efana naleyo yona ikhe yeva malunga nezo ziganeke kodwa yazi kancinci kakhulu okanye ayazi nto ngayo.

Nangona kunjalo, uvavanyo lufumanise ukuba abantu abatsha kwesi sizukulwana banomdla ukuba bangafunda ngeziganeko ziphambili zembali kwaye bakholelwa ekuqhubekeni kokubaluleka kwazo.

Kufuneka senze okungaphezulu njengelizwe ukunqinisekisa ukuba umyalezo ka-1976 ugqithiswa ngokwenyaniso.

Olu luxanduva lwabantu bonke kuqukwa urhulumente, izikolo, amaziko emfundo ephakamileyo, abazali, iintsapho, iimvumi, amagcisa, kunye noluntu lonke.

Isizukulwana esazalwa emva kokuphela kocalucalulo sazuzwa njengelifa isizwe esinoMgaqo-siseko wentando yesininzi nalapho inkululeko ikhuselweyo.

Amathuba abantu abantsundu abanawo namhlanje ohluke kakhulu kwaye aphucuke ngeyona ndlela.

Ukugcina ibali ye-16 kwe-



yeSilimela iphila sisikhumbuzo kwisizukulwana sanamhlanje sokuzincama okukhulu okwenziwa ukukhusela inkululeko yabo.

USuku loLutsha sisikhumbuzo samandla amakhulu kunye nokungxamiseka kokuba abantu abatsha kufuneka bazenzele ikamva eliaqambileyo.

Kule mihla abantu abatsha eMzantsi Afrika bajongene nemizabalazo emininzi. Abantu abatsha ngabona baphambili ekufakeni isandla ingakumbi kwizinto zepolitiki, nokuba zizinto ezifana nokufuna imfundo yasimahla okanye ngokuchasene nemikhwa emibi enje ngobundlobongela obusekelwe kwisini.

Namhlanje owona mza-balazo mkhulu oqhutywa lulutsha kukuchasana nentswela-ngqesho, ethe yanda ngakumbi phantsi kobhubhane we-COVID-19.

Eyona nto iphambili kurhulumente kukudalela abantu abatsha amathuba amaninzi kunye neendlela zokufikelela kuloo mathuba.

Yonke into esiyenzayo njengorhulumente inegalelo ekuphuculeni ubomi babantu abatsha. Ukulwisana nentswela-ngqesho kulutsha

kufuna ukukhula koqoqosho okukhawulezileyo, ingakumbi kumacandelo afuna abasebenzi abaninzi, kunye nokwakha amandla kurhulumente ukuze afezekise indima yakhe yophuhliso.

Sikwaluqhuba olu luhlu lwezinto ezifuna ukwenziwa ngokuthi sibe nongenelelo esijolise kulo. Olu ngenelelo lubandakanya iMvuselelo yeNgqesho kaMongameli, esele ibonelele ngamathuba emisebenzi kunye nenkxaso yokuphila kubantu abatsha abaninzi.

Sisungule uluhlu lwamanyathelo ongezelelweyo ukudala amathuba, ukukhulisa uphuhliso lwezakhono, ukuxhasa oosomashishini abatsha kunye nokwenza ukuba ulutsha luthathe inxaxheba ngokupheleleyo kurhwebo lwezabasebenzi.

Oku kubandakanya ukusekwa kwe-National Pathway Management Network, yoLutsha loMzantsi Afrika, ukwenzela kube lula kubantu abatsha ukuba babone kwaye bafumane amathuba nenkxaso esebenzayo yokufumana iindlela zokungena kurhwebo lwezabasebenzi.

Ezi zezinye zezinto eziphambili kuManyathelo

okuNgenelela kwiNgqesho yoLutsha kukaMongameli, eyaqaliswa kwiiveki nje ezimbalwa phambi kokuba singene kuvaleleko lwesizwe kulo nyaka uphelileyo nozakuthi ngoku uzalisekise.

Amanyathelo okuNgenelela kwiNgqesho yoLutsha kukaMongameli asekwephezu kwengqiqo yokuba ukusombulula ingxaki yentswela-ngqesho kulutsha kufuna ukucinga okutsha kunye nentsebenziswano eqinileyo kuluntu lonke.

Eyona njongo yayo iphambili kukufumana izinto ezisebenzayo, nokuba kuphuhliso lwezakhono okanye kwimigaqo-nkqubo yorhwebo labasebenzi, kwaye kunyuswe oku ngokukhawulezileyo ukuze kufikelele kulutsha oluninzi kangangoko kunakho.

Okona kubaluleke kakhulu, kukuyiqonda into yokuba abantu abatsha kufuneka babe sembindini wawo nawuphi na umzamo wokunyusa ingqesho yolutsha. Abantu abatsha basesona siphawo sethu sixabisekileyo, kwaye basesona sixhobo sethu sikhulu kulo mlo.

Sothulela umnqwazi wonke umntu osemntsha odlala indima yakhe ekwakheni nasekuphuhliseni eli lizwe.

