

Annual Report

Annual Report

FREE STATE PROVINCE



Annual Report

2005 - 2006 2005 - 2006



free state department of social development

TABLE OF CONTENTS

PART 1: GENERAL INFORMATION

1.1	SUBMISSION OF THE ANNUAL REPORT	3
1.2	FOREWORD BY THE MEMBER OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL	5
1.3	INTRODUCTION BY THE HEAD OF THE INSTITUTION	7
1.4	INFORMATION ON THE MINISTRY	10

PART 2: SERVICE DELIVERY REPORT 11

Programme 1:	ADMINISTRATION	13
Programme 2:	SOCIAL ASSISTANCE	27
Programme 3:	SOCIAL WELFARE SERVICES	29
Programme 4:	DEVELOPMENT AND SUPPORT SERVICES	40
Programme 5:	POPULATION DEVELOPMENT TRENDS	51

PART 3: REPORT OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE 91

PART 4: ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 95

PART 5: HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

1.	Voted Funds	164
2.	Expenditure	171
3.	Employment and Vacancies	172
4.	Job Evaluation	173
5.	Employment Change	174
6.	Employment Equity	178
7.	Performance Rewards	180
8.	Foreign Workers	180
9.	Leave Utilization	181
10.	HIV and Aids and Health Promotion Programmes	182
11.	Labour Relations	183
12.	Skills Development	184
13.	Injury on Duty	185
14.	Utilization of Consultants	185



2005-2006 Annual Report

Free State Department of Social Development

1. ANNUAL REPORT

1.1 SUBMISSION OF THE ANNUAL REPORT

In my capacity as the Acting Accounting Officer of the Free State Department of Social Development, I submit this Annual Report for the year that ended on 31 March 2006 to the Member of the Executive Council for Social Development, Ms Zanele Patricia Dlungwana.

The Annual Report has been prepared in accordance to the provisions of Section 40 (1) (d) of the Public Financial Management Act of 1999.



Mr. W.X. Ntshona

ACTING ACCOUNTING OFFICER: SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

Annual Report

Annual Report



2005-2006 Annual Report


1.2 FOREWORD BY THE MEMBER OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

The year under review has provided the Department an opportunity to vigorously confront the social challenges facing the people of the Free State.

The social stability of an individual influences that of the family, in turn the stability of the family influences the stability of the community and that of the community influences that of the entire society. It is against this understanding that the efforts of the Department in improving the lives of the Free State community undertook an integrated approach through the fibre of community networks from the individuals within a community to the entire society.

Our service delivery approach, i.e. case work, group work and community development has led to an improvement in the key service delivery programmes of the Department.

However, all the successes covered by this report are as a result of the commitment shown by the collective of Departmental officials located in the district as well as the provincial office. It is therefore a great pleasure to share the successes of the Department in the financial year 2005/2006 by presenting this Annual Report. This report also serves as a foundation for setting the standard for future successes, especially for the 2007/8 financial year.



Ms. Z.P. Dlungwana
MEC: SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT



2005-2006 Annual Report

1.3 INTRODUCTION BY THE HEAD OF THE INSTITUTION

For the period under review, the Department of Social Development has demonstrated ability to play a central role towards achieving a socially cohesive and empowered community of the Free State. The Department has delivered critical social services to the poor and vulnerable community of the Free State.

HIGHLIGHTS FOR 2005/2006

SOCIAL SECURITY

Achievements

In order to effectively manage the social needs of the Free State people, the Department has reduced the turnaround time for new applications from date of application to date of approval to 15 days. Currently six hundred ninety-nine thousand eight hundred and sixty (699 860) beneficiaries receive social assistance grants.

Three thousand five hundred and fifty-seven (3 557) beneficiaries receive Care Dependency Grants.

In addressing the needs of children, the Department has experienced some significant increase in the number of beneficiaries in child support and foster care grants. The beneficiaries for Child Support Grant have increased from 322 219 to 401 278, which demonstrates an additional 79 059 new beneficiaries. The Foster Care Grant beneficiaries, on the other hand, have also increased from 30 965 to 36 978, which indicates an additional 6 013.

