

BUDGET SPEECH 2015/16

EASTERN CAPE PROVINCE POLICY SPEECH BY HON MEC

FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

MRS NANCY SIHLWAYI IN THE PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE

19 MARCH 2015

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Honourable Speaker Honourable Premier of the Province Honourable Members
of the Legislature Leaders from various political organisations represented in the
Provincial

Legislature Representatives from the House of Traditional Leaders linkokheli
zemvaba ngemvaba, iinkokheli zimibutho yasekuhlaleni, linkampani nemibutho
esisebenzisana nayo Ulutsha, oomama, abezoshishino nabo bonke abantu
abakhoyo apha

The Acting Director General, Heads of Departments and Senior Officials of
the Eastern Cape Government Oonondaba, izidweshwa nezidwangube zakowethu

I greet you all

Molweni

INTRODUCTION

I am honoured to have the opportunity once again to table the Budget Policy Speech of the Department of Social Development.

The Department presents this Policy Speech after constructive engagement and serious debates towards the implementation of a comprehensive, effective and efficient qualitative service delivery system which will contribute in improving the social well-being and the enhancement of the social functioning of the poor, the vulnerable and the marginalized in the Eastern Cape.

However, we are mindful of the challenges faced by our society presented by the continuing acts of violence against children and women in particular older persons. Our consciousness and patience is being tested by these rising brutal attacks against women and children; must we as a society conform to a situation where a section of our own population continues to be a victim of a cruel, inhumane and violent behaviour?

Honourable Speaker and Members, we owe our children and beautiful women of this Province every opportunity to live the South African democratic dream, free from violence and fear, with the right to be treated with fairness and dignity. It is now up to us to choose who we want to become, as articulated in the **FREEDOM CHARTER in 1955**, “...**that our country will never be prosperous or free until all our people live in brotherhood, enjoying equal rights and opportunities**; ...” Honourable Speaker and Members of this august House, this unique document (the Freedom Charter) which boasts **60 years of existence** is an embodiment of the **hopes** and **aspirations** of the people of South Africa who formulated their **own vision of an alternative society based on the will of the people**.

This year also marks **22** years since Chris Tembisile Martin Hani was assassinated. His only crime was his deep love for his people, his commitment and dedication to the noble ideal of freedom, human dignity and the betterment of all our people.

In an interview with South African born social historian, Luli Callinicos, eight days before his assassination, he said and I quote, “South Africa is facing a “new enemy” and a “new struggle”...That enemy is socio-economic...It is about the struggle for jobs, houses, schools, so that we can build a society that cares... What is important is the continuation of the struggle...” A transformation struggle of a special type as the RDP of our own policy prescripts.

Honourable Speaker and Members, compatriots and friends, it is these words of a true hero of our struggle, that inspire our work. It is because of leaders like him and many others who paid the ultimate price that we have cherished **21** years of freedom.

Whilst we remain indebted to the sacrifices by leaders such as Chris Hani and Solomon Khalushi Mahlangu, the scourge of poverty and underdevelopment continues to define the lives of many in our communities.

The Provincial Development Plan (PDP) which emanates from the National Development Plan (NDP) Vision 2030 is our blueprint for the reduction of poverty and inequality which will guide us towards accelerating the pace of eliminating obstacles that stand in the way of our vision for a sustainable society.

As a Department, the NDP charges us with a responsibility to build an inclusive and a responsive social protection system; however, we remain mindful that we cannot achieve this on our own without the collaboration of social partners.

Honourable Speaker and Members, the budget we table this afternoon, gives effect to the Department's contribution towards tackling the triple challenges of poverty, unemployment and inequality as a Department's mandate confirmed by its vision (**A caring society for the protection and development of the poor and vulnerable towards a sustainable society**).

In an endeavour to empower communities to be their own liberators, the quest for sustainable development is the answer.

1. PROGRAMME 1

1.1. INFRASTRUCTURE

Honourable Speaker and Members, in order to address infrastructure challenges, the Department will continue with the construction, upgrading, renovation and refurbishing of the following office accommodation, service centres and institutions:

- Service Offices: Maluti; Middledrift; Alice; Lady Frere; Qumbu Counselling Centre ; Lusikisiki; Thornhill Office; Springroove Office;
- Child and Youth Care Centres: Protea; Erica; Melton Gardens; Silver Crown Home for the Aged; Maluti; Bhisho; Burgerdorp and Khuseleka.

