



CELEBRATING
★ ★ ★
30
YEARS



**HIS MAJESTY'S
CORRECTIONAL SERVICES**

**“CELEBRATING THE TRANSFORMATIVE POWER
OF SECOND CHANCES; A 30 YEAR MILESTONE”**

**20th
EDITION**

NEWSLETTER

2025

HIS MAJESTY'S CORRECTIONAL SERVICES



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To be a regional center of excellence and model for humane incarceration, rehabilitation and social reintegration.

VISION



To provide safe and modern corrections for effective rehabilitation and reintegration of offenders.

MISSION



"Transforming lives, building safer communities"

MOTTO

HIS MAJESTY'S CORRECTIONAL SERVICES



THE COMMISSIONER GENERAL OF HIS MAJESTY'S CORRECTIONAL SERVICES
Ms. LAMAKHOSINI PHINDILE DLAMINI



CHIEF EDITOR'S NOTE



Welcome to the latest and most exciting episode of our newsletter publication. This magazine serves as a vital communication tool within our organisation; connecting our staff, informing the public and showcasing our commitment to rehabilitation and public safety.

This widely sought publication focuses on the milestone achievements and success stories, offering insights into our rehabilitation programmes and the transformational journey of those who are serving time and their lives, post incarceration.

Published on this day June 20th, this 20th edition coincides with the commemoration of the 17th Correctional Services Day – a moment that offers us with a platform to celebrate dedicated officers who uphold justice and ensure public safety.

Their unwavering commitment and sacrifices are vital to the functioning of our society. Through this publication, we recognize the hard work of correctional officers and acknowledge the crucial role they play in maintaining order and promoting rehabilitation within our institutions. However, before I expand further, may I firstly pay tribute to His Majesty King Mswati

III and Her Majesty - the Indlovukazi for their unparalleled support, also demonstrated through assistance from the government of the Kingdom of Eswatini. Each year, the government supports our programmes designed at transforming offenders while also providing them with a second opportunity to be lawful and abiding citizens.

The Ministry of Justice; in like manner, continues to play a crucial role in supporting and shaping the correctional organization by promoting reforms, and ensuring that the rights and needs of inmates are met. This includes reforming the correctional system to align it with international norms, and providing support for rehabilitation programmes and reintegration into society.

Today we are celebrating the transition from Prisons to Corrections under the theme *"Celebrating the transformative power of second chances; A 30 Year Milestone."* This theme highlights all the good works and strides which the department has undertaken to create opportunities for offenders to rebuild their lives after making mistakes.

These efforts, with the support of society and communities have led to significant personal growth and demonstrated the positive impact of redemption and rehabilitation. A strong support network from family, friends, organizations, and communities is crucial for individuals to successfully overcome obstacles and achieve their goals.

When given the chance, offenders who have faced setbacks can contribute meaningfully to their communities through work, volunteering, and other acts of service.

With this said, May I take this opportunity to appreciate all the support that the department has received from Chiefs and *Bantfwa benkhosi* in all the four regions. Our engagements at regional level continue to yield positive results as a majority of our ex-offenders have successfully reintegrated into these communities.

Through cooperation between HMCS and community leaders, we have seen an increase in the number of ex-offenders who are contributing meaningfully in their communities.

May I also take time to appreciate the positive role played by families, support groups, non-governmental organizations as well as development partners for their continued efforts towards the transformation of our inmates.

Part of our celebration includes the enactment of legislations and policies which form part of the broader criminal justice reform efforts, a milestone achievement for the department. Ladies and gentlemen, I hope you find this newsletter informative and engaging and may the good Lord Bless us All.

Dlamini

"Celebrating the transformative power of second chances; A 30 year milestone."

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His Majesty's Correctional Services would like to congratulate Ms. LaMakhosini Phindile Dlamini on her re-election as the **Regional Vice-Chairperson for the African Correctional Services Association (ACSA) - Southern Africa**. This great achievement is a testament to the trust and confidence that the entire region has in your leadership.

Congratulations!



**HIS EXCELLENCY, THE RIGHT HONOURABLE PRIME
MINISTER OF ESWATINI
MR. RUSSELL MMISO DLAMINI**



**THE HONOURABLE MINISTER OF JUSTICE &
CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS
HRH. PRINCE SIMELANE**



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Commissioner General LaMakhosini Phindile Dlamini and Lubombo Regional Administrator Themba Msibi in conversation before the engagement with chiefs.



Chief Mawandla Gamedze posing a question during the chiefs' engagement.



Mambane Chief Mvimbi Matse stressing a point.



CHIEFS, BANTFWABENKHOSI ACQUAINTED ON HMCS' REHABILITATION PROGRAMMES

“As community leaders, Chiefs have a pivotal role to play towards moulding crime free communities,”

His Majesty's Correctional Services fully comprehends the crucial role that community leaders, including Chiefs and Bantfwabenhosi play in supporting reintegration and promoting positive change within their communities.

Their influence stems from their authority, cultural understanding, and connections to local families and social networks, enabling them to facilitate restorative justice, address stigma, and encourage ex-offenders to become productive members of society.

Stakeholders

As a result, several Chiefs have applauded the Commissioner General LaMakhosini Phindile Dlamini for recognizing them as key stakeholders in the rehabilitation and reintegration process. The Chiefs further expressed their unparalleled joy for being acquainted on the various services and rehabilitation programmes offered by the department.

When visiting Chiefs in the Lubombo region in February, the commissioner general expressed gratitude to the Chiefs for supporting the department

whenever they approached them for help and asked for more cooperation going forward. “As community leaders, Chiefs have a pivotal role to play towards moulding crime free communities,” Dlamini said.

Chief Mvimbi Matse of Mambane thanked the commissioner general for the visit, describing it as a first of its kind. He said such a meeting is very crucial in making them understand the mandate of HMCS. He also asked the department to inform them about the number of inmates under their constituencies so that they can be aware of the nature of prevalent crimes committed by their subjects.

He opined that this would make it easier for them to know of measures they need to undertake to address crime and related issues, such as intensifying GBV campaigns in communities with higher SODV cases. Chief Matse further pledged their full support as chiefs towards HMCS programmes.

Programmes

Chief Mahubhula of Gege in the Shiselweni region asked for more educational programmes from HMCS to help curb the various societal ills as the department is well versed on certain criminogenic behaviours.



Chief Mahubhula from Gege appreciating the platform given to them by the Commissioner General.

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Zweli Ntshangase warning students about the dangers of crime. This was during a gangsterism & crime awareness campaign at Lozitha National High School.



THE STORY OF REDEMPTION, HISTORY IS HIS-STORY

...Sentenced to 21 years in prison, Zweli de Poet recounts how God's mercy reformed and redefined his life and now is a final year student at the University of Eswatini.

Life after Prison for many former inmates is anything but a cake walk. Though ex-offenders are usually excited to have their freedom back, they however, face a host of challenges as they assimilate back into society.

The most widely known obstacles to re-entry are employment, discrimination and for others, lack of accommodation. It is true, many of our inmates have only one wish when they come to our facilities, and that is the opportunity to be given a second chance. A chance to get a good education, a chance to work, a chance to learn skills and a chance to be given any opportunity.

The work and commitment put through by correctional officers in ushering inmates into a new world is never easy. At times, officers find themselves at the edge of giving up. However, it is through success stories Ntshangase's

that officers are inspired and rejuvenated. His inspirational story of hard work and persistence makes the rehabilitation journey easier for officers as well as others who find themselves in similar situations.

Background

Born and bred at KaKhoza, an informal peri-urban settlement outside the commercial heart of Manzini, Zweli grew up accustomed to all the crime and violence associated with the location. Coming from a disadvantaged family background, he was drawn into the life of crime at a very tender age. Zweli found himself at the wrong side of the law as a result of the lifestyle he had embarked on.

Young as he was, he faced a very harsh sentence of 21 years behind bars for the crimes he had committed. It was at this time that

it dawned to him that it was time he shaped up his life. This sentence clearly was not what Zweli wished for. "It was clearly to me that my life was over, I was done and out, 21 years in jail was no joke." Zweli says his stay in prison offered him with the opportunity to reflect on his life as well as seek God's forgiveness.

"Each day I spent inside my cell, was a moment for me to come closer to God. I eventually accepted Christ as the Lord and Saviour and indeed he accepted me with all my wrong doings." Zweli says God showed his face when his sentence was miraculously reduced to seven (7) years. He says his behavior led him to serve only four (4) years of his sentence in custody and the rest on parole. During his sentence, he continued with his studies at Vulasango School while also pursuing his talent in poetry.