Another vulnerable group that has benefited from social assistance is older persons. Old Age Grant beneficiaries have increased from 128 161 to 130 506 which indicates an increase of 2 345 beneficiaries.

The operational business plan for the management and reduction of the Disability Grant has improved efficiency in the management of the grant. The Department has ensured that the Disability Grant is paid to qualifying beneficiaries, and those who do not qualify, have been taken out of the system. There is a decrease in the number of "temporary" disability grants, i.e. from 110 508 to 108 404. Thus, a total of 2 104 people have been taken out of the system, which addresses the challenge of reducing the expenditure on Disability Grants as identified in the 2004/2005 Annual Report.

The Department has also responded to the survival needs of the vulnerable through its emergency food security programme to needy families and individuals. Nineteen thousand one hundred and thirty-seven (19 137) households have been provided with food parcels, which is an increase of 7 298 from the 11 839 provided in 2004/2005.

Challenges facing the Department with regard to the management and provision of social assistance:

- To operationalize the Social Security Agency of South Africa (SASSA) that came into effect on 01 April 2006.
- To integrate social assistance into the new national Integrated Service Delivery Model of the Department.
- To determine customer satisfaction amongst beneficiaries for purposes of service delivery improvement.

- To meet the 2 hour target of rendering services to beneficiaries on arrival at pay points.
- Improvement in the finalization of appeals within a stipulated period of 60 days since out of the 1 992 appeals received, only 6.2 % were finalized.

DEVELOPMENTAL SOCIAL SERVICES

Achievements

The department has experienced a significant shift in approach for the intervention on substance abuse. A new “Ke Moja – No Thanks, I’m fine without drugs” campaign that targets the youth in school and out of school was introduced. Sixty youths and service providers were trained on the campaign for its roll-out. The department has developed tangible plans to implement the campaign through an intersectoral approach with the main partner being the Department of Education.

In relation to the services for older persons, 31 homes for the aged now function as multi-purpose centres. The department is also currently funding 10 protective workshops for people with disabilities. While the department had set itself a target of funding 26 day care centres for people with disabilities for the year in review it has exceeded this target by 10.

With regard to youth in conflict with the law, 2 485 youth were assessed, which amounts to the difference of 183 as compared to the previous year where 2 302 youths had been assessed. One thousand eight hundred and four (1 804) youths were diverted to various programmes that included Life Skills, Family Group Conferencing and Offender Mediation. An overall of 1 816 court reports were prepared regarding youths falling in this target group.

The department has doubled its efforts in addressing challenges faced by children and families at risk, particularly women. The street children programme was implemented in 17 communities and at least 4 of these programmes were evaluated. The department also handled 13 571 cases of children who are in need of care and protection such as the abandoned, neglected, abused and those with behavioral problems. The capacity of 6 300 foster and place of safety parents was also built through training.

There are currently 1 165 Early Childhood Development Centres with 24 800 children benefiting from funding by the department. This demonstrates an increase of 2 093 from the 22 707 that benefited the previous year.

Regarding services to women, the department hosted a successful summit during June 2005 that was attended by 273 girl children (both in and out of school) from all over the Free State. Services to women have been aligned with the care, protection and developmental services on gender-based violence and abuse. The project manager for the Flemish Project on domestic violence and rape victims was appointed and the project officially resumed on June 1st, 2005. A men summit was also held which involved 100 men.

The department has witnessed a greater improvement on the integration of services such as HIV and AIDS, Crime Prevention, Substance Abuse and Life Skills Education towards the youth. An overall of 34 awareness campaigns that integrated the above-mentioned programmes were held during the year. Thirty-one (31) service providers for youth development and empowerment were funded.

Departmental services on HIV and AIDS have identified 1 390 child-headed households during the year and assisted 2 315. Eleven thousand six hundred and ninety-three (11 693) people received counseling services for HIV and AIDS.

