



GAUTENG PROVINCE

SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

MEDIA STATEMENT

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ATTENTION: NEWS EDITORS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

GAUTENG CALLS ON ADDICTS TO COME FORWARD

The Gauteng Department of Social Development is inviting young people who are struggling with drugs and alcohol addiction to come forward and get help.

This follows an announcement by the Premier, Panyaza Lesufi that the Department will be launching a new initiative to rehabilitate the youth addicted to the notorious street drug nyaope.

Lesufi said the initiative will form part of the province's 2030 vision to put the youth at the centre of policy making decisions as well as the economy.

In a build up to the launch, the Gauteng Provincial Government launched a substance abuse helpline after a number of calls for help with teenage substance abuse from areas such as Hammanskraal, Soshanguve, Kagiso, Diepsloot and Zola.

The helpline is a bid to intensify the fight against substance abuse across the province. The 24 hours anti-substance abuse call centre service is a platform for parents and caregivers to apply for rehabilitation for their children or adults addicted to drugs. Applicants, if successful will be enrolled at a state rehabilitation centre.

The helpline can be accessed at 0800 228 827 or USSD*134*474727# and follow prompts.

-ENDS-

Issued by the Gauteng Department of Social Development

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