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his sentence in custody and the rest on parole. During his sentence, he continued with his studies at Vulamasango School while also pursuing his talent in poetry.

He excelled and obtained seven (7) credits in his SGCE results. Having passed with flying colours, he was able to enrol at the University of Eswatini where he is currently doing his Bachelor of Arts in Journalism and Mass Communication.

OFFICER NURTURES ZWELI'S TALENT, POST INCARCERATION



Mfundo Dlamini

Mfundo Dlamini, a correctional officer and chaplain based at Vulamasango School fully comprehends the role that the department ought to play especially in ensuring that those who have been released do not relapse into their wayward behavior.

Upon release, Dlamini introduced the young poet to his church; Ezulwini Evangelical. Dlamini is also the brains behind an initiative or organization called The Gentlemen's Talk. This initiative aims to empower young boys and men to become better people by discussing issues that they face in society and also through equipping them on how they can best overcome such circumstances.

"He has proven that reformation is possible, regardless of one's background." Dlamini says the young poet has grown to reach a stage where he now uses his platform known as Mic Culture to encourage young people to stay out of crime. Through his poems, he also preaches the Word of God.

REHAB DEP. APPRECIATES COMMUNITY SUPPORT

In an interview with the Commissioner –Rehabilitation and Reintegration, Bongani Khumalo, he expressed appreciation to leaders of communities, the business community and the nation in general for the continued support especially in giving ex-offenders a chance.

Khumalo stated that during the prison era, many ex-offenders carried the stigma of being convicted for life. "A conviction was like an imprint, whenever people saw an ex-inmate; they saw their conviction and would never let them forget that they committed a crime."

Khumalo said the department was however, happy to witness a paradigm shift in how ex-inmates are treated. He said with the department celebrating 30 years having transitioned from prisons to corrections, former inmates were now visible in every facet of life. EmaSwati have become more tolerant of ex-inmates back in the communities, at works, academic institutions, sports, media and many other sectors, he elaborated.

He also noted that there were many nationally known companies who make it a practice to hire ex-offenders and the correctional services was appreciative of this gesture. He said these companies strongly believe in second chances and through hiring ex-offenders in their businesses, they were strengthening their work force, rejuvenating communities and ensuring improved offender re-entry initiatives.



Zweli reciting a poem.



Commissioner Bongani Khumalo during an interview.



Inmates in one of the workshops.



Psychologists in a session with inmates.

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Commissioner General LaMakhosini Phindile Dlamini, Executive Command, Officers-in-Charge & HMCS Senior officers posing with Senior Correctional officers from Namibia, Zambia & Zimbabwe during the Peer-to-Peer Interaction workshop for Officers-in-Charge at EIMPA, Matsapha.



PEER-TO-PEER INTERACTION WORKSHOP TO ENHANCE MANAGEMENT OF SADC CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES

His Majesty's Correctional Services (HMCS) successfully hosted Officers-In-Charge (OCs) of Prisons/Correctional Centres from four SADC countries in a peer-to-peer interaction training workshop. The five day event was held at Eswatini Institute of Management and Public Administration (EIMPA) in Matsapha in August 2024.

The event was officially opened by the Commissioner General LaMakhosini Phindile Dlamini. A total of 68 OCs and Heads of Sections were part of the workshop with 18 of them from HMCS; 16 from Zambia Correctional Service, 13 from the Namibian Correctional Service and 11 from the Zimbabwean Prisons and Correctional Service.

The event was held under the theme *"Peer-to-Peer power exchange for effective correctional management"*, giving OCs an opportunity to exchange working ideas in order to effectively manage correctional facilities under their

charge. Addressing delegates during the opening ceremony, the Commissioner General said that the SADC corrections sector has; for decades been lagging in development and skills sharing for effective correctional management.

Sharing

"However, it is time we break this barrier of working in silos but open the door for the sharing of ideas in the sector in order to improve and unify our working strategy and operation," she added.

The delegates also toured Vulamasango School and the Eswatini International Trade Fair where HMCS was one of the exhibitors. They also attended the annual Umhlanga Reed Dance ceremony at Ludzidzini.



Commissioner General LaMakhosini Phindile Dlamini officially opening the Peer-to-Peer workshop.



SADC Officers-in-Charge during the discussions.

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The young heroes who took part in the Gender-Based Violence march from Criminal Mental Health Centre to Matsapha Correctional Centre (children's park).



HMCS EQUIPS OFFENDERS, YOUTH ON GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

In spite of legislative efforts, awareness campaigns and various programmes aimed at ending Gender-based Violence (GBV), a lot of countries across the globe are still grappling with the scourge. In light of this conundrum, His Majesty's Correctional Services puts offenders through GBV classes to address the underlying issues and behaviours that contribute to GBV, with the aim of preventing re-offending/recidivism and creating safer communities.

Graduation

A total of 78 offenders graduated from the GBV programme at Matsapha Correctional Centre (Maximum section) in October 2024, facilitated by Phumelela Project in partnership with SAFAIDS - a non-profit entity aimed at transforming the lives of inmates. The graduation was followed by a GBV Awareness Campaign in December 2024 aimed at sensitizing the

nation and particularly Matsapha youth, focusing more on gender-based violence against children. The campaign began with a march from the Mental Criminal Health Centre to Matsapha Correctional Centre (children's park).

Awareness

HMCS realized a strong need to provide children with adequate information and awareness on such issues, thus centering the campaign around them to close the gap that exists as most GBV campaigns tend to focus a lot on adults.



Officers from Matsapha were also part of the march.

**PLEASE TAKE ME
SERIOUSLY WHEN I
SPEAK OUT**
STOP GENDER BASED VIOLENCE



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Commissioner General LaMakhosini Phindile Dlamini (C), Deputy Commissioner General Phindile Glory Sibandze (4th R), Assistant Chief Officer Thembele Khumalo (3rd L) with participants from other countries during the Women in Corrections Conference (WICC-2025) in Bangkok, Thailand.



COMGEN REPRESENTS ESWATINI AT THE WOMEN IN CORRECTIONS CONFERENCE - BANGKOK, THAILAND

In an effort to empower and inspire women within the Correctional setting, the Correctional Services hosted a glitzy and glamorous Gala Dinner for female officers at The George Hotel, Manzini.

Themed *"Fixing My Sister's Crown"*, the event was a resounding success with motivational speeches from the Commissioner General LaMakhosini Phindile Dlamini, Senate President Pastor Lindiwe Dlamini, Mbabane Municipality CEO Gciniwe Fakudze and AFH Senior Nurse Futhi Sunshine Dlamini amongst other speakers.

The speeches highlighted the importance of women supporting and uplifting one another. Following her engagement with women within the local corrections profession, the commissioner general jetted out of the country to represent Eswatini at the Women in Corrections Conference (WICC-2025) which was held in Bangkok, Thailand in February.

The conference came as a joint venture by the International Corrections and Prisons Association (ICPA) and the Thailand Institute of Justice (TIJ) to commemorate the 15th anniversary of the Bangkok Rules.

The United Nations Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-custodial Measures for Women Offenders, known as the Bangkok Rules, were adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on December 21, 2010.

Justice

These rules were developed to address women's unique needs, vulnerabilities, and rights in the criminal justice system and encourage the use of non-custodial measures. The commissioner general was in the company of Deputy Commissioner General - Phindile Glory Sibandze and Assistant Chief Officer Thembele Khumalo.



These rules were developed to address women's unique needs, vulnerabilities, and rights in the criminal justice system and encourage the use of non-custodial measures.



Commissioner General LaMakhosini Phindile Dlamini

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Commissioner General LaMakhosini Phindile Dlamini (2nd R), Senate President Lindiwe Dlamini (2nd L), Mbabane Municipality CEO Gciniwe Fakudze (L) and AFH Senior Nurse Futhi Sunshine Dlamini during HMCS Women's Network Gala Dinner held at The George Hotel in Manzini.



DCG Phindile Glory Sibandze flanked by ACCS Mamoshoeshe Ntsane and Thandiwe Mkumane.



COMGEN with ASP Ngabisa Dlamini and Chief Officer Tengetile Dlodlu.



The COMGEN posing with LLF Directors Busi Simelane and Thuli Nxumalo.

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Bagezile Dlamini



Tracy Shabalala



Ngeti Mabuza



Phumlile "PJ" Ngwenya



Xolile Fakudze



Nomcebo Nkambule



Philile Vilakati



Philile Ntshangase

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ACCs Mkhwa Maseko & SSP Nompumelelo Ntuli receive the "Best Overall Exhibitor" award from Prime Minister Russell Mmiso Dlamini (2nd L) while Minister of Commerce Manqoba Khumalo (R) & former Manzini Mayor - Councillor Goodwill Dlamini look on.



