



GAUTENG PROVINCE
HEALTH
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

MEDIA STATEMENT

TO: All Media

ATT: News Editors, Health Reporters

For immediate release

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GAUTENG COVID-19 TRACING TEAM EMPOWERED TO TRACE MORE PEOPLE

The Gauteng Department of Health has welcomed as a major boost the donation of mobile handsets by Telkom and Samsung Africa to be used by the team doing contact tracing.

Thousands of healthcare workers are working around the clock daily to trace people who came into contact with persons who have tested positive for COVID-19 in an attempt to stop the further spreading of the coronavirus.

Telkom represented by its CEO Mr Sipho Maseko said that they are obliged as a company to do their bit to help fight the disease while the CEO of Samsung in Africa Mr Sung Yoon expressed confidence at measures taken by the South African government to contain and stop the predators of COVID-19.

Minister Zweli Mkhize thanked all partners who have come on board and offered resources to be used in the fight against coronavirus. He called on other to join the campaign.

Gauteng is the first of four provinces to receive a share of the 1500 mobile handsets with Western Cape, Free State and KZN following next. The cellphones will be loaded with free data and airtime monthly for the next six months.

Welcoming the donation to Gauteng Health MEC Dr Bandile Masuku said “we are excited about this partnership, this will improve the work of our tracers. The health system must be patient centred, clinician led and stakeholder driven”.

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