

Soul City condemns violence against women and children

■ **Myron Rabinowitz**

Soul City, a social and behaviour change organisation, met the George community at the Conville Civic Centre on Thursday 4 June to promote the Thuthuzela Care Centre (TCC) situated at the George Hospital. The TCC is a place of support for abused women and children in George and the surrounding areas.

The Soul City Institute, a non-profit, non-governmental organisation established in 1992, is conducting an extensive roadshow in the Southern Cape that aims to improve the quality of life and health of people through strengthening individuals, communities and society based on active citizenship and principles of social justice. The Soul City Institute promotes health and development through TV and radio, and on the ground in locations such as schools and the workplace.

Petunia Tsweleng, Western Cape provincial manager of Soul City, said they want to mobilise the community to stand up against sexual vio-

lence and "educate the public about the Thuthuzela Care Centre. It is important that people are aware of the places where they can get help. It is also critical that everyone takes responsibility for stopping the abuse of women and children. This is our focus."

TCCs were created as one-stop facilities that operate as a critical part of South Africa's anti-rape strategy aimed at reducing secondary trauma for the victim, improve conviction rates of perpetrators and to reduce the time it takes to finalise criminal cases.

The centre is on call 24 hours a day and is staffed by a nursing practitioner, medical doctor, social worker, dedicated case monitor, victim assistance officer as well as a police officer to provide a safe environment for traumatised persons. A comprehensive service that includes a medical examination, counselling, statement taking and investigations are provided to the victims of sexual assaults.

The contact number for the Thuthuzela Care Centre at George Hospital is 044 802 4429.



Pointing out the rights of women and children are from left: Gerda Marx (case manager at the Thuthuzela Centre), Thembela Melane (SAPS), Petunia Tsweleng (Western Cape Soul City coordinator) and Angeliqve Vezasie (site coordinator at George Thuthuzela). Photo: Myron Rabinowitz



Kleinspan verken GO GEORGE

Dié drie manne van Loerieland-speelskool was baie geïnteresseerd in die roetkaarte wat uitgedeel is tydens hul onlangse GO GEORGE-busrit. Hoewel die busmense gemeen het die inligting moet by Ma en Pa by die huis uitkom, het (van links) A J Hartman, Luhan van Greunen en Wiehan Classen soos wafferse raadslede die kaarte van alle kante - regop en onderstebo - bestudeer.



Blue and green for bus drivers

The GO GEORGE bus drivers recently received their neat, yet comfortable, uniforms depicting the characteristic bright green and blue of the bus service. Here Rendel Ruiters shows off his warm fleecy jacket and bright green shirt. The choice of the GO GEORGE corporate colours was inspired by the blue sea and green mountains and forests of the area.



GO GEORGE verwelkom versoeke van skole en kleuterskole om die GO GEORGE-busse van nader te leer ken. Hierdie groep van Loerieland-speelskool was baie opgewonde toe dit onlangs hulle beurt was. Die Loerieland-personeel agter, van links: Denise Isaacs (versorger), Petro Payne (onderwyseres), Carla van der Bergh (onderwyseres) en Charmaine Groves (hoof). Skole wat belangstel in 'n groeprit kan die GO GEORGE-inbelsentrum kontak by 0800 044 044. Los 'n boodskap vir Marlene Quinot wat sal terugskakel.

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