HMCS CROWNED BEST OVERALL EXHIBITOR AT TRADE FAIR FOR SECOND YEAR RUNNING

His Majesty's Correctional Services was once again crowned Best Overall Exhibitor at the 2024 Eswatini International Trade Fair (EITF), defending the award they won in the 2023 edition. The department was exhibiting under the theme "Strengthening Corrections through digital innovation; Operation Nkwe!" Members of the public who visited the stand were impressed with the amazing products and services on offer.

His Majesty King Mswati III also visited the stand and got to learn about the products showcased by the department and various services offered. HMCS culture teams also excelled in the Cultural Dance Competition sponsored by MulaSport and Corban Hardware, obtaining first position in *Sibhaca* and *Ingadla*, taking home a trophy each, plus E7 500 and E5 000 respectively.

HMCS AWARDS - EITF 2024

Overall Exhibitor	-Position 1
Armed Forces Category	-Position 1
Innovation & Creative Industries	-Position 2



CH/ OFF. Mpumelelo Nhleko explaining about Social Work programmes.



The PM Minister posing for a group photo with exhibitors.



HMCS Exhibition Hall display.



Agriculture section.

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The Commissioner General posing with officials from Standard Bank and Junior Achievement Eswatini during a farewell function for Vulamasango High School's Agric-Tech Solutions Pty (Ltd), as they left for JA Africa COY Exposition in Mauritius.



VULAMASANGO SCHOOL'S SUPREMACY CONTINUES IN JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT

The catchphrase "There are only two schools in the country - Vulamasango and The Rest" seems to carry more truth and meaning than the empirical evidence proving the spherical shape of the Earth. The school won the Junior Achievement (JA) Eswatini Company of the Year (COY) award 2024, earning themselves a ticket to represent the country at JA Africa COY in Mauritius in December where they also shined.

Working under the theme "*Greenovation*" to promote environmental management; innovation and climate smart products, Vulamasango High School's Agric-Tech Solutions Pty (Ltd) designed an Electro-Culture Generator which delivers a low electric current to the roots of plants through drip irrigation.

This electric current stimulates water uptake, nutrient absorption, and root growth, potentially leading to increased crop yields and reduced water and

fertilizer usage. This innovative technology has the potential to revolutionize sustainable agriculture, making it a more efficient and environmentally friendly practice.

...As they win 3rd JA Eswatini Company of the Year award in 4 years, shine in Africa.



VULAMASANGO'S JA ESWATINI AWARDS 2024

- Company of the Year (COY)
- Most Innovative Product
- Excellence in Project Management
- Business with the Best Kept Records
- Best Overall Facilitator - Sibusiso Magongo

E10 000 + Trophy + Certificate
Trophy + Certificate
Trophy + Certificate
Trophy + Certificate
E2 000 + Certificate

JA AFRICA AWARDS 2024

- Company of the Year (COY) 2nd Runners Up
- Citi Foundation Best Client Focus Award
- Delta Airlines Girls Lead award

US\$500 + Trophy
4x JBL Headsets + Trophy
Trophy + Trip expenses

"Celebrating the transformative power of second chances; A 30 year milestone."

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Parents and students in a jovial mood during the Vulamasango School Family Fun Day. Families got the opportunity to play and mingle with their children.



ECSTATIC STUDENTS, PARENTS CELEBRATE VULAMASANGO FAMILY FUN DAY

While many were embracing the festive holiday spirit, eagerly waiting for December 25 where they would celebrate with their relatives through scrumptious meals; glitzy clothes and exchange of gifts, parents/guardians, friends and siblings of Vulamasango students crammed the school premises to participate in a Family Fun Day.

Organized in collaboration with Kwakha Indvodza in December 2024, the event proved to be a huge success as parents turned out in large numbers to play and mingle with their children.

Commissioner General LaMakhosini Phindile Dlamini heaped praises on parents who took time to visit their children at the school. Dlamini highlighted the importance of maintaining strong family relations between parents and students. She mentioned that the best Christmas gifts parents could give their children was the gift of love which was portrayed throughout the event as students had the opportunity to mingle with their loved ones.

The event was filled with fascinating games played by students, parents and officers. These included the famous *Natsa Cedza*, Spin the Wheel, Tug of War and a race for both officers and parents, amongst others.



BONDING SESSION: A student and his siblings posing with some goodies.



Action during the tug-of-war

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Minister of Justice & Constitutional Affairs HRH. Prince Simelane with the COMGEN; HMCS senior officers & officers from the Commission on Human Rights & Public Administration/Integrity, Judiciary and Law Society after the launch of the Assessment of the State of Pre-trial Detainees at Manzini Remand Centre.



HMCS, STAKEHOLDERS LAUNCH ASSESSMENT OF STATE OF PRE-TRIAL DETAINEES

The Commission on Human Rights and Public Administration/Integrity (CHRPA) visited His Majesty's Correctional Services to launch the assessment of the state of Pre-trial Detainees in the country's Correctional Centres.

The launch was held at Manzini Remand Centre in October 2024 in collaboration with the Ministry of Justice & Constitutional Affairs' stakeholders namely HMCS, Judiciary, Director of Public Prosecutions and Law Society. The assessment will engage all these stakeholders including inmates to identifying factors that cause delays in finalizing court cases with the aim of finding solutions for the conundrum.

The Commissioner General applauded the working relationship with all stakeholders within the criminal justice system and asked for more to be done to speed up trials, a move that would solve the challenge of overcrowding amongst many faced by the department. The Minister

of Justice HRH. Prince Simelane emphasized the need for fair and speedy trials within reasonable time, for all individuals charged for contravening the law, in line with section 21 (1) of the constitution of the Kingdom of Eswatini. Simelane also decried the shortage of judges and magistrates in the country's courts but shared some positive news regarding the issue of missing/lost dockets.

Management

The minister said this will soon be a thing of the past as the ministry is on the verge of introducing the Electronic File Management System which will not only ensure the safety and security of court dockets, but will also enhance the efforts of expediting court cases.

Deputy Commissioner of the CHRPA Duduzile Dlamini-Nhlengethwa also applauded HMCS for working with them in as far as upholding the rights and dignity of inmates in concerned. She said such collaborations will help solve the current issue of prolonged stay for detainees.



Minister of Justice & Constitutional Affairs HRH. Prince Simelane speaking during the launch.



Officers from His Majesty's Correctional Services with Elizabeth Nkhabindze's family and community members after donating clothes and food parcels at Mdzangwini. This is part of the department's Corporate Social Responsibility.



CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS WARM THE HEARTS OF NEEDY FAMILIES

Charity is a supreme virtue and the great channel through which the mercy of God is passed onto mankind." The tenets of this Conrad Hilton quote hold true for His Majesty's Correctional Services whose officers have incorporated the spirit of helping the needy as part of the department's Corporate Social Responsibility.

Such endeavours are manifested in a number of charitable activities by the various correctional centres throughout the year and Christmas is one of the occasions through which officers come together to put smiles on the faces of the needy.

In December, officers based at the Headquarters in Mbabane donated Christmas food parcels and clothing to a Nkhabindze family of Mdzangwini under Mbabane East Inkhundla. This is a family of two elderly women; one who is wheelchair-bound. Indvuna Yenkundla Phindile Maziya thanked the Commissioner General for instilling the spirit of benevolence amongst officers.

Elizabeth Nkhabindze was so thankful for the donation and asked the officers to express her utmost appreciation to the Commissioner General and the entire staff for the food as she enjoyed Christmas day with her family and was left with more food for the coming days.

The officers also visited Michael Gamedze, a 57 year old visually impaired man of Mahwalala to donate food items to him as well. Gamedze is the same man who received a Christmas donation from the department in 2023.



Assistant Commissioner Gab'sile Manyatsi speaking on behalf of the COMGEN.



Charity is a supreme virtue and the great channel through which the mercy of God is passed onto mankind.



Mbabane East Indvuna Yenkundla Phindile Maziya with Ntombi Nkhabindze and Elizabeth Nkhabindze.