R 53.8 Million is set aside for infrastructure development for 2015/2016 financial year.

1.2. STRENGTHENING OF NPO MANAGEMENT AND MONITORING FOR EFFECTIVE SERVICE DELIVERY

Madam Speaker and Members, over the Medium Term Expenditure Framework (MTEF) period, the impact assessment on community development initiatives funded by the Department during 2014/15 financial year will assist the Department to develop innovative approaches towards sustainable community development and empowerment.

During 2015/16 Financial Year, the Department will continue to intensify the Capacity Building of NPOs in partnership with National Development Agency to promote operational efficiency and effectiveness of services rendered by the subsidized NPOs.

A total amount of **R38million** of the **R43, 9 million** from Institutional Capacity building programme has been set aside for this purpose.

1.3. PROVINCIAL ANTI-POVERTY COORDINATION

The Department of Social Development is leading in the coordination of implementation with regards to Provincial Integrated Anti-Poverty Strategy (PIAPS) which was founded on the premise of taking government to the people in a coordinated manner.

In 2015/16 the Department of Social Development will continue to coordinate the implementation of the following programmes in the 16 identified anti-poverty sites:

- Household food production and nutrition programmes to ensure the expansion of impact both in the number of household food gardens and beneficiaries. This will be achieved through strengthening partnerships with municipalities and sister government departments such as Department of Rural Development and Agrarian Reform (DRDAR) as well as entities such as National Development Agency (NDA) and South African Social Security Agency (SASSA).
- Galvanise structured support to emerging farmers and subsistence farming through collaborations with DRDAR to ensure access to food and local markets for self-sustainable communities in the sixteen sites.
- • Support the rollout of the outreach programmes aimed at ensuring access to nutritious food in schools and the administration of the learners' deworming programme in collaboration with Education and Health Departments.
- • As the Early Childhood Development (ECD) programme is critical in the early development of a human being and in bringing dignity and respect to children, the Department will continue to support both the establishment and functionality of ECD. In this regard the Department is collaboratively working with many social and other private sector organisations to provide ECD amenities in the sixteen sites.
- Improve literacy rate and the state of school infrastructure through increasing access to Adult Education and Training (AET) and eradication of mud schools in the sixteen sites in collaboration with Department of Education.
- Increase in the number of jobs created through Expanded Public Works Programmes (EPWP), Community Works Programme (CWP) and other income generation projects in the identified anti-poverty sites through mobilising relevant sector departments and other stakeholders. This year we are adding consciously the participation of the Disability Sector with the Social Sector to phase out prejudice on the Disability Sector.
- Enhanced provision of basic services such as health services, social security, electricity, water and sanitation through collaborations with sector departments and Municipalities.
- Social mobilisation and conscientization through dialogues and stakeholder engagement sessions aimed at activating community structures towards maximising community participation. This process will lead towards empowerment of our people to be their own liberators so that they do not solely depend on government.
- Services on Wheels and align with commemoration of institutional days targeting

youth, women, disabled and elderly in the sixteen sites by mobilising sector departments, public and private sector organisations and municipalities.

- Promotion of sport against crime an annual event in pursuit of free and safe environment through partnership with Department of Sport, Recreation, Arts and Culture (DSRAC), South African Police Service (SAPS) and Safety & Liaison. The year 2014/15 has moved well and addressed the societal ills in building a society that matters.
- Presentation to Municipal Councils and/or Mayoral Committees to solicit buy-in and support from political principals in the implementation of the strategy.
- The implementation of an Integrated Anti-Poverty Provincial Model which will ensure appropriate resource allocation even in Municipalities as a collective buy in towards the successful roll-out of the strategy.

An amount of **R1, 5 million** has been set aside for facilitation and coordination.

2. PROGRAMME 2: SOCIAL WELFARE SERVICES

The Department has adopted the Family based model as its service delivery vehicle (approach).