The department's partnership with Non-profit organizations has been intensified during the year. There are currently 1 203 organizations that are funded, of which 421 are crèches. A total of 253 new organizations were funded in the year.

Challenges facing the Department with regard to Developmental Social Services:

To extend and integrate departmental services with those of other departments, to address overlaps on services to children, victim empowerment programmes, the aged, people with disabilities and HIV and AIDS.

To improve on poverty alleviation programmes and Expanded Public Works Programme, while ensuring they are integrated with other existing programmes.

To coordinate youth programmes with those of other stakeholders such as the Youth Commission and the Umsobomvu Youth Fund.

To align departmental services with Integrated Development Plans (IDPs) of municipalities as well as Rural and Urban Presidential Nodes.

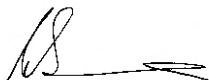
To improve on the effectiveness and efficiency of the departmental Disaster Management Programme and the Research Unit in order to ensure that service intervention is research based.

CONCLUSION

The establishment of the Social Security Agency of South Africa (SASSA) on April 1st, 2006, the operationalisation thereof and the introduction of the Integrated Service Delivery Model must be viewed as an opportunity for the department to reposition and realign its mandate and approach so as to ensure that services are developmental in nature.

I would like to extend my sincerest appreciation to the MEC for Social Development, Ms. Zanele Dlungwana, for her support and political leadership that has ensured that service provision is in line with the commitment of government and meeting the needs of the poorest of the poor. I also want to thank the National Director General, Provincial Director General and the Heads of Departments for providing a context that allowed the Department to work in partnership with other departments to meet set objectives. Civil society organizations play an important role in assisting the Department to reverse the frontiers of poverty. Without their assistance the department would not have successfully implemented intervention programmes. Their efforts are much appreciated. Finally, let me thank the Senior Management of the Department for providing policy direction including all other officials in the Department for the commitment they have shown in rendering services to the Free State community.

More challenges still lie ahead, however with the resources and commitment the department has at its disposal, nothing can stop it in ensuring that a socially cohesive and empowered community of the Free State is achieved.



W.X. Ntshona
Acting Head: Department of Social Development

1.4 INFORMATION ON THE MINISTRY

The mandate of the department is to alleviate poverty in the Free State community and also to ensure the development, care and protection of vulnerable groups such as children, women, persons with disabilities and older persons. For the year under review, the Ministry has continued to prioritize the services for children and persons with disabilities. This has been done by ensuring that the needs and rights of these groups in the Free State are met and protected.

The MEC has been in the forefront to ensure that the services provided by the Department of Social Development are in line with government policies and the commitment that Government has made to the people of the Free State province.

VISION

A socially cohesive and empowered community of the Free State

MISSION

To meet the human and social needs of the poor and vulnerable communities of the Free State through an inter-sectoral and integrated developmental social service.

LEGISLATIVE AND OTHER MANDATES

- Aged Persons Act, 1967 (Act No. 81 of 1967);
- Fund-raising Act, 1978 (Act No. 107 of 1978);
- Social Service Professions Act, 1978 (Act No. 110 of 1978);
- Child Care Act, 1983 (Act No. 74 of 1983);
- Probation Services Act, 1991 (Act No. 116 of 1991);
- Prevention and Treatment of Drug Dependency Act, 1992 (Act No. 20 of 1992);
- Social Assistance Act, 1992 (Act No. 59 of 1992);
- Social Assistance Act, 2004 (Act No. 13 of 2004)
- South African Social Security Agency Act, 2004 (Act No.9 of 2004)
- Non-Profit Organisations Act, 1997 (Act No. 71 of 1997);
- National Development Agency Act, 1998 (Act No. 108 of 1998); and
- Advisory Board on Social Development Act, 2001 (Act No. 3 of 2001).
- White Paper for Social Welfare (1997);
- White Paper on Population Policy for South Africa (1998); and
- Policy on Financial Awards to Service Providers.