

EPWP BULLETIN

VOLUME 2. ISSUE 42. 11 May 2026



EPWP NYS Hosts Exit Ceremony for Parys Correctional Services Project Participants

Article and pictures by Roslyn Mahlaole

The Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP) National Youth Service (NYS) on Friday, 8 May 2026 hosted an exit ceremony in Parys, Free State to celebrate and honour participants who successfully completed their training under the Parys Correctional Services infrastructure project.

The ceremony was attended by various stakeholders, including the Department of Employment and Labour (DEL), project coordinators, and training providers, who gathered to acknowledge the hard work and dedication demonstrated by the young participants throughout the programme.

Participants received training in Occupational Health and Safety (OHS), building, steel fixing, formwork, quality principles, construction drawings, and basic electrical and plumbing skills.

Ten participants successfully completed their theoretical training on 28 November 2025. In addition, they underwent entrepreneurial training through the Generate Your Business (GYB) and Start Your Business (SYB) programmes from 1 to 5 December 2025.

Today, the participants were awarded certificates of attendance during the ceremony in recognition of their commitment and hard work.

Mr Evans Hlungwane from MUSAN Trading commended the resilience and determination shown by participants despite the many challenges experienced throughout the project lifecycle. He encouraged them to utilise the skills gained to improve their livelihoods and contribute positively to their communities.

Delivering her message of support, Ms Nonkolo Mohajane applauded the collaborative efforts between stakeholders in empowering young people through skills development and work opportunities. She further encouraged participants to remain focused, disciplined, and committed to building sustainable careers.

Speaking on behalf of the participants, Ms Palesa Mahloko expressed appreciation for the opportunity provided by the Department of Public Works and Infrastructure (DPWI) through EPWP.

“We would like to thank the DPWI, EPWP, and DEL for giving us this life-changing opportunity. The skills and experience we gained will help us build a better future for ourselves and our families,” she said.

The exit ceremony marked not only the completion of training but also the beginning of new opportunities for the participants as they embark on their professional and entrepreneurial journeys, said Ms Karabo Malebese, the NYS Manager for the Bloemfontein Regional Office.