To this effect, the Department together with the Eastern Cape Council of Churches and House of Traditional Leaders signed a pledge and resolved in the Colloquium on 28-30 November 2014 as follows:

- Mobilise the strengths of the various stakeholders in the social development process towards the restoration of Ubuntu, healing, development and preservation of healthy cultural values and spiritual development of families.
- Commit to understanding through appropriate engagement the lived realities and underpinning values of the family in its various forms and contexts, bringing back the Africa culture.

Madam Speaker, Prof. DDT Jabavu, a then leading New Academic Scholar in his book published in 1930 titled **“WHAT AN EDUCATED AFRICAN GIRL CAN DO”** notes the following about Charlotte Manye Maxeke, **“Throughout all her life she has been engaged in efforts of a patriotic character on behalf of the aboriginal races of Africa... Her social line has been the redemption of humanity in general and women hood in particular.”**

The Department dedicates the Family Based Model to the ideals and beliefs of Charlotte Manye Maxeke.

“SAKHA AMAKHAYA OQOBO ANEZISEKO EZILUQILIMA”.

As the Department of Social Development in the Eastern Cape moves to re-align its programmes as articulated underneath (reflected under Programme 1,2,3,4 & 5) with a new and more socially sensitive framework on Family Based Approach, specific steps will be undertaken to ensure the effective deployment and roll-out of this Family Based Model during 2015/16 financial year. An official launch of the Family Based Model will be held in **May 2015** with a **big imvuselelo campaign** preceded by a series of build-up activities.

2.1. CARE AND SUPPORT SERVICES TO OLDER PERSONS

The Province of the Eastern Cape continues to experience high incidences of brutal killings, abuse and ill-treatment of Older Persons due to false accusations associated with witchcraft. On the other hand, the Department has observed increase in the number of Older Persons participating in gambling which necessitated the Department to partner with Eastern Cape Gambling Board. In an attempt to address this entire phenomenon, the Department will develop a Provincial Response Plan in order to address these issues.

Emphasis will also be on awareness campaigns to enhance prevention programmes on areas of Alzheimer especially in rural areas. The Department will further ensure that older persons access community based care and support services by strengthening service centres and promoting Active Ageing to promote a healthy and long lasting life style. Older persons are our heritage and icons, “**iziswenye zethu ezinkcenceshela ubusithi bethu kuthi**”.

An amount of **R93.8 million** has been set aside for these services.

2.2. SERVICES TO PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

In our quest to build a caring society, the Department is committed to the improvement of socio

economic status of Persons with Disabilities, through the promotion of skills development programmes utilising existing protective workshops. **In addition the Department has ring-fenced an amount of R1 million to focus on the implementation of a Socio-Economic Empowerment Programme for people with disabilities working collaboratively with structures within the disability sector in each District Municipality. This is in line with the slogan, “Nothing about us without us.”**

The Department will maximize its effort to deal with challenges faced by people with albinism and autism. The department will further promote access to Community Based Rehabilitation Services by Persons with Disabilities. In an effort to pay special focus and strengthen relations with the Disability Sector, my Department has appointed a person with disabilities to interface between my Office and people with disabilities.

An amount of **R30, 9 million** is allocated for this Sub Programme to deliver on these activities.

2.3. HIV and AIDS

The Department is charged with the responsibility to develop preventative measures towards the new HIV infections in line with National HIV Prevention Strategy by addressing structural, social, economic and behavioural factors that drive the HIV and TB epidemics.

The Department of Social Development as part of its interventions has adopted a Social Behavioural Change Approach to respond to the social drives of the epidemic.

There has been a resolute effort by the Department to pay a special attention in alleviating the burden of HIV amongst key population groups i.e. Lesbians Gays Bisexual Transgender groups (LGBT). This has been triggered by low levels of participation by these groups despite a strong evidence base on the effectiveness of currently available interventions.

The Department in its effort to mitigate the socio economic impact of HIV and AIDS will continue to render Psychosocial Support Services to all beneficiaries infected and affected by HIV, AIDS and TB. In an attempt to increase access to Community Based Care Programmes, the Department will provide financial support to **sixty six (66)** Home Community Based Care Projects throughout the Province which will also create work opportunities to Community Care Givers in line with Expanded Public Works Programme.

