

MEC Makamu meets Community Development Workers

In an effort to come up with intervention strategies to deal with challenges faced by Community Development Workers (CDWs) in the Province, MEC Makamu had a meeting with them in Bolivia Lodge recently.

Speaking during the meeting, MEC said: “During my interaction with staff members, I once said that during my political tenure in the Department, I will ensure that it goes back to being a Multi-Award-winning Department. This will only happen if all the branches that make up Team CoGHSTA are involved and capacitated. I hope and believe that it is during these types of meetings that we will be able to thresh out all challenges you face in your line of duty”.

He commended CDWs for the hard work they put in serving communities under severe difficult conditions. “You are indeed foot soldiers who go all out to ensure that the communities you serve are exposed to services that government provides. You deserve to be applauded,” he said.

MEC Makamu also acknowledged that CDW’s are operating and exposed to unconducive working conditions to an extent that they don’t have office space to conduct their duties. Many issues were raised to be addressed with speed are amongst others; 174 vacant posts to be filled, lack of office space to conduct meetings and processing their work, lack of stationery, printers, photocopiers and laptops, provision of transport etc.

In response to the challenges raised, Vhembe District Municipality Speaker, Cllr. Nkondo said that all the challenges raised will be escalated to the District and Provincial Speakers’ Forum. “It is important that Community Development Workers and municipalities work hand in glove to move this Community Development Programme forward,” she said.