

FREE STATE

Provincial overview

The Free State:

- is in the centre of South Africa, bordering on 6 other provinces and Lesotho
- is a relatively large province with low population density.

Major towns are: Bloemfontein, Welkom, Kroonstad, Sasolburg and Bethlehem.

Sesotho is the most commonly spoken home language, spoken by a large majority (72%)

Initiatives in the province relevant to skills development

Economic activity is agriculture, mining and manufacturing.

90% of the province is under crop cultivation and it produces approximately one third of South Africa's maize, wheat, potato and groundnut production.

Mining is the main employment sector, but mines face depletion, dereliction and downscaling.

The main industry is SASOL, which converts coal to oil. SASOL is a major polluter, and has been declining for the last few years.

Human Resources Development Programmes are supposed to be in place to save jobs and manage downscaling and/or closure. E.g. Harmony Gold Mine contributes to a Livestock Market and Impound Centre and a Business Industrial Hub in Welkom and offers training in mining skills. It is also engaged in projects with its former mines e.g. a bioenergy facility, a film studio, vegetable and olive farms, and repurposing former hostels to serve as community residential units.

Community projects in the Welkom and surrounding areas include a sports academy, a jewellery school, a taxi rank project, a wellness centre, a business development centre, a hostel conversion project and a brickmaking co-operative.

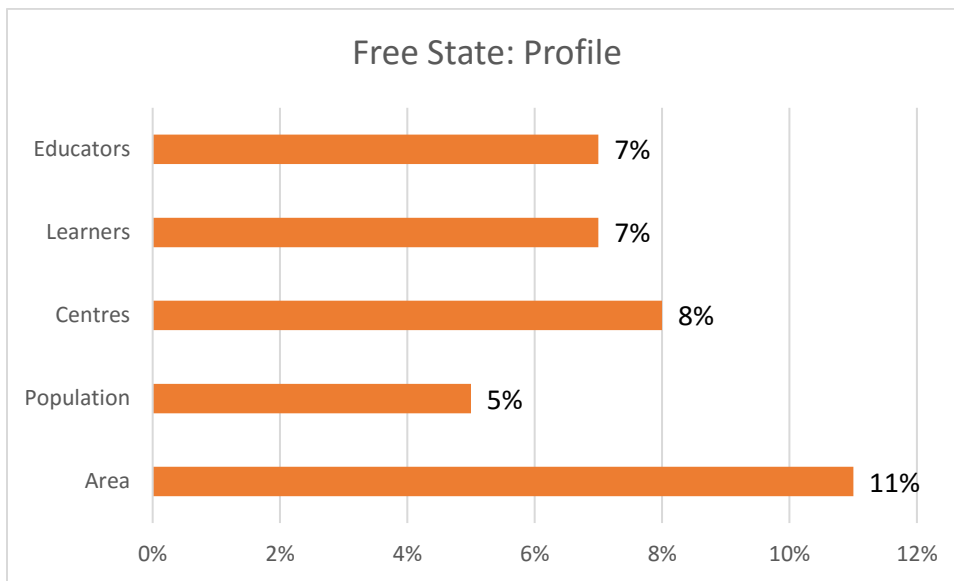
There are opportunities for skills training and employment in solar and bioenergy projects, agri-processing, and a small and medium enterprise development programme.

Working with the Department of Rural Development and Land Reform, five sites have been identified for the development of agro-processing centres in Tshiame, Thaba Nchu, Wesselsbron, Springfontein and Parys.