The total budget for this Programme is **R19, 9 million** for these services.

2.4. SOCIAL RELIEF

The Department is mandated to care for families experiencing undue hardship and those affected by disasters. In an attempt to provide such services, partnerships with SASSA and NDA will be strengthened to ensure improved service delivery for beneficiaries. In addition, the Department will continue providing material support to school going children who are vulnerable and in need of care as part of strengthening **Back to School Campaign**. In order to expand this service, other stakeholders will be engaged to be partners in ensuring a meaningful impact of the vulnerable groups.

An amount of **R6.3 million** has been set aside for this programme.

A number of children in our schools are currently confronted with psycho social challenges that have a negative impact on their performance. This suggests consideration of an integrated relationship between **the school, the family, the community, and government institutions**.

The Department has taken an initiative to introduce **a school social work programme** targeting children at risk within the school environment.

To this end, the Department has adopted the following schools to address social ills which could have a contributing factor in the levels of performance and low pass rate. **Hector Peterson High School** in Buffalo City Municipality, **Zamokuhle High School; Siyaphakama High School, Mhlotshana High School** in Chris Hani District Municipality **as well as Simphiwe Khethwa Senior Secondary School** in Joe Gqabi District Municipality, **Khayamnandi and Kariefontein Primary Schools** in Joe Gqabi District Municipality and **Sapphire Primary school** in Northern Areas under Nelson Mandela Metropolitan Municipality. **Phakamani Senior Secondary School** in Chris Hani District which has performed exceptionally well even though it is located in the disadvantaged areas has also been adopted by the Department to pilot the school social work programme as well.

The school social work programme also serves as an appropriate innovative and strategic intervention pertinent to the Family Based Approach.

PROGRAMME 3: CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

3.1. CARE AND SUPPORT SERVICE TO FAMILIES

In response to the implementation of Family Based Model, the Department will continue to subsidize **15** Family Resource Centres as well as **16** Family Preservation Programmes towards encouraging community active involvement and participation in the upbringing of children as well as contributing to building a caring society. Parenting and life skills empowerment programmes will continue to be implemented for single parents through funding of **six (6)** Single Parents Associations. The Department will continue supporting father's involvement in the lives of their children, through subsidizing of **two (2)** Fatherhood Programmes.

An amount of **R7.8 million** has been set aside for this programme.

3.2. EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME AND PARTIAL CARE.

Early Childhood Development Programme is rendered to children between **0-4** years of age. The responsibility of the Department is to provide care and development as well as nutrition through subsidy at a rate of **R15 per day per child (R6 for nutrition, R3 for stimulation and R6 for administration and ECD Practitioners)**. In this financial year, the Department will subsidize **1 660** Early Childhood Centres benefiting **61 325 children**.

The Department is inundated with requests from a large number of ECD Centres located in informal settlements and rural areas that could not be registered as a result of inadequate infrastructure and thus do not comply with the ECD norms and standards as regulated by Children's ACT, 38/2005.

We greatly appreciate the partnership and support that we have received from the church community. A living example is that of a Faith Based Organization at Mnceba Village in Ntabankulu availing a facility to be utilized as Older Person's Service Centre and Early Childhood Development Centre.

The Department in agreement with the Department of Education will also utilise the under - utilised school buildings to house Early Childhood Development Centres. The Department is targeting to establish **food gardens** in at least **two ECD centres per**

District prioritising the Anti-Poverty Sites. This initiative will assist to improve the nutritional status of children subsidized in the targeted ECDs.

A total allocation for the Early Childhood Development programme is **R171. 5 million** of which **R13 million** is set aside for renovation of structures who do not meet the required norms and standards.

3.3. CHILD CARE AND PROTECTION

In line with provisions of the Children's ACT, 38/2005, the Department will continue to provide Designated Child Protection Services through funding of **48** Child Protection Organizations as well as **10** Cluster Foster Homes.

An amount of **R40. 5 million** has been set aside for this purpose.

3.4 CHILD AND YOUTH CARE CENTRES

Residential Care Programmes and Services will continue to be provided to children in need of care and protection, through subsidizing of **31** Registered Child and Youth Care Centres and **5** Government owned Registered Child and Youth Care Centres.