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CHAIRPERSON LAUDS INITIATIVE, ENCOURAGES ALL OFFICERS TO JOIN



ABRCA Chairperson
Thamsanqa Phakathi

Chairperson of the new ABRCA board Thamsanqa Phakathi applauded Asihlumisane board members for coming up with idea of the funeral and risk cover which has now been transformed into the historic ABRCA. He also thanked the interim board for holding the reigns prior to the election of the new board. Phakathi also thanked all stakeholders and ABRCA members for making policy submissions and other contributions towards the formation of the association. He then implored Correctional officers and Asihlumisane members at large to join ABRCA. Worth noting is that a number of officers and support staff are covered by the Correctional Death Benefit Fund where they make monthly contributions and receive financial support when they or their covered family members pass on. The need to join ABRCA to supplement funeral covers due to the rising costs associated with bereavement cannot be overemphasized.

ABRCA EXECUTIVE BOARD 2025-2028

1. Chairperson - Mr. Thamsanqa Phakathi
2. Vice Chairperson - Ms. Sithembile Dlamini
3. Treasurer - Mr. Phathisizwe Mkhonta
4. Secretary - Ms. Tanele Dlamini
5. Member - Mr. Majaha Kunene
6. Audit & Compliance – Mr. Themba Mbuli
7. Audit & Compliance – Mr. Ndumiso Dlamini

DEATH BENEFIT FUND, ABRCA CATER FOR OFFICERS IN TIMES OF SORROW

Death is an inevitable part of life, it's a concept that many find difficult to reconcile with. This feeling manifests in various ways, such as the desire to continue living, the fear of the unknown, or the pain of losing loved ones. The big question becomes, how prepared are you for this sad occurrence?

The establishment of the Death Benefit Fund for correctional officers demonstrated the importance of providing financial support to families in the event of an officer's death. This fund provides a crucial safety net for families, ensuring they can afford a dignified funeral and manage the financial challenges that come with loss.

Motivated by past experiences, where the department had to deal with cases of officers passing away without preparing for this time through burial schemes, the Correctional Services' leadership saw the need to operationalize the Death Benefit Fund which had been idle for the past three decades. The operationalization of the fund was solely to assist officers and

their relatives to be buried with the much deserved dignity. On the other hand, this marked a landmark stride for correctional officers as they got to elect into office, the first Board Members of Asihlumisane Burial and Risk Cover Association (ABRCA). This was during the association's first Annual General Meeting (AGM) held at the Staff College in Matsapha. This new board replaced the interim board that had been running the association since August 2024.

Provision

Asihlumisane Savings and Credit Co-operative Society – affectionately known as Hluma – is an organization under the aegis of HMCS, which empowers its members through the provision of financial services, helping them to save, invest and borrow money to cater for their needs. ABRCA is a burial cover that was previously under Asihlumisane but due to regulatory requirements, had to be re-established as an independent entity to provide its members with burial and risk covers.



Inmates entertaining the audience during their Christmas party at Matsapha Correctional Centre.



DIVINE CHRISTMAS CHEER FOR INMATES

Having Christmas, or at least acknowledging the holiday, is very critical for inmates as such provides a sense of normalcy and offers a chance for reflection and hope. For some, it is a time for reflection and perhaps even a chance to connect with religious beliefs. For others, it is a time to maintain connections with loved ones through visits and family bonds.

Inmates across the various Correctional Centres were treated to cheerful Christmas celebrations throughout the month of December up to the New Year. These celebrations were prepared by the Correctional Services in collaboration with various social partners including faith-based organizations who ministered the word of God.

Notable local Gospel artists worshipped with the inmates through music and they included amongst others; Thabile Myeni, Ndawonye Christ Worshipers leader Mrs. Dvuba, Make Simelane and the Calvary, Amaweseli and Phathwakahle Mabuza.

Inmates were also part of the entertainment line-up as they rendered poems and songs.

At Matsapha Correctional, there was a Christmas luncheon themed "*Ngijika litje lana, Angibuyi Ejele*" meant to discourage recidivism and re-offending. There was an award ceremony where inmates won various prizes in categories such as; most disciplined; most improved; most clean; most dedicated; and most hardworking inmate. The event was also filled with several games which included the famous *Natsa-Cedza* competition.

The inmates thanked the department and all sponsors who worked together to make sure they had a merry Christmas. The inmates further pledged their commitment towards the fight against Gender-Based Violence and Gangsterism.

**"Ngijika litje lana,
Angibuyi Ejele"**



Inmates participating in the famous *Natsa Cedza* competition.



Senior officers following proceedings.

HIS MAJESTY'S CORRECTIONAL SERVICES



HMCS senior officers, Methodist Church members and gospel artists listening to the Word of God.



Gospel artist Thabile Myeni performing.



SACCS Norma Sibandze awarding an inmate for being the most disciplined.



The audience admiring performances.



Matsapha Officer-in-Charge ACCS Jabulani Kunene encouraging inmates competing in the tug-of-war. Kunene being awarded with certificate by the organizing committee for his support towards the Christmas festivities.



HIS MAJESTY'S CORRECTIONAL SERVICES



HMCS PHOTO FOCUS



His Majesty King Mswati III doing *kudlaliselala* in front of HMCS Imbali at the Reed Dance.



Commissioner General LaMakhosini Phindile Dlamini (R) together with SADC Correctional leaders pose with Botswana President Duma Boko at the 67th Botswana Prisons Day Commemoration.



Prime Minister Russell Mmiso Dlamini conversing with the COMGEN on his tour of Matsapha Correctional Centre.



CONQUERERS! Team Correctional pose with Indlelayekuphila Investments staff & Director Michael Ndleleni Masuku after a successful Mahamba Gorge Hiking.



SADC Officers-in-charge of Correctional centres with the Commissioner General and HMCS senior officers touring the Royal Eswatini Sugar Corporation, Mhlume Factory Mill.



The Correctional Services Brass Band leading the march during the commemoration of World AIDS Day 2024.

HIS MAJESTY'S CORRECTIONAL SERVICES



HMCS PHOTO FOCUS



Commissioner General LaMakhosini Phindile Dlamini (traditional attire), Senior Superintendent Rainy Mefika Dlamini (2nd R) and faith-based organizations during the Vilamasango School Christmas party.



Sergeant Lwazi Dlamini receives a certificate from the COMGEN after completing a Supervisory Management course at the staff college in Matsapha.



ACCs Mamoshoe Ntsane posing with the protocol team during the 2024 Correctional Services Day and Pass Out parade.



Officers from the horse unit.



Noxolo Fakudze receives her Correctional Basic Training certificate from Commandant – Deputy Commissioner General Cyril Maseko.



Inmates' Zion choir rendering a piece of music.

"Celebrating the transformative power of second chances; A 30 year milestone."

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HIS MAJESTY'S CORRECTIONAL SERVICES



Sergeant Philile Mkhweli briefing His Majesty King Mswati III on how a centrifuge operates within a laboratory setting. This was during her graduation ceremony at Good Shepherd Catholic College for Health Sciences. She was conferred with a Diploma in General Nursing where she obtained a distinction. Mkhweli was also presented with an award for being the best in practicals.



TRANSFORMING FUTURES: THE IMPACT OF STAFF DEVELOPMENT IN OFFENDER REHABILITATION

His Majesty's Correctional Services encourages officers to further their education, putting emphasis on the importance of staff development as a vital tool for helping officers refine their existing skills and acquire new ones to be more effective in the execution of their duties. Based on this premise, the Commissioner General LaMakhosini Phindile Dlamini has applauded officers who have taken efforts to continuously equip themselves academically in the past year. Dlamini further emphasized on the importance of career development in this dynamic world which requires a knowledgeable and flexible workforce.

Education is one of the key instruments used by His Majesty's Correctional Services to rehabilitate offenders. This programme is one of many that are being offered by the department and it plays a pivotal role in improving the mindset of offenders, their conduct and behaviour whilst also bringing about enhanced permanent changes in their lives.

Through the educational services offered to those in conflict with the law, the department strives to equip them with skills that will enhance their intellectual growth, employability and self-sustenance post incarceration.

The responsibility of transforming offenders requires professionally trained officers; hence the department has always advised officers to upgrade their academic skills. These officers are key in driving the rehabilitation programmes and assisting offenders to develop into law abiding citizens who have been capacitated with a wide range of income generating and psycho-social support skills.

By investing in their academic growth; correctional officers will, therefore, be more adaptable, resilient, and better equipped to handle any challenges, ultimately contributing to improved performance and service delivery. The Human Resource Management and Training

section further urges personnel to seek educational programmes which match their individual developmental needs and organizational objectives.

Institutions

The commissioner general said she was pleased to see a number of officers taking the initiative to enrol for short and long term courses at various institutions of higher learning. She then expressed her felicitations to all officers conferred with Master's degrees, Bachelors degrees, Diplomas and Certificates from the University of Eswatini (UNESWA), Eswatini College of Technology (ECOT), Ngwane Teachers' College, William Pitcher College, the Institute of Development Management (IDM), Emergency Medical Rescue College, and Eswatini College of Theology amongst others. Some officers got the chance to further their studies abroad.