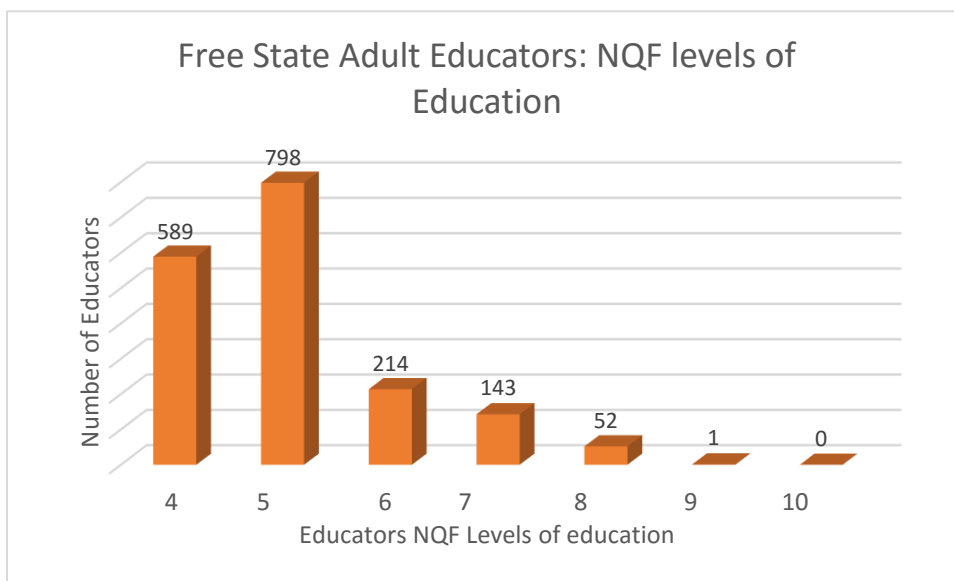
COVID19 status

The Free State has approximately 5% of confirmed cases in SA, and in August 2020 just over 500 deaths.

Adult educators in the Free State



Almost 1800, or 7% of South Africa’s state employed educators work at the Free State’s 208 CLCs. This is roughly in line with the 5% of the country’s population living in the province, and means that here there is an average of 9 adult educators working at each CLC in the Free State.



From the most recent data available from DHET’s MIS system (from 170 of 208 centres recorded in 2017)

Close to half (44%) of these adult educators have an NQF Level 5 education, and 74% of these Level 5 qualifications are in adult basic education and training. The most commonly held qualifications at this level are a National Higher Certificate in Adult Basic Education and Training Practice, a National Diploma

in Adult Basic Education and Training Practice, an ABET Practitioner's Diploma/Higher Diploma, or an ABET Practitioner's Diploma/Higher Diploma Certificate.

33% (approximately 600) of the remaining adult educators in the Free State have an NQF level 4 School Leaving Certificate.

12% of adult educators in the Free State have a qualification at NQF level 6, and almost all of these have an Advanced Certificate in Education. 8% hold a degree and just 3% have an Honours level qualification or higher.

Information from the centres described below is summarised by theme and by province in the overall report.

FALARONA CLC (Rural CLC)



Building and Facilities

This centre uses a very untidy, shabby and poor building in Erfdeel farm, at Lindley in the Free State. They start classes in the morning since the building is no longer a school, and not used by anyone other than them. It is a two room building, without adequate furniture or learning resources.

Centre manager: Mr Tshabalala



Programmes offered

AET Level 4- Maths Lit, Life Orientation, Agriculture, LLC English, ECD, Ancillary Health Care

Most popular courses offered

All are equally popular

Requests for courses that they cannot offer

Driving skills, computer skills, bricklaying, electricity, and plumbing. The CLC cannot offer these because they lack the necessary resources, do not have educators who can teach these skills, and because transport for the learners would be a problem.

Non-formal learning offered

The CLC manager runs classes to prepare for Learners Driver's License in the community library. Learners come from the surrounding township, and they are transported to class and back by the CLC manager. Sometimes the library is fully booked that makes difficult to run learners divers license there.