A budget of **R49. 5 million** has been set aside for this purpose.

3.5 COMMUNITY BASED CARE SERVICES FOR CHILDREN

The Department will subsidize **14** Isibindi sites towards strengthening and sustainability of community based Prevention and Early Intervention programmes implemented benefiting **7 323** children in need of care and protection. The Department will further subsidize **11** Drop-in-Centres in response to intensify Prevention and Early Intervention Programmes.

Operationalisation of the Family Based Model will further enhance Departmental interventions on children and families. An amount of **R11, 7 million** has been set aside for this purpose.

PROGRAMME 4: RESTORATIVE SERVICES

4.1 CRIME PREVENTION AND SUPPORT

The Department is confronted with increase in the number of children and young person's entering the criminal justice system. The majority of these young people come from family backgrounds characterised by poverty; neglect; domestic violence; drugs and alcohol abuse by parents or guardians; parenting challenges and other related social ills.

In collaboration with the Department of Safety and Liaison, SAPS, Education, Civil Society Organisations and other relevant stakeholders we will continue to implement Integrated Social Crime Prevention Strategy aimed both at tackling crime and addressing the underlying causes of crime and violence.

Family dysfunctionality and disintegration is not the only source of social ills, it also contributes to the poverty of the mind.

In the 2015/2016 financial year, we will continue to improve accessibility to Diversion Programmes for children in conflict with the law in order to ensure that they are not only empowered to accept responsibility, but are afforded opportunities to learn from their wrongdoings thereby discouraging recidivism.

Further, we will intensify the strengthening of the management of Child and Youth Care Centres so as to enhance the provision of residential care programmes to children in conflict with the law.

Uxanduva lweliSebe kukwakha amakhaya oqobo hayi iintlanti nendonga.

We are building homes not houses and this will be done through the Family Based Approach. Abantu abadala baninzi Abazali bambalwa.

The total allocated budget for these activities amounts to **R15, 8 million**

4.2. VICTIM EMPOWERMENT PROGRAMME

Gender based violence (GBV), especially against women and children continues to undermine

the gains of our democracy on issues related to upholding and promoting the rights of women to peace, safety, freedom and security of persons which include freedom from violence.

Violation of these rights undermines the aspiration of the country's vision of quality life for all. In 2015/16, the Department will intensify its support to **Men's Programmes** with an aim to educate and empower young boys and men in the fight against Gender Based Violence.

Continuous support to **161 Victim Empowerment Centres** comprising **four (4) One Stop Centres / Outreach Centres (shelters); 17 Safe Homes (shelters); 125 White Door Centres of Hope; eight (8) Mentorship Programme** for young people and **two (2) Advice Centres** and **five (5) NGOs** will enable victims and communities at large to have community based access to services and programmes.

In response to challenges of abduction and trafficking in persons particularly young girls the Department will be rolling out the implementation of **Prevention and Combating of Trafficking in Persons Act 7 of 2013**. We will through Operation Hlangula Programme conduct door to door campaigns to investigate the status of families.

The total allocation for 2015/16 financial year for VEP activities is **R48. 9 million**.

4.3. SUBSTANCE ABUSE PREVENTION AND REHABILITATION

The scourge of substance abuse continues to ravage our communities, families, individuals and particularly young people. The Department in partnership with other stakeholders will intensify efforts to combat the abuse of alcohol and other drugs. This will include strengthening implementation of integrated prevention programmes on substance abuse through the implementation of TADA (Teenagers Against Drug Abuse) programmes and Ke-Moja Strategy. These efforts will be reinforced by the full implementation of Prevention of and Treatment for Substance Abuse Act 70 of 2008.

During the commemoration of the International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking on the 26 June 2015, the Department will officially open the **State Treatment Centre** in Port Elizabeth which is the first of its kind in the province to provide in-patient treatment services to children addicted to alcohol and other drugs.

In addition, the Department will continue to fund Five (5) Private Treatment Centres namely: **one (1) at O.R. Tambo District (Thembelitsha Rehabilitation Centre, one (1) at Buffalo City SANCA East London) and Three (3) in Nelson Mandela Metro (SANCA Port Elizabeth, Shepherd's Field and Welbedacht** to improve access to **in and outpatient service** to people addicted to alcohol and other drugs.