HIS MAJESTY'S CORRECTIONAL SERVICES

Speaking during an interview, the commissioner general said these officers' academic achievements should inspire others to pursue their educational goals. She further opined that continuous learning will play a crucial role in ensuring the effectiveness and efficiency of the department.

Therefore, the importance of personal development can never be overemphasized as it helps officers adapt to the changing world of the fourth industrial revolution, overcome challenges, and succeed personally and professionally.



Commissioner General LaMakhosini Phindile Dlamini flanked by officers who graduated at UNESWA in October 2024.



Deputy Commissioner General Ephraem Tfwala.



Sandile Manana and Chief Officer Thamsanqa Phakathi posing with Deputy Commissioner General Ephraem Tfwala after graduating with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Human Resource Management at IDM.



Muzi Nkambule & Mxolisi Sukati pose after graduating with a Certificate in Emergency Medical Care & Rescue at Emergency Medical Rescue College.

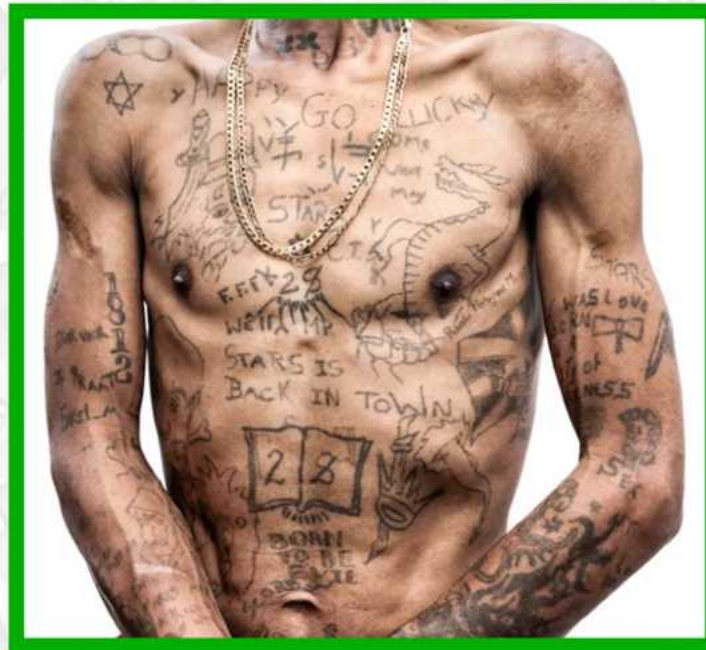


Lethuxolo Dlamini was conferred with a Primary Teachers' Diploma (PTD) at Ngwane Teachers College.



Thulile Magagula poses after graduating with a Certificate in Peace and Conflict Management from Eswatini College of Theology.

HIS MAJESTY'S CORRECTIONAL SERVICES



HMCS CALLS FOR UNITY TO END SPECTRE OF GANGSTERISM

Following a surge in gang activities within local schools and communities, His Majesty's Correctional Services has teamed up with various stakeholders such as schools, churches, corporate organizations and communities in an effort to extirpate the spectre of gangsterism currently haunting society. Gang violence has a profound and detrimental impact on schools and communities across the country, with recent incidents depicting an increase in the number of young people who are recruited into various gangs/groups.

A Gang is an organized group of people; mostly young males who come together to cause trouble or engage in illegal activities, often using violence and intimidation. A gang can also be defined as a group of friends who meet regularly and spend most of their time together in order to frighten, hurt and oppose rules and regulations of the society.

The operational activities, behavioral patterns, and cultural norms within organized crime groups frequently involve illicit acts such as extortion, drug

trafficking, money laundering, robbery and other acts of violence. Gangs typically operate within a hierarchical structure, engaging in criminal enterprises for profits and power.

After realizing that the country's youth was faced with the scourge, the Commissioner General LaMakhosini Phindile Dlamini dispatched a team of officers to respond to this career threatening conduct. Since the beginning of year, they have been visiting schools, churches, corporate organizations and communities and to sensitize the youth, parents and teachers alike about the dangers of gangsterism, which at a glance looks fashionable and trendy.

They visited schools such as Lozitha and Herefords High, following an earlier engagement with Head teachers from the Manzini region which was held at Sydney Williams Primary. The team of officers from both the Rehabilitation and Public Relations offices also visited Egugwini Primary school in Mankayane for a gangsterism and career guidance talk. They also engaged Mhubhe High school

teachers, Mantshonga Church of the Nazarene youth and the Construction Industry Council.

Addressing teachers and students in one of the schools, Deputy Public Relations Officer – Assistant Chief Officer (ACO) Baphelele Kunene expressed concern with the general misconception that the current scourge of gangsterism wreaking havoc across the country's schools and communities is bred within the Kingdom's correctional facilities. Kunene dispelled this misapprehension, stating that gang involvement stems from a complex interplay of factors.

Understanding gangsterism will make parents to be effective in curbing it and helping children overcome gang involvement. Kunene then expressed appreciation to all schools, churches and other organizations for engaging the department on the thorny issue of gangsterism because such partnerships between law enforcement agencies, schools, communities, corporates and faith-based organizations will lead to more effective and sustainable gang prevention efforts.

HIS MAJESTY'S CORRECTIONAL SERVICES

What leads young people to join a Gang?

- Drugs
- Toxic family relationships
- Lack of family support
- Low self esteem
- Poor academic performance or learning difficulties
- School-related violence or bullying
- Negative peer association
- Lack of material satisfaction
- Growing up in an abusive family
- Lack of good role models
- Poverty

How to help young people to quit a gang?

- Build a solid relationship with them to an extent where they trust you and are able to be vulnerable with you.
- Investigate or find the contributing factors that led them to join a gang.
- Seek to understand first before you reprimand.
- Show empathy and understanding. Seek to see things from their perspective and try to sympathize with them. This is for winning their trust.
- Offer support and re-assurance. Let them know that you are there for them and that they can always come to you if they need guidance and support.
- Initiate the rehabilitation process. Find help for them from professionals.
- If there's a need, change their environment.
- Positive co-parenting
- Avoid jumping into conclusions. Be open to finding help for your child



Deputy PRO, ACO Baphelele Kunene explaining the department's rehabilitation programme to Construction Industry Council staff.



Luvuyo Dlamini speaking to students at Herefords High School.



Headteachers from the Manzini Region listening to a presentation by HMCS officers on gangsterism and the role of educators in curbing the scourge.



Mfundo Dlamini engaging students from Lozitha National High School on the dangers of gangsterism.



Construction Industry Council staff posing with HMCS officers.

HIS MAJESTY'S CORRECTIONAL SERVICES



FLAS Youth drama team entertaining the audience with plays & poems promoting menstrual health during the Menstrual Health Management Day commemoration at Vulamasango School.



HMCS APPLAUDED FOR PRIORITIZING SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH CARE FOR INCARCERATED WOMEN

United Nations Population Fund's (UNFPA) Head of Office for Eswatini, Margaret Thwala-Tembe has applauded His Majesty's Correctional Services (HMCS) for prioritising Sexual and Reproductive Health care for incarcerated women. This was during the commemoration of Menstrual Health Management (MHM) Day which was held at Vulamasango School in Malkerns early this month.

Celebrated every year on May 28, the day teaches both adolescent girls and boys about menstrual health and hygiene. The celebration was held in collaboration with the Ministry of Health and various stakeholders such as UNFPA, Georgetown University, AHF, FLAS, AGYW, UNICEF and others. This year's event was commemorated under the theme; "Together for a period friendly world."

There were various entertainment activities from music to dance, poetry and drama. The partners also donated dignitary packs for the students. HMCS Commissioner General LaMakhosini Phindile Dlamini was represented by Deputy

Commissioner General Phindile Glory Sibandze, who expressed appreciation to the Ministry of Health and all partners present for remembering Vulamasango as the school forms part of the broader society. The commissioner general described HM Day as an awareness day dedicated to address the challenges faced by girls particularly those lacking access to essential resources and facing stigma.

The menstruation topic is often shrouded in secrecy and stigma, leading to misinformation and a lack of open discussion. "Our girls, like many others are not spared from the hardships which emanate from the lack of resources at family level and those faced by the country as a whole," Dlamini said.

Dlamini also applauded teachers and officers who spend time with the students, mentoring and supporting them throughout their adolescence. "We believe that what we see today is a product of their efforts and prayers. In like manner, may I also thank you students for your respect and will to be mentored," she added.