Non-formal learning that learners want

Driving Lessons

Number of learners served

13 Learners in 2018

Number of educators employed in the centre

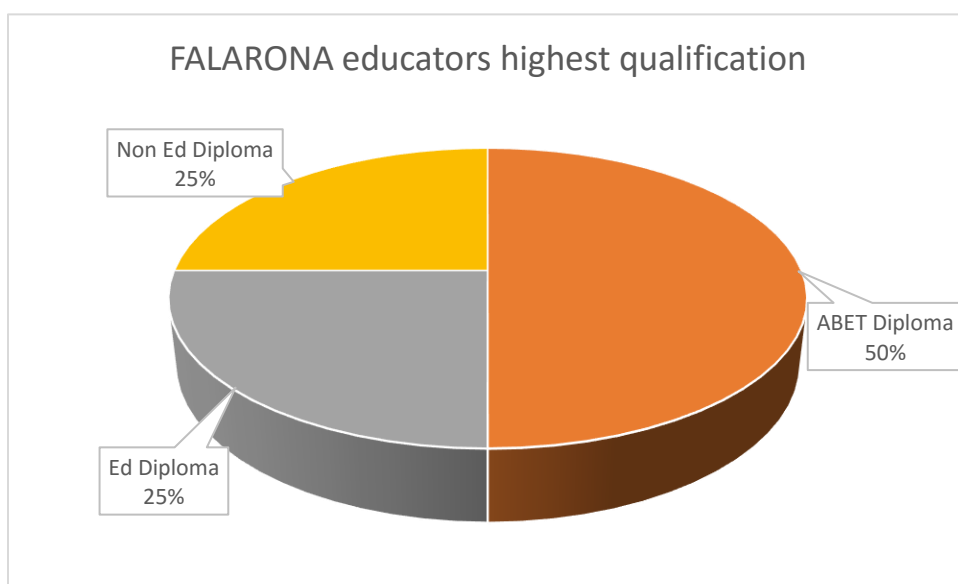
4 including Centre manager

Staff qualifications

	Educators	Qualifications (please list all)	Subjects taught	Any desired training
1	Tm Tshabalala – Centre Manager	Grade 12 Snr Prim Teach Dip	Learners License	Management Courses
2	Np Moloji	Grade 12 Business Management N6	Maths Lit, LLC English	Conflict Mngt Pastel Training Teaching Support For Llc English
3	Makamelo P	Grade 12 Abet Cert Higher Dip In Abet Ace Life Orientation	Lo Ancillary Health Care	Health Care In General computer
4	Mokoena P	Grade 12 Abet Cert Higher Dipl In Abet Level5 Diploma In ECD End User Computing	Ecd	Workshop In Applied Agric And Agricultural Technology

Summary of Falarona Educators' qualifications

FALARONA	
Highest qualification	
ABET Diploma	2
Ed Diploma	1
Non Ed Diploma	1



Educators are employed and paid by DHET, via monthly salaries on the basis of an hourly rate, for 19 hours per week.

The rate of pay depends on the qualification that they have.

Do they feel adequately trained?

Educators believe they need developmental workshops, and training in Ancillary Health Care and ECD.

Problems/disadvantages at this centre

- Lack of learning materials, electricity
- Delays in getting examination results – at the time of our visit in March 2018, they were still waiting for their 2017 results, and could not get an explanation from DHET about why they had not received their results.
- They are not given funds for running costs and educators pay for electricity from their own pockets.

Advantages at this centre

Educators cannot describe advantages they have at this centre

Support that is most needed

- Classrooms (although with only 13 learners this may not be reasonable)
- Learning and teaching material, especially text books
- Furniture for classrooms
- Transport for learners
- Skills training resources, e.g. for sewing and computer skills training
- Photocopying machine /printing/computers
- Laptop for Centre manager
- Increased hours of working, because the limited hours prevent educators from completing programmes and limit their salaries
- Educators do not finish the programmes because of hours of work
- Access to computers and the internet

Educators' sense of their work at this centre

Educators are proud of themselves, and believe that they are they doing good work, helping other adults who did not get a chance to learn, or who were rejected from school because of their age.

They are aggrieved that their work does not get better recognition from DHET, and in general.