In **2015-16** the total budget allocation for these activities is **R13. 9 million**.

PROGRAMME 5: COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

5.1. INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY BUILDING & SUPPORT

The Institutional Capacity Building and Support has a responsibility to capacitate new and existing Community Based Organizations (CBOs) towards effective administration and management of social services. In 2014/15 the Department rolled out training to Non-Profit Organizations (NPOs) and Cooperatives funded by the Department with a view to improve governance in these organisations. The programme was implemented in partnership with the National Development Agency (NDA) and other relevant stakeholders.

In the 2015/16 financial year, the capacity building program has targeted to train **580 CBOs (NPOs and Cooperatives) and 240 Community Development Practitioners** in fields such as **Financial Management, Governance, Conflict Resolution and Project Management, report writing and Social facilitation.**

In 2014/15 the Department conducted Road-shows to facilitate NPO registrations in the 6 Districts and 2 Metros of the Province in collaboration with the National Department of Social Development. In 2015/16 the Department is targeting to reach **1200** NPOs in the Province through the NPO Road-shows.

An amount of **R43.9 million** has been allocated for this function.

5.2. SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOODS

In response to outcome 13 on food security, the National Department of Social Development has initiated a programme on **Community Nutrition Development Centre (CNDC)** as an intervention to deal with the challenges of people experiencing levels of hunger.

To meet this imperative the Department has embarked on enhancing the operations of Community Nutrition and Development Centres (CNDC). This year the Department is targeting to support **12 CNDCs** of which **eight (8) CNDCs** will be funded by the National Department of Social Development and **four (4)** will be funded by our Department provincially. All these will be implemented in at least **eight (8)** Anti-Poverty Sites and **four (4)** Poverty Pocket areas.

During the financial year 2015/16 the overall budget set aside for the entire Sustainable Livelihoods Programme is **R8,9 million**

5.2.1 WAR VETERANS

Honourable Speaker, I concur with Lenin, a political analyst and scientist, that in any democratic country, dictatorship reclaimed by the proletariat is real and should be the priority of government in a developmental democratic state.

War Veterans have contributed immensely in the liberation towards a new democratic South Africa. Resilience, perseverance and a strong will power in the midst of atrocities are some the lessons to be passed on to generations to come. War Veterans serve as catalysts for indigenous knowledge and experience. In an effort to enable them to maintain healthy lifestyles as they grow old, the Department will fund development initiatives targeting **Iziswenye zeli lizwe** in all districts.

An amount of **R1, 5 million** is set aside for a special focus on War Veterans.

5.3. YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

Madam Speaker, the Department of Social Development has embarked on empowerment programmes targeting out of school and unemployed youth such as youth mobilisation, leadership programmes, youth camps, youth clubs, skills development and entrepreneurship development programmes. These programmes will obviously address social cohesion and civic participation.

Once more this financial year, the Department will continue to mobilise young people to participate in programmes of youth camps in an attempt to present them with opportunities for empowerment, skills development, career guidance, safety and healthy lifestyles as well as leadership and team building. These youth camps are meant to redirect young people into viable and sustainable opportunities.

Amongst a group of **22** young people who were placed at **Stenden South Africa** to undergo a Chef Course Programme during 2014/15 financial year, one of the best performing students Ms **Sive Witbooi** from Komga in Great Kei Local Municipality in the Amathole District has received a fulltime scholarship to study a three year Bachelor Degree on Hospitality at Stenden South Africa. The Department will continue to place an additional **thirty (30)** young people during this financial year in this programme. This is the programme that allows young people to redefine and re-identify each one and to build good citizenry and patriotism.

The Department will identify **400** young people to be empowered with basic skills of driving through a **Drivers Licence Training Programme** as an opportunity for them to access jobs. This programme will be implemented throughout 2015/16 financial year.

The **two hundred (200)** young people identified and recruited for the National Youth Service Programme in the last financial year will undergo a SETA accredited Community Development Programme at NQF Level 4 under the Social Development Centre at Rhodes University.

