



CAREER EXPO 2019 SUMMARY

Dear friends, partners and stakeholders of Lesedi la Batho,

On Wednesday, 15 May 2019, our organisation hosted its third annual Career Expo in Mabopane, with the aim to expose 700+ Grade 11 and 12 learners to various career opportunities available to them.

We wish to extend our most heartfelt gratitude to all local businesses, government departments and higher learning institutions whom participated in the day, engaging with our organisation's mission to empower our community and connecting in an impactful manner with our youth. We also thank our valued partners whom each contributed to making the day a success – Department of Education, Department of Labour, Big Save, Harambee, Gijima, and Tshwane University of Technology (TUT).

The Grade 11 and 12 students from five high schools from Mabopane were released from their school day with permission from the Department of Education, and transported with buses to the event venue, the Odi Indoor Stadium. Our attending high schools include Letlotlo, Pelotona, Moreosele, Mabopane High, and Setumo-Khiba. In total 40 corporate, training and governmental institutions exhibited, providing information to the learners regarding training, internship, bursary and employment opportunities within their organisation and sector at large. To name but a few of our attending exhibitors this year - FNB, Mango Airlines, City Lodge Hotels, Big Save, Nestlé, Shoprite, University of Pretoria, The Lewis Group, TUT, DDP Attorneys Inc., Damelin, Mediclinic, Harambee, MMI Holdings, MERSETA Career Bus, and Adams & Adams.

The event kicked off at 9.30am, with the first half of our 700+ learners circulating amongst the exhibitors. We were humbled to witness the many lively, engaging, excited conversations unfolding between students and exhibitors. At 11am, the first circulation came to an end and we paused for lunch break. The students were each given soup contributed by the Shoprite Soup Kitchen, hot dogs and juice. Our exhibitors received a cooked buffet meal prepared by our very own staff and volunteers. Exhibitor gift packs, including a handmade gift from Lesedi la Batho's fair-trade social enterprise project, Kago-Entle and promotional material from various exhibitors, was gifted one by one to each attending institution as a token of our gratitude for their participation. The second learner circulation commenced at 12.30pm until 2pm, where our second half of learners had their opportunity to engage with attending exhibitors, and then also received lunch of soup, hot dogs and juice.

Overall, the Lesedi la Batho Career Expo 2019 was an exciting, successful, smoothly run event that achieved our goal of bringing life changing information to the learners, and connecting our organisation to supportive local institutions. We would like to say a heartfelt thank you to all the stakeholders involved in the event, as well as to the 40 organisations who took their time to attend our career expo and invest in our learners. A special thank you also goes to the 5 high schools who agreed to release the learners for the day, and finally, to our beloved staff and volunteers. It is only thanks to the ongoing commitment and support of local partners that our ultimate vision for our community is achieved. Together, we create hope!

Warm regards,

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