The commissioner general said the department was pleased to have the MHM Day commemoration at the school as the girls were well-equipped and motivated through the sessions. "We hope that this donation will go a long way in helping the students as we strongly believe that menstruation should not limit access to education, health or opportunities," she said.

Ayanda Simelane, who was representing the Ministry of Education and Training (MoET) said the ministry has observed that for too many girls in Eswatini, the monthly menstrual period is a barrier to their education, health and dignity.

She said the issue is a silent crisis that demands urgent attention from everyone. Simelane said a number of young girls miss school for several days each month, feeling ashamed and embarrassed and worse - unable to speak out due to lack of sanitary pads. Some resort to unhygienic alternatives, a sad situation faced by a lot of girls in the country as a number of schools lack adequate Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) facilities.

HIS MAJESTY'S CORRECTIONAL SERVICES



A TRIBUTE TO A FALLEN HERO - HMCS REMEMBERS 'GOMAN'

Hearing about the death of a loved one triggers a complex array of emotions, including shock, disbelief, sadness, anger, and despair. These emotions can be overwhelming and difficult to process. Such news alone leave behind a multitude of unanswered questions, such as "Why?" and "How?"

Today, His Majesty's Correctional Services takes time to remember one of our fallen heroes; Nkosinathi Goman Mdluli, a highly respected *Sibhaca* conductor, who responded to the Lord's call early this year. Mdluli was widely known and admired in traditional dance circles, particularly for his contributions to *Sibhaca*, a vibrant form of traditional dance.

His passing was mourned by members of the national *Sibhaca* team and many others who knew him. Mdluli was also renowned for his talents in drill and his service as Assistant Chief Officer, where he was also celebrated for his contributions to culture.

As we celebrate a day like this, Mdluli's creativity and contribution continues to echo in our minds and hearts. His flair and ability to compose new songs shall forever be missed. His resourcefulness rendered him a reference person as many

would consult him whenever they had new ideas which they needed to introduce and or harness. Indeed his demise was not only a loss to the department but the country as a whole, as clearly defined by his journey and success stories.

GOMAN'S ACHIEVEMENTS

- He attended SAGM Primary School at Maphalaleni, where his *Sibhaca* talent was discovered at the age of six.
- He proceeded to Somnjalose High School, where he completed his education.
- In 2006, he joined His Majesty's Correctional Services *Sibhaca* team.
- In 2007, he contested for Lujikeleto.
- In 2008, he was employed by the Correctional Services and passed out as S/N. 2656 Nkosinathi Goman Mdluli.
- In the same year, Mdluli started working at Correctional.
- He won the first prize money of the Tihlabani Awards.
- In 2009, His Majesty's Correctional Services won the Trade Fair Cup in culture competitions.
- In the same year, the department won the Imvelo Beer Awards.
- In 2010, He toured South Africa's soccer fields ahead of the World Cup.
- He won an Outstanding Performance Award in 2011.
- In 2014, he was transferred to Matsapha Correctional Staff College, where he was stationed until he met his death.
- In 2015, the department won the Trade Fair Cup *Sibhaca* competitions.
- In 2015, he was promoted to Sergeant.
- In the same year, he did a Supervisory Management Course.
- In 2016, he did a Fire Arms and Ammunition Course
- In 2017, he won an Opel Corsa sponsored by Corban Hardware for a culture competition.
- In 2018, he was promoted to Assistant Chief Officer (ACO).
- In 2019, he did an Armed Response Course.
- He left behind his wife, two children, parents, and six siblings.

HIS MAJESTY'S CORRECTIONAL SERVICES



HMCS THROUGH CULTURE



HMCS *Ingadla* team.



HMCS *Sibhaca* team.



HMCS THROUGH CULTURE



Lutsango



Lacwebetelako

"Celebrating the transformative power of second chances; A 30 year milestone."

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HIS MAJESTY'S CORRECTIONAL SERVICES



NOURISHING NEW BEGINNINGS; A CULINARY CELEBRATION



Noxolo Fakudze

After a year of intensive and comprehensive training, His Majesty's Correctional Services Commissioner General LaMakhosini Phindile Dlamini saw it fit to host a gala dinner for the two hundred and eighty nine (289) recruits who were sworn in and blessed by His Majesty King Mswati III on the 2nd August 2024. The event was held at Matsapha Correctional Staff College.



Mfan'khona Hlophe



Semusa Dlamini



Sizwe Dlamini.



Nomvuselelo Mtsetfwa



"Celebrating the transformative power of second chances; A 30 year milestone."



HALF A MILLION SPONSORSHIP FOR COMMISSIONER GENERAL'S CUP

The E500 000 sponsorship for His Majesty's Correctional Services officers was a shot in the arm for all the department's sporting disciplines battling it out in the Commissioner General's Cup. The exciting news was announced by the Correctional Services Commissioner General LaMakhosini Phindile Dlamini during a launch held at Matsapha Correctional Staff College sports ground last year October.

Delivering her speech after pumping in the whopping funding for the 2024/2025 season that commenced in November, Dlamini stated that the tournament accommodated all the sporting codes within the Correctional system namely; soccer, netball, volleyball, tug-of-war, athletics, pool and darts.

The Commissioner General was of the idea that sports and other regular physical activities were good for a person's mind, body and spirit. They improve physical fitness, teach people about teamwork, accountability and leader

ship. For the department of Correctional Services, these skills are a priceless learning curve not only for officers but offenders which will benefit them when faced with problems in any social sphere.

On another note, Dlamini said despite the fact that officers face a demanding and stressful environment, sports can play a pivotal part and improve overall conditioning, flexibility and make them attentive and efficient on their job.

The Commissioner General also said sponsoring the tournament was meant to promote friendship amongst officers as they work in different stations. She then pleaded with the teams to practice fair play during the games.

Speaking on behalf of the Commissioner General's Cup Management Committee which has been tasked to manage and oversee the smooth running of the games, ASP Cosmo Dlamini pledged to make sure the games were organized in a professional manner and aligned to the

purpose of establishment. "As we know that the environment and conditions we work under in our various centres are stressful, such games will indeed be helpful in reducing stress levels. Playing such games will also ensure that officers will be able to interact," Dlamini said.



COMGEN'S CUP Management Committee chairperson, ASP Cosmo Dlamini.

HIS MAJESTY'S CORRECTIONAL SERVICES



GOAL! The COMGEN scores to kick start the Netball games.



The COMGEN posing with the College Netball team after the launch.



Pool players posing with the COMGEN.



Station teams posing with their playing kits.



Bhalekane Correctional Soccer team receiving their playing kit from the Commissioner General



Referees before kick-off.



Pool players in action.

HIS MAJESTY'S CORRECTIONAL SERVICES



Malkerns & Manzini Remand Centre battling it out in the semi-finals.



Pigg's Peak in action against College.



Manzini Remand Centre Soccer team.



Matsapha Correctional Soccer team.



Malkerns Netball team playing against Nhlangano.



Officers participating in the 100m race.



Bhalekane Correctional Soccer team.



Match officials posing with club captains before kick-off.



Correctional Headquarters Netball team.



Matsapha Netball team.