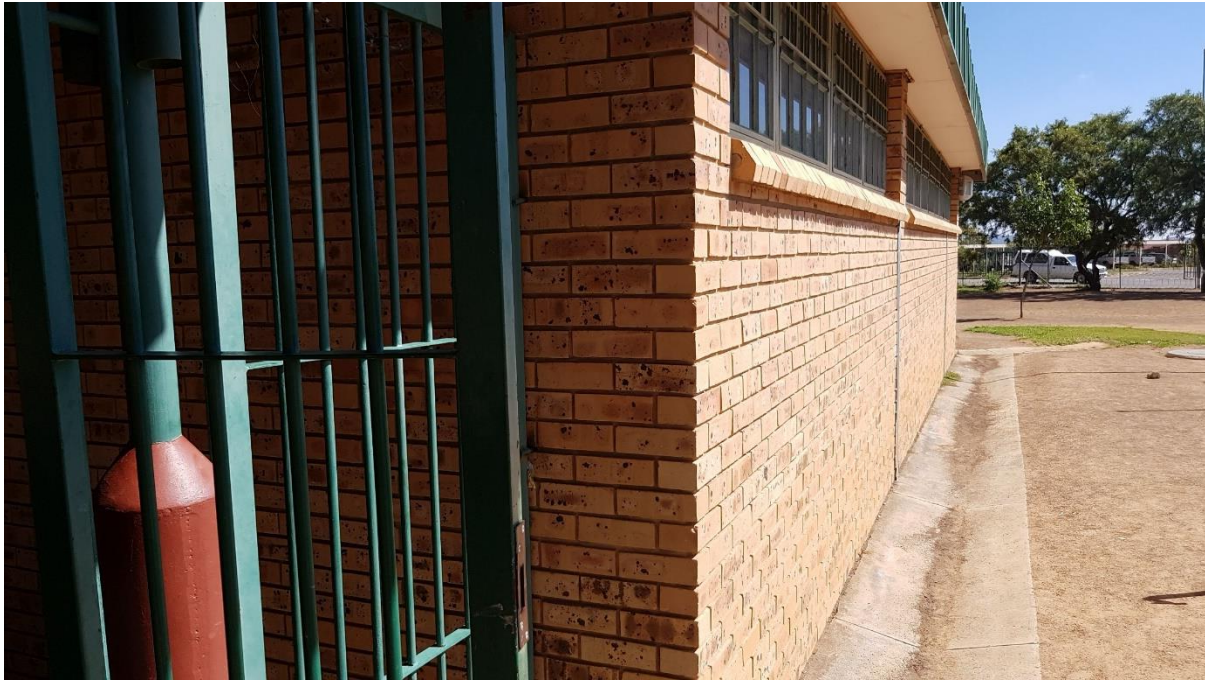
Understanding of the new Community College System

Educators know that they now fall under a community college.

Pictures from Falarona CLC



MOTSWEDI WA THUTO CLC



Building and Facilities

This CLC uses the buildings of Tmokae School in Serwalo Village near Taba Nchu. They have their office inside the school but don't have their own space in the buildings. Learners come from the surrounding townships, and some need transport to come to classes.

Centre manager



Programmes offered

AET level 4: Maths lit, English, Ancillary Health Care, Life Orientation, Human and Social Sciences

Grade 12: They offer the Amended Senior Certificate. Learners can register for English, Maths Literacy, Maths, and local languages.

Most popular courses offered

Ancillary Health Care, because it relates to daily life

Requests for courses that they cannot offer

Computer skills, plumbing, administration

Non-formal learning offered

None

Non-formal learning that learners want

Educators cannot think of any

Number of learners served

2018: 8 learners in AET level 4,

63 registered for Amended Senior Certificate

Number of educators employed in the centre

3 including centre manager

Staff qualifications

No information about staff qualifications could be obtained from this CLC.

Educators are employed and paid by DHET through monthly salaries based on an hourly rate, for 4 hours and 45 min per day, Monday to Thursday. All in all this makes for 19 hours per week for teaching and marking.

Centre managers earn the same amount as educators, and their rate of pay depends on educators' qualifications, from REQV 12 – 14.

Do they feel adequately trained?

Educators research things they would like to know at the library, but feel that they need developmental workshops.

Problems/disadvantages at this centre

There is a high learner drop-out rate partly because of delays in receiving examination results, which makes the learners become demotivated. Educators say that the shift from the Department of Basic Education to the Department of Higher Education has negatively affected the system, especially in terms of getting examination results.

Advantages at this centre

Educators say they work as team and feel comfortable, and that the CLC is a second home for them.

Support that is most needed

Educators say that they need:

- adequate furniture for their classrooms

- stationery

- Learning material, especially textbooks

- Access to computers and the internet

- Extended teaching time so that they can complete their programmes

- Permanency and 13th cheque

- Mobile classes (they may mean prefabricated buildings so that they can have classrooms for their own use)

- Cleaning materials

Educators' sense of their work at this centre

It is easy to work with adult learners because they are eager to learn, they want to change their lives, sometimes the educators would give a learner a piece job.