Ngabantu abatsha abavolontiya kwiindawo esihlala kuzo, besakha ilizwe lethu ngeMvuselelo yeNgqesho kaMongameli, beqhuba amashishini abo kwaye befundela nokuziphucula.

Ngabantu abatsha abazenzela eyabo indlela kwaye bathwale neentsapho zabo.

Sibothulela umnqwazi abantu abatsha abaqhubeka nokusebenza ukuphucula ubomi babo. Abantu abatsha abenza eyabo indima; badinga inkxaso kurhulumente kunye noluntu luphela.

Ilizwe lethu liphantsi kwelona xesha linzima, kodwa sisebenza mihla le ukwandisa ithemba.

Siyawabona amahlumelo aluhlaza okukhula kuqoqosho lwethu, kwaye siqinisekile ukuba oku kuya kuguqula amathuba angcono kumntu wonke. Umsebenzi wethu ngoku kukuqinisekisa ukuba abantu abatsha bakulungele kwaye banakho ukufikelela kula mathuba, bakwazi nokuzeenzela awabo. **U**

# Driving COVID-19 jabs in Ekurhuleni

**SOUTH AFRICA** has launched its first drive-through COVID-19 vaccination site.

Allison Cooper

**E**kurhuleni residents have the option to get their Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) vaccinations in the comfort of their cars, after the country's first drive-through vaccination site was launched in Boksburg, Gauteng.

Residents who registered on the Electronic Vaccine Data System and selected the International Christian Family Church as their vaccination site are receiving their vaccines without having to step out of their car to queue.

Johan Vander-Vyver, the first community member to get his COVID-19 vaccine at the drive-through vaccination site, was delighted to have received the jab in his car.



■ Ekurhuleni residents receive their COVID-19 vaccines in their cars at a drive-through vaccination site.

"This is definitely a great initiative, that is hassle free. I'm being observed in my own vehicle, which also reduces the amount of contact with other people and limits any exposure to COVID-19. I strongly encourage other residents over 60 to consider the drive-through site," he says.

Some Ekurhuleni residents were so impressed with the service that they posted

about it on Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality's Facebook page.

"My parents went there today and it was amazing. Organised, friendly, efficient staff. What an excellent idea! Well done," says Gillian Dansie.

"What an excellent way of keeping us – the over 60s safe," says Marie de Bruyn.

"I took my folks yesterday. Great initiative. The staff

were extremely friendly and helpful. All-in-all it was a pleasant experience, well done," says Lyndsey Daniels.

Gauteng Health Ekurhuleni District Manager Terrance Magoro says the initiative is a way of adding more vaccination sites to reach as many people as possible.

"This facility that we are in is quite large. It has three entrances and we are only using

one at the moment. We will expand and open two more entrances so we can vaccinate more people... We want to reach 1 200 vaccinations per day at this facility," he adds.

## Standard screening and verification

Residents who make use of the drive-through vaccination site still go through the standard COVID-19 screening and verification process, before receiving their vaccine, but they also stay in their car during this process.

Following the screening, the COVID-19 shot is administered by a professional nurse. The patients then drive to the observation station where they are observed for 15 minutes, for any adverse vaccine effects.

The site is open from 8am to 3pm, Monday to Friday. 📍

## AwezaMed bridges COVID-19 language divide

**A**n innovative language app is helping ensure that South Africans receive Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) information in a language they are familiar with, potentially saving lives.

The local mobile app, AwezaMed, is aimed at breaking down language barriers to improve safety protocols, communication and other COVID-19-related information.

According to the Department of Higher Education, Science and Innovation, language remains a serious challenge in conveying this life-saving information during the deadly pandemic, especially in a country like South Africa with 11 official languages.

Multilingualism is vital to ensure healthcare professionals and patients understand



each other and the voice-enabled AwezaMed app will help to make this possible.

"In the context of healthcare, it is common that the healthcare provider and

patient often do not share a common language.

"This results in serious challenges, such as a poorer patient experience, incorrect diagnoses, increased stress levels for the patient and misunderstandings about post-consultation self-care instructions," says Higher Education, Science and Innovation Minister Dr Blade Nzimande.

AwezaMed was developed by the department's entity, the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research.

It features localised technology, such as speech recognition, text-to-speech and machine translation.

"The app enables healthcare providers to access a phrase in English, translate it into any South African official language and play the phrase in the selected language," says the Minister.

The content of the app was

developed in collaboration with health experts.

The app, which currently works on any Android smartphone, also has a database of over 1 800 questions, reassurances, explanations, patient responses and key vocabulary curated by a team of medical professionals.

In addition, automatic speech recognition allows for the recognition and transcription of speech in any of the 11 official languages, while machine translation takes input text in the source language and translates it into the target language.

The Minister believes the app holds potential benefits for the public health sector beyond COVID-19, as it will go a long way towards improving trust between healthcare providers and patients, allowing for more diagnoses that are accurate and save lives.

AwezaMed can be accessed free on the Google Play Store at <http://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=za.co.aweza.covid19>. 📍

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