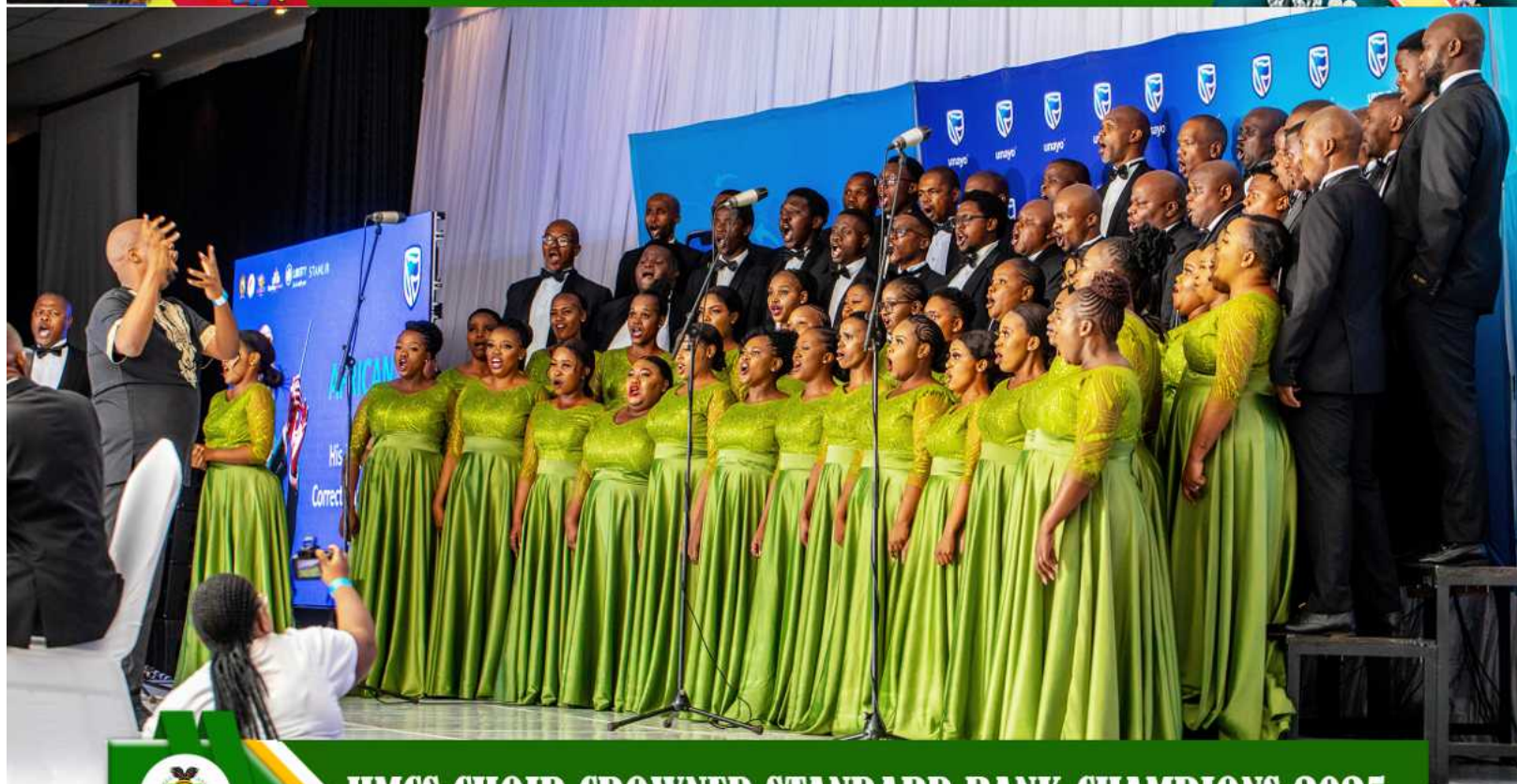


Action from the Darts tournament.



Matsapha Correctional & Bhalekane during their match.

HIS MAJESTY'S CORRECTIONAL SERVICES



HMCS CHOIR CROWNED STANDARD BANK CHAMPIONS 2025

In a thrilling culmination of talent and teamwork, His Majesty's Correctional Services Choir was crowned champions of the Standard Bank Choral Music Championship. This was during an event held at Esibayeni Lodge in Matsapha. Their captivating performance, marked by stunning harmonies and emotional depth wowed both the audience and adjudicators alike.

With an impressive blend of classical and contemporary pieces, the choir not only showcased their musical prowess but also their ability to connect with listeners, earning them the top honour in a competition filled with remarkable talent.

The Commissioner General (COMGEN) LaMakhosini Phindile Dlamini alongside Deputy Commissioner General Phindile Sibandze made a notable appearance during the competition, bringing a touch of prestige to the event. Dlamini was there to support the choir and celebrate the incredible talent on display.

Under the skilled direction of Melisizwe Zwane, the choir delivered a powerful rendition of both the Western piece titled Magnificat (D486) by Franz Schurbert, and the African Piece Ingoma by Melisizwe Zwane - a song celebrating 32 years of the bank's existence seamlessly transitioning from an uplifting arrangement of medley that had the crowd singing along.

Their vibrant lime green and glittering uniforms added to the visual appeal, while their ability to engage the audience created an inclusive atmosphere.

Impression

The HMCS Choir left a lasting impression when performing their own choice titled "Umphandza" sponsored by Imisebe Publishing, solidifying their reputation as they scooped the 2025 Standard Bank Choral Championship with two Platinums; 93% & 95% sum up to 188 points and E25 000 prize money.

SOLOISTS RESULTS

Alto Solo

1st Position: 80% - Nothile Mathonsi

Tenor Solo

1st Position: 75% - Sibusiso Dlamini

Bass Solo

2nd Position: 75% - Andile Mavuso



Conductor Melisizwe Zwane receiving the "Own Choice" award from Imisebe Publishing's Hlobile Stromvig and Miss Eswatini Temvelo Mtsetfwa.

ATHLETE | THOBILE ANNATTA NGWENYAMA

Background: Nicknamed after Ethiopian long-distance runner, Tirunesh Dibaba, Correctional Athletics Club trailblazing runner Thobile 'Dibaba' Ngwenyama was born at Mzimphofu, in the Manzini Region, the second of six children in her family. She began competing in athletics at the age of 12. She was raised by both parents and has Christian values. She comes from a sporting family of football stars and athletes. Thobile is the most decorated of the family.



Following the fact that her father was a sports teacher at Mhubhe High School, Dibaba and siblings were compelled to partake in sports while growing up. Interviewed by the Public Relations Office, Ngwenyama appreciated His Majesty's Correctional Services Commissioner General LaMakhosini Phindile Dlamini for allowing her to continue pursuing her dream as a racer despite being a correctional officer.

She also thanked her for giving athletes time for training and said such is a true reflection of the Correctional Services' excellence in sports locally and internationally. She further lauded her teammates for the continued support they demonstrate during training sessions as well as competitions.

Surprisingly, Ngwenyama never competed at school level since her Primary and High school (St Joseph's) never participated in any school competitions back then. She was therefore introduced to the game by her father, Lister Ngwenyama, to the then manager of Correctional Athletics Club Sipho 'Malalephenduka' Dlamini.

Ngwenyama said she received a warm reception from the squad and that is where her running career started and blossomed. Although she mentioned that being a female athlete had challenges since athletics is a male dominated sport, she was of the view that women have to be strong as she said "strong women don't just happen but they are forged through challenges and empowered by resilience."

Ngwenyama further shared this inspiring quote to all women destined for succession saying "a woman is like a tea bag, you can't tell how strong she is until you put her in hot water."

1. Question: What's your favorite marathon out of all the ones you have done & why?

Answer: Imbube Marathon 6th Edition that took place last year (2024). It has been my dream to win this prestigious marathon since it attracts not only locals but internationals from several countries such as South Africa, Kenya, and Zimbabwe; hence I wanted to showcase my talent and growth in the sport. I am glad my dream came true.

2. Question: What do you do with all the marathon medals?

Answer: I decorate with them.

Question: Top 'long-time' marathon runner tip?

Answer: Give yourself time during training by being consistent, prioritizing rest and recovery as well as maintaining a balanced diet with adequate hydration.

Question: What do you still forget to do/do wrong?

Answer: Stretch

Question: Your favorite race distance and why?

Answer: 21 km. This is one of the races which can have a positive impact on mental health. It can also reduce stress, improve mood, and boost self-esteem. Accomplishing this race can also enhance confidence and provide a sense of pride.

Question: Do you have a 'go to' pre-marathon meal?

Answer: Carbo-loading which is consuming a large quantity of carbohydrates, especially in order to increase stores of glycogen in the muscles before taking part in a sporting activity.

Question: Your advice to athletes and aspiring athletes?

Answer: All I can say is don't give up. To upcoming athletes, life is a race and that's the main reason to press on. Keep on fighting until your dream is fulfilled. This kind of sport needs patience more than anything. So my advice would be the sky is the limit.



PROFILE

NAME: Thobile Annatta Ngwenyama
NICKNAME: Dibaba
DATE OF BIRTH: 14 October 1989
PLACE OF BIRTH: Mzimphofu
GENDER: Female
SIBLINGS: 5 (2 brothers and 3 sisters)

RECENT ACHIEVEMENTS:

First spot 21.1km in the Lubombo Marathon Siteki.

RACE: Both track and field events plus road running (800m -10 000m) & (10km -21km)



HIS MAJESTY'S CORRECTIONAL SERVICES

RETIRED/OFFICERS TO RETIRE - YEAR 2025

The Commissioner General and staff of His Majesty's Correctional Services are pleased to express their sincere gratitude to the following officers for their diligent service to the department until their time of retirement.