Some learners have epilepsy. The department of education want the better results from the educators.

The learners do not attend regularly because of poverty, sometimes they do not have transport fares.

Educators are working as a team and be there for each other, linking up together.

Working together with other centres by referring students to them if they cannot offer that course.

Understanding of the new Community College System

Educators say that they know they are in a community college, which has main centres and satellites, of which they are one.

LEDIBOHO CLC (urban CLC)



Building and Facilities

This CLC is in Maboloka Primary School, in Mangaung, behind Pelonomi hospital on the outskirts of Bloemfontein. The centre manager has an office in the school and they use the school classrooms for their classes, which start only at 15h00, after the mainstream school finishes for the day, and run until 19h00. Most learners are from nearby townships, but some come from further way, and must use public transport.

Centre manager



Programmes offered

This CLC accommodates deaf students along with students with normal hearing

AET 1 – 4: Level 2: Numeracy, English

 Level 3: Numeracy, English, Life Orientation and Ancillary Health Care

 Level 4: Maths lit, English, Life Orientation, Ancillary Health Care, Wholesale and Retail

Grade 12: They offer the Amended Senior Certificate, for which the learners can study pure Maths, Maths Lit, Sotho, Business Studies, Economics, Physical Science, and Human Social Sciences

Most popular courses

Grade 12: English, Life Orientation and Maths lit

Learners register for these subjects, seeing them as an easy way to complete their matric and then hope to get a job.

Requests for courses that they cannot offer

Computer skills, help with interpretation for teaching deaf learners. Educators say that DHET gives them no resources and no staff for specialized teaching and interpreting.

Non-formal learning offered

None

Non-formal learning that learners want

None

Number of learners served

120 in 2018

Number of educators employed in the centre

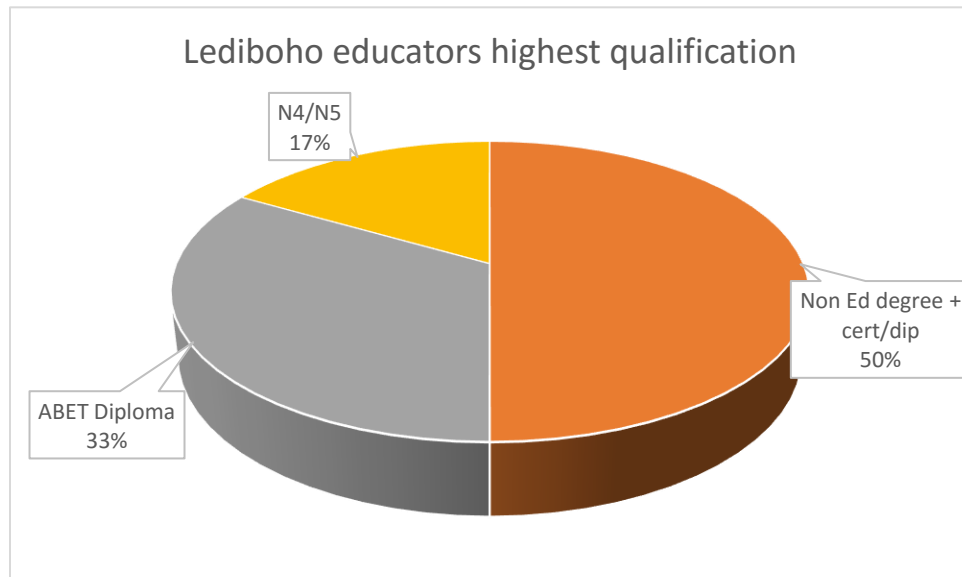
1 interpreter, 1 centre manager, 4 educators

