

EPWP BULLETIN

VOLUME 2. ISSUE 51 05 AUGUST 2026



EPWP Participants Gain Confidence Through Basic Computer Training Programme in Gauteng Province

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The Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP) Social Sector, in partnership with the Gauteng Department of Health, is empowering 50 EPWP participants from all five health districts across Gauteng Province through an accredited Basic Computer Training Programme. Each district nominated 10 participants to ensure equitable access to training and skill development. The programme is being delivered in five groups between 08 July and 05 August 2026, with each group attending a dedicated three-day training session at Johannesburg, Ekurhuleni, Tswane, Sedibeng and West Rand training venues.

The three-day training programme equips participants with both theoretical knowledge and practical computer skills that are essential in today's workplace. Throughout the training participants learned how to operate computers, create and manage documents, use Microsoft office applications and perform basic administrative tasks. These skills are intended to improve participants' confidence, strengthen their digital literacy and prepare them for employment opportunities beyond the EPWP and to contribute to improved administrative efficiency and service delivery within the public health sector.

Ms. Sanny Maluleka, Deputy Director of the EPWP Social Sector, welcomed the participants at Sebokeng Hospital on the 29th July 2026 during the joint monitoring visit with Training support unit and encouraged them to embrace the training opportunity with dedication and commitment. She emphasised that computer literacy has become an essential skill in today's job market and encourage participants to continue investing in their personal and professional development. She further advised participants to use their stipends wisely in pursuing additional skills such as obtaining driver's license to enhance their employability opportunities in the labour market.

Ms. Mpho Sibiya who is the EPWP Social Sector Coordinator for Gauteng Province indicated to the participants the valuable role they play as facility assistants. She pointed out that in their carrying out their duties, they help the health systems personnel to render services more efficiently and in time. She indicated that this training is one of the various trainings that would help them work better and also provide the necessary skills for the work environment in future.

During the training, Mr. Thinandavha Raliavhegwa, Assistant Director for EPWP Training Coordination at the Gauteng Department of Health, addressed the participants and encouraged them to make the most of the opportunity. He highlighted the importance of digital skills in today's job market and urged participants to use the knowledge gained to improve their future employment prospects. He also emphasized the department's commitment in utilizing the 5% IG training allocation to empowering EPWP participants through skills development programmes that create pathways to sustainable employment and economic growth.

Mr. Ramatlou, the facilitator of the Basic Computer Training Programme, guided participants throughout the training. He used a practical approach to teach basic computer skills and encouraged learners to take part in hands-on activities. He showed participants how to create and format documents, use templates, and prepare business letters. His support and guidance helped learners gain confidence in using computers in the workplace. During the programme, participants learned basic computer skills such as typing documents, saving files, creating tables, and writing business letters. These skills will help them in the workplace and improve their efficacy in carrying out their daily tasks.

In conclusion, one of the EPWP participants, Mr. Lebohang Mofokoeng, shared his positive experience of the training programme. He indicated that he enjoyed the training and learned many new computer skills. He added that he can now type documents, save files, and use a computer with more confidence.

Malehlohonolo Mbata was excited that she and her fellow participants were able to create 100 letters in less than five minutes, during the mail merge activity. She believes the skills gained through the training will help her secure better job opportunities in the future.