S/NO.	RANK	NAME & SURNAME	STATION	DATE OF BIRTH	DATE OF RETIREMENT
1.	DCG.	Muhle A. Dlodlu	Headquarters	05/01/1965	05/01/2025
2. 1639	ACO.	Ernest S. Dlamini	Big Bend	20/02/1965	20/02/2025
3. 1801	SGT.	Mbuyazwe Gina	Criminal Centre	11/03/1965	11/03/2025
4.	ASP	Vusi Dlamini	Bhalekane	23/03/1965	23/03/2025
5. 1700	SGT.	Fana Maziya	Big Bend	04/04/1965	04/04/2025
6.	ASP	Philemon Ntshangase	Manzini Remand	30/06/1965	30/06/2025
7. 1662	CH/OFF.	Vusi Bulunga	Manzini Remand	10/07/1965	10/07/2025
8. 1781	CH/OFF.	Robert Dlamini	Pigg's Peak	22/07/1965	22/07/2025
9.	DCG.	Ephraem T. Tfwala	Headquarters	31/10/1965	31/10/2025
10.	SACCS.	Norma N. Dlamini	Headquarters	27/11/1965	27/11/2025
11.	SP.	Paulos Dlamini	Manzini Remand	02/12/1965	02/12/2025

SPONTANEOUS RETIREMENTS

S/NO.	RANK	NAME & SURNAME	STATION	NATURE OF EXIT	EFFECTIVE DATE
12.	ASP	Nelton Shabangu	College	Medical Retirement	14/05/2025
13. 1717	Sgt. Instr.	Clifford Magongo	Bhalekane	Early Retirement	02/01/2025
14. 2357	WDR.	Mnqobi Dlamini	College	Early Retirement	31/08/2025
15. 4721	WDR.	Andile G. Dlamini	Matsapha	Resignation	30/04/2025
16. 4723	WDR.	Sibusiso Ngwenya	Pigg's Peak	Resignation	30/04/2025
17. 2677	WDR.	Sanele D. Hlophe	Nhlangano	Medical Retirement	11/06/2025



The Commissioner General and staff of His Majesty's Correctional Services wish to extend their heartfelt condolences to the families of the following deceased officers:



S/No.	RANK	NAME & SURNAME	STATION	DATE OF DEMISE
1. 3362	WDR.	Mayibongwe Mndzebele	Manzini Remand	05/01/2025
2. 2656	ACO.	Nkosinathi Goman Mdluli	College	06/01/2025
3. 2339	WDR.	Sipho Nhlabatsi	Pigg's Peak	31/01/2025
4. 4413	WDRSS.	Siphesihle Q. Zwane	College	17/03/2025
5. 3253	SGT.	Khanyisile Littler	Mawelawela	06/05/2025
6. 4110	WDR.	Phumlani P. Dlamini	Mbabane	11/05/2025
7. 3100	WDR.	Leonard M. Dlamini	Manzini Remand	19/05/2025
8. 1874	SGT.	Andrew C. Dlamini	Bhalekane	10/06/2025

Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go." - Joshua 1:9



GENERAL MANAGER
Bonginkhosi Phakathi

Shaping the Future: How AFS Is Investing in People, Prioritizing Customers, and Evolving Its Strategy

A look inside Amandla Financial Services' transformation journey—where empowered employees, exceptional service, and a refreshed strategic direction are paving the way for long-term success.

As industries evolve and customer expectations rise, staying ahead means more than just offering a great product. It requires a commitment to people—both inside and outside the company. Amandla is embracing this challenge head-on by investing in employee development, enhancing the customer experience, and reimagining its strategy for the future. Here's how we're building a stronger, smarter, and more customer-centric company.

YOUR LIFETIME FINANCIAL PARTNER - Amandla Financial Services has prioritized a customer-centric approach to improve brand reputation, customer retention, and business growth. Recognizing that long wait times and impersonal service erode trust, the company is shifting focus from transactional interactions to empathetic, human-centered service.

To support this shift, Amandla launched a comprehensive customer service training program aimed at empowering staff to become proactive financial advocates. Senior managers participated alongside frontline employees, reinforcing a unified commitment to customer experience. Initial signs of success include fewer issue escalations and improved employee morale. More importantly,

customer feedback highlights staff going above and beyond to ensure satisfaction.

SERVICE THAT CULTIVATES TRUST - In a digital era, Amandla believes that true differentiation lies in combining technology with genuine human connection—because in finance, trust is earned through people, not just platforms.

A CULTURALLY CORPORATE ENTITY - Amandla Financial Services proudly participated in the Baganu Festival, a culturally significant event that offers a valuable opportunity to connect with communities and promote financial inclusion. Our involvement enhances brand visibility, fosters trust through direct engagement, and supports financial literacy through outreach.

The festival serves as a strategic platform for aligning with cultural values while reinforcing Amandla's commitment to being a people-first financial institution. The experience is both rewarding for business growth and for building lasting community connections.

FOCUSED DIFFERENTIATION Amandla Financial Services (AFS) has launched a new three-year strategy with a five-year vision to drive growth and long-term sustainability. Developed through a collaborative process involving all organizational levels, the strategy tackles internal challenges and external opportunities. Key focus areas include upgrading technology, streamlining processes, and diversifying loan products beyond the current government-employee base. Planned innovations involve IT infrastructure improvements, new finance offerings, and geographic expansion.

AFS aims for focused differentiation—becoming the leading micro-lender with the lowest interest rates—while remaining adaptable through regular strategic reviews. The plan emphasizes efficiency, team cohesion, and structural and cultural transformation to build a more agile and customer-centric organization.

FOSTERING A FINANCIALLY RESILIENT SOCIETY - At Amandla Financial Services, our commitment to people extends beyond business—we believe in uplifting the communities we serve. Our Corporate Social Investment (CSI) program is a cornerstone of this

mission, focused on education, financial literacy, and community empowerment.

In 2025-2026, AFS is planning on expanding its CSI footprint by launching partnerships with local institutions and communities to provide assistance as needed and basic financial education in the form of social media blogs. Employees have been encouraged to participate in volunteer initiatives, contributing their time to assist small community-based enterprises in improving their financial management.

By embedding social impact into our business ethos, we're not just building goodwill—we're fostering a financially resilient society. These efforts demonstrate that responsible business ethics is not only about profits but about purpose, and Amandla is proud to lead with both.

EVOLUTION - A major milestone in Amandla's transformation has been the current on-going migration to a new, modern Management Information System (MIS). The legacy system, while reliable, limited scalability and slowed decision-making. The new MIS introduces robust data analytics, enhanced automation, and real-time reporting capabilities.

DATA ANALYTICS FOR ENHANCED DELIVERY - This upgrade streamlines internal operations, reduces administrative burdens, and enables more accurate forecasting, allowing AFS to respond quickly to customer needs and market shifts. The migration also improves compliance tracking and risk management, ensuring a stronger foundation for growth.

Most importantly, the new MIS equips teams with better tools to serve clients, making the organization faster, smarter, and more responsive. As Amandla continues to evolve, technology will remain a critical enabler of our vision for inclusive, agile, and customer-driven financial services.



AMANDLA FINANCIAL SERVICES (AFS) HAS LAUNCHED A NEW THREE-YEAR STRATEGY WITH A FIVE-YEAR VISION TO DRIVE GROWTH AND LONG-TERM SUSTAINABILITY.

OPERATING HOURS: MON - FRI: 08:00am -04:45pm (Closed on Public Holidays)



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INDELEO INVESTMENTS (PTY) LTD T/A Amandla Financial Services is a duly registered financial services provider offering consumer and short term business loans. As a "LIFETIME FINANCIAL PARTNER" our aspiration is primarily to understand our customer's diverse financial needs and match them with our financial products so that we walk the life-long journey together.

OUR PRODUCTS

Emergency Loans/Masheshisa

Are you a salaried individual with an urgent financial need? Get an emergency loan with us from E500-E5000 payable over a period of 3 months, it's approved and paid same day.

Short-Term Loans

For a quick and easy short term financial assistance, look no further than Amandla. Get a short-term loan from E2000 to E20,000.00 payable over a period of 12 months. We assist government employees and parastatals, all loans are approved and paid within 12 hours.

Long-Term Loans - Vusumnotfo

We assist salaried clients and the repayment is made directly from source. The Maximum loan amount is up to E500, 000.00 payable over a maximum period of 96 months. Loan approved and paid within 12 hours except for debt consolidation.

Debt consolidations assistance is when we consolidate all your highest interest loans into one affordable payment.

Loan Requirements

- ✎ Most current salary advise slip.
- ✎ Identity document.
- ✎ Passport sized photo.
- ✎ Letter from employer confirming employment terms.
- ✎ 3 months bank statement.

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