



Half a million in the kitty on day one...

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The newly established Kgetsu Ya Tsie Educational and Skills Development Bursary Fund managed to raise R500 000 and benefit three learners on the same day it was launched by Premier Supra Mahumapelo.

The fund, aimed at assisting students struggling to pay for their tertiary studies, was launched in Khudutlou, near Taung recently.

The launch was held during the Setsokotsane held in Dr Ruth Segomotsi Mompati District.

The pledges were made by the Premier, mayors, community members and private companies. Two of the companies pledged R100 000 each towards the bursary fund.

Mahumapelo pledged R10 000 while he encouraged members of his cabinet to donate R5000 and Mayors to contribute R2000 and government as well municipal employees to pledge R100 towards the fund.

“ Our target is to reach a million contributions from community members in a year,” he said.

“ The fund will further assist in facilitating increased access to educational opportunities for our learners,” the Premier said.

Mahumapelo cautioned residents of the province against persons who may solicit cash in the of the fund. Contributions can only be made into the Kgetsu Ya Tsie ABSA held current account. Account Number: 4086084212.

Mahumapelo said the entire estimated R300 million provincial annual budget for bursary allocations will from 2016 be directed to the fund.

He said representatives from traditional leaders; councillors; business organisations and civil society will form part of a committee that will oversee the bursary fund.

He said the committee will be responsible for identifying deserving students throughout the province.

A Youth Entrepreneurship Services Programme (YES) was also announced .

According to Mahumapelo, the programme seeks to promote of self-employment of youth through the development of youth-owned and managed enterprises.

The programme will also provide youth with skills allowing them to access the job market.

“ We have engaged municipalities and the South African National Defense Force to establish youth camps in all the 19 municipalities in the province within a year.

At these camps, all the unemployed youth will be trained in carpentry; electricity; plumbing and agriculture,” Mahumapelo explained.

It is envisaged that Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP) beneficiaries will in future be sourced from these camps.

“ No youth will participate in EPWP without having gone through the youth camps,” the Premier said.

*The Director General of the province, Dr Lydia Sebege was announced as the overall manager of YESP that will be coordinated by Youth Entrepreneurship Services.

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