An amount of **R 2.5 million** has been set aside for this programme in this financial year. In compliance with the **Employment Equity Act**, the Department has ring fenced **2, 5%** of the NYS candidates to be comprised of young people with disabilities. Some of the young people in this programme come from families of struggle veterans.

The Department has funded **860** students who have qualified for Social Work Degree during 2014/15 financial year through an allocation provided by the National Department of Social Development. Currently the Department has **813** student Social Workers enrolled at various Universities. **160** Social Work Graduates have been provided an opportunity to undergo an internship programmes through Health and Welfare SETA (HWSETA). **250** Further Education and Training (FET) Graduates have been placed in the NGO Sector.

In addition the Department has entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with Health and Welfare SETA to target 200 learners who will undergo a one year programme on Learner Work Experience to be conducted by Public Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) Colleges. The total funding for this partnership is **R5, 5 million** of which **R2000.00** will be paid as a stipend to each learner.

The Department will establish youth clubs in each local municipality in the Eastern Cape to be used as a vehicle towards participatory community development processes and delivery mechanism for youth development.

Madam Speaker, it is worth noting that whilst the Department will be implementing these youth empowerment programmes as a support mechanism, young people should be allowed space for them to maximise their individual potential and creative energies for personal development and the development of the entire society.

An allocation for this programme is **R10. 4 million**.

5.4 WOMEN DEVELOPMENT

Statistics South Africa Census 2011 results indicate that, the Eastern Cape has a population of **6, 562 053** million people of which **(52.9%)** are women facing challenges of Poverty, unemployment and inequality. The establishment and the operationalisation of Women Development Resource Centre at Palmerton, Lusikisiki O.R. Tambo **District** is viewed as one of the strategies that will contribute towards socio-economic empowerment of women in the Province so as to reduce the negative impact of these challenges. The Department is also planning to replicate the Resource Centre model to district level over the next five years to ensure that many women are reached for empowerment purposes. Various training sessions and skills development programmes to take place at the Provincial Resource Centre in partnership with various stakeholders such as Government departments, development Agencies and Private Sector.

A total amount of **R10 million** has been set aside for funding women development programmes, of which **R7million** is for women cooperatives and **R3million** for capacity building.

In order to align the province with the Sustainable Development Goals, commemorating International Women's Day, the Department hosted a 3 day conference on 08-10 March 2015 in partnership with Vodacom as a key sponsor.

The African Union has announced that 2015 is set as the "**YEAR OF WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT AND DEVELOPMENT TOWARDS AFRICA'S AGENDA 2063**". Amongst the objectives of the Conference were the following:

- To create a platform for Women of Africa to share knowledge with respect to Leadership and entrepreneurship.
- Accelerate intra-African trade and improving access to markets of developed countries

Madam Speaker and Honourable Members, it is my pleasure to announce to this House that we as women during the Africa for Africa Women's Conference have resolved that a conference of this magnitude will be held annually, hosted by the Department of Social Development in partnership with the Office of the Premier and the Legislature in the Eastern Cape Province for the next three (3) more years.

6. PARTNERSHIP DEVELOPMENT AND STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT TOWARDS AN EFFECTIVE SERVICE DELIVERY.

The Department continues to build collaborative relationships with Social Partners and Stakeholders to achieve mutual success on identified outcomes and priorities aimed at advancing the well-being of individuals, families, and communities in the Eastern Cape. This is in line with the **United Nations Development Program's political strategy for poverty eradication (UNDP 1997:99)**, which points out that sustainable change can only be effected through development partnerships, given that, **“poor people alone, however well organized, cannot force policy shifts for poverty eradication. Alliances, partnerships... are the only vehicles for peaceful and sustained reform.”**

6.1 STANDARD BANK

Standard Bank has committed to train ECD Practitioners who do not have the necessary NQF Level 4 qualifications in the Departmental funded ECD centres. Part of their contribution will be utilised in the improvement of infrastructure for ECD centres and the provision of furniture for the White Door Centres of Hope. Women Development Resource Centre established at Palmerton at Lusikisiki in the O.R.Tambo District Municipality will also benefit through skills development programme.

6.2 OLD MUTUAL

The Department has a long standing partnership with Old Mutual in the provision of sanitary towels for young women from disadvantaged backgrounds as well as school going girl children. In the 2015/2016 financial year, Old Mutual has further committed to operate a factory on sanitary towels in partnership with the O.R.Tambo District Municipality.

6.3 EASTERN CAPE COUNCIL OF CHURCHES AND THE HOUSE OF TRADITIONAL LEADERS

A Memorandum of Understanding has been entered into by the Department with the Eastern Cape House of Traditional Leaders and the Eastern Cape Council of Churches towards the restoration of Ubuntu, healing, development and preservation of healthy cultural values and spiritual development of families as we operationalize the Family Based Model.

6.4 COEGA DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

Coega has also committed to assist the Department in the infrastructural related challenges experienced with ECD centres, Service Centres for Older Persons as well as people with Disability.

6.5 COMMUNITY CHEST

Community Chest has committed to contribute toys for the ECD centres funded by the Department.

6.6 VODACOM

Vodacom has committed to fund women development programmes such as the Annual Africa for Africa Women's Conference

6.7 GAMBLING BOARD

Gambling Board have partnered with the Department to conduct research on the impact of irresponsible gambling which affects family stability. This will be followed by interventions programmes to address the same.

6.8 MTN FOUNDATION

In support of our Victim Empowerment Programme MTN, has committed to continue to support our white door centres of hope.

Honourable Speaker and Members I now present to you the budget proposal for 2015/16.

Programme	Medium-term expenditure estimate			
	2015/16	%SPLIT	2016/17	2017/18
Administration	413 510	19%	431 967	458 093
Social Welfare Services	529 190	24%	555 606	583 026
Children and Families	632 372	28%	668 501	698 020
Restorative Services	354 317	16%	374 218	392 909
Development and Research	301 396	14%	316 991	332 424
Subtotal	2 230 784	100	2 347 283	2 464 472

7. CONCLUSION

Honourable Speaker and Honourable Members, compatriots, comrades and friends, as South Africans, we respect human dignity and embrace the spirit of Ubuntu. As I stand here today, what give me the greatest hope of all are not the walls that surround us, but what fills the spaces in this House; it is you!!!

I am more than convinced that, we are united in common values and that includes the commitment to protect the rights of women and children, the creation of enabling conditions for the socio- economic empowerment of the poor and vulnerable, and a reverence for the dignity of every single man, woman and child. Our commitment is a resemblance of the pledges made in Kliptown on 25 and 26 June 1955, **“Let all who love their people and their country now say, as we say here: ‘These Freedoms we will fight for, side by side, throughout our lives, until we have won our liberty’.”**

We have come so far. We have experienced so much. But there is so much more to do in moving forward this Province. Let us ask ourselves if our grand -children will be able to see the progress we will have made. This is our moment to fulfil that commitment.

There is no doubt in my mind that our journey will be long, our path will be narrow, but never forget that the true character of our people is revealed not during times of comfort and ease, but when the moment is hard.

Somlomo weli Phondo, mandenze umbulelo kwaba balandelayo, amaqobo namaqobokazana, izitshovu-tshovu zeliSebe, kundlu-nkulu nasezithilini phantsi kwesikhokhelo se ntloko yeSebe lezophuhliso loluntu (Management and Staff of Social Development). Ndimbulele ngakumbi umama ophekela utata ngokusiboleka inkokheli



yosapho lwakhe ngamaxesha onke.

Ndingalibalanga ukwenza umbulelo kumalungu ePortfolio Committee yeSebe lezophuhliso loluntu (Social Development), phantsi kukasihlalo wayo obekekileyo. Ndingaba ndenze impazamo enkulu xa ndingashiya ngemva ukubulela amagosa ase ofisini yam, (core staff) neentombi zam ezintathu.

I want to re-iterate my earlier statement that, we must at all times be reminded of the South African born social historian Luli Callinicos echoing words when he says, "South Africa is facing a "new enemy" and a "new struggle"... That enemy is socio-economic....It is about the struggle for jobs, houses, schools, so that we can build a society that cares".

I Thank You Ndiyabulela Kakhulu, Wathint' uMama, wathint' iMbokodo!!! Malibongwe!!!!!!