Staff qualifications

Educators	Qualifications	Subjects taught	Any desired training
Mr Pitso M Centre Manager	Grade 12, Higher Dip In Education, BA	Maths Lit Level 4, Wholesale and Retail, and Sotho In Grade 12	
Ntladi	?	Ancillary Health Care, LO	
Mothlodi	Cert In Computer Prac, Business Prac, N2, Fin Mngt,	Maths, English	
Mashibini	Grade 12, Higher Dip In ABE	English	
Moses	Dipl In ABET, Cert In Comm Based Home Care, Grade 12,	Interpreter (Sign)	
Mbalii	Grade 12, Sec Education Diploma, BA	EMS, B Studs	
Nyese mane	Higher Diploma In Education, BA, Grade 12,	Maths Grade 12	

Summary of Lediboho Educators' qualifications

Highest qualification	Lediboho
Non Ed degree + cert/dip	3
ABET Diploma	2
N4/N5	1



Educators are employed and paid by DHET, through monthly salaries paid on an hourly rate, with the rate determined by the qualifications they have.

Do they feel adequately trained?

Educators feel that they need development workshops, and need to learn more about teaching Wholesale and Retail, Languages, and Mathematics

Problems/disadvantages at this centre

Educators tend to leave for more secure contracts while the learners are comfortable with them, because they are on insecure short term contracts.

The CLC needs help to teach learners with disabilities, particularly because there are many deaf citizens in this community. In spite of repeated requests from the centre manager to DHET for an additional interpreter, they remain with only one. The reason they are given for this by DHET is that no funds are available.

Classes at this CLC finish at 19.00 and it is not easy for the learners to go back home at that time, especially since some of them cannot afford to pay for public transport. It is dark, and unsafe for them to walk at that time, and many of them live far from the school.

Some of them have to teach more learning areas than they are qualified for.

Advantages at this centre

Educators do not offer any ideas about advantages here.

Support that is most needed

- Interpreters – the centre has deaf learners
- More secure employment status for educators
- Access to computers and the internet
- Learning material especially text books
- Adequate furniture for their classes
- Learners transport
- Access to decent toilets
- A good supply of water and electricity
- Prompt reimbursement by the DHET for payments for expenses
- Photocopying machine /printing/computers
- Laptop for centre manager

Educators' sense of their work at this centre

Educators are unhappy because they feel they are treated badly by DHET. They would like to get the same benefits as mainstream educators such as medical aid, a housing allowance and a 13th cheque. , retirement. They feel excluded from DHET, even though they feel that from their side they “go the extra mile”, combining administrative work with their teaching.

Understanding of the new Community College System

Educators say that they are aware of the new system but that it doesn't change anything apart from the name.



TIRISANO CLC
(Rural CLC)



Building and Facilities

Tirisano CLC is housed at Unity Primary School in Kagisanong.

Learners come from informal settlements, and some of them have far to walk. There is no transport from their location, and even if there was, it is unlikely that many could afford it.



Centre Manager: Miss Makutoane

Programmes offered

Abet Level 1 -4

Level 1 -Sotho Xhosa English Numeracy

Level 2- Sotho Xhosa English Numeracy

Level 3 – Sotho Xhosa English Lo Travel & Tourism, ECD, Numeracy, Wholesale and Retail

Level 4 – English, Maths Lit, Travel & Tourism, Life Orientation, Ancillary Health Care, Wholesale and Retail, and ECD

Grade 12 – Mathematics, Maths Lit, English First Additional Language, English Home Language, Life Sciences, Economics, Business Studies, Human and Social Sciences, Accounting, Physics, Agriculture Sotho, Setswana, and isiXhosa

Most popular courses offered

Life Orientation and Ancillary Health Care, are particularly popular because they are practical and beneficial. Learners who complete AET Level 4 are getting jobs, and with ECD they can open ECD centres or get employed at the crèches.

Requests for courses that they cannot offer

ECD as a qualification, and computer skills, because of lack of facilities

Non-formal learning offered

Not yet, but CATSETA skills program has offered the Grade 12 learners of Tirisano five week courses to enable them to be Sports Administration Assistants, Assistant Chef, and Events Management.

Non-formal learning that learners want

No ideas offered

Number of learners served

This CLC is unusual in that its number of learners is increasing

2018 – 210

2017 – 196

2016 - 151

Number of educators employed in the centre

7 including centre manager

Staff qualifications

Educators	Qualifications	Subjects taught	Any desired training
Educator 1	ASSESSOR INVIGILATOR Moderation Course	Wholesale and Retail	Skills training

It was possible to get information about qualifications of only one staff member at this CLC.

Educators are employed and paid by DHET, through monthly salaries paid on an hourly rate, for 4 ¾ teaching hours per day. The rate of pay is determined by the qualifications they have.

Do they feel adequately trained?

Educators do not feel adequately trained. DHET offers training on some topics.

Problems/disadvantages at this centre

The main complaints are the lack of dedicated space for the learners, and that there no toilets are made available for adult learners or adult educators, and often they cannot get any water.

4 hours for 4 days a week is insufficient teaching time

Advantages at this centre

- They received a copier from the department

Support that is most needed

- Mobile classes for the learners (they apparently mean that they want prefab buildings so that they can have a space of their own)
- Staff room and offices in the building
- Furniture that is appropriate for adult learners
- Stationery, and learning material, learning resources, especially textbooks
- Access to computers and the internet
- Increased paid teaching time
- Bursaries for educators to study further

Educators' sense of their work at this centre

Educators say they work well together, and find it fulfilling to work with adults, who are sure that they need to learn. They see their learners changing their lives not only academically but also their behaviour, and this is gratifying for the educators. Some learners need counselling, and they refer them to the social workers.

On the other hand they face the frustration of having no benefits, and no security in their posts. They would really like to be permanent.

They feel that they have strengths as educators, and have perseverance, and passion for the work.

They say they have no problems in getting good results, except for one learner

Understanding of the new Community College System

Educators understand that they are clustered with the two other centres. The payroll for the other two centres are delivered here, they do copies for the other centres from the copy machine that they got from DHET since they are clustered.

LUSA COMMUNITY CHEST

Restoring Hope, Transforming Lives



Centre manager: Veronica Cronje

The centre is in the Van Riebeck Community Centre in Sasolburg.



Lusa Community Chest offers project management and advice for CSI investments, ensures that there are measurable outcomes for funds channelled through the Chest and contribute to organisations' sustainability.

[Lusa Community Chest Projects](#)

Due Diligence: Lusa completes due diligence reports on charitable organisations, confirm registrations of NPO and PBO with Government and SARS.

BBBEE Project Management: Assist businesses with investing in BBBEE projects, projects funding is duly managed, reports and portfolios of evidence are submitted to BBBEE scorecard evaluation.

18A Certification: The community chest issues 18A tax certificates for claims from SARS with respect to contributions made to 18A certified projects.

Project Management: Project scoping, budget planning, report writing, implementation of SED and ED projects.

Networking opportunities which involves the following projects

- Corporate Social Investments Forums
- Recognition Functions
- Special Events
- The community Chest Annual Golf Day
- VAAL SMME Conference and SMME Development Training

Lusa has trained 7000 principals/teachers and 35 schools in a programme they call 'Generation@ - Putting Pride Back into Education'. This involves training of principals and teachers in primary and high schools, and 'Gr8Start' for ECD schools, which includes recycling material to make learning aids. ECD principals and teachers were trained in the use of these learning aids and toys.

Lusa also trains youth to open small business in their communities. They sponsor youth via a stipend, and an FET Computer Basic Course.

In partnership with various corporate and individuals, Lusa Community Chest runs an annual "Winter Warm" project distribute winter clothing and shoes to disadvantaged children in the Vaal Triangle, reaching about 1000 vulnerable children from 25 children organisations.



BIZZAH MAKHATE PRISON CLC



Context of the centre

This correctional centre is situated in Brits Street, in Kroonstad. Originally called Kroonstad Prison, it was renamed after Sefularo Makhate, known as Bizzah Makhate, who was instrumental in forming the United Democratic Front, a leading organisation in the fight against apartheid. He was a founder member of the Release Mandela Campaign, and the only one of those imprisoned who was disabled. Another famous person who was imprisoned here was Winnie Mandela.

This prison has 4 centres, Centre A: Adult Males 25 years and above, Centre B: Youth Males 18 to 25 years, Centre C: Adult and Youth Females and Centre D: Minors section: 14 to 18 years of age, and Mother-Child Unit.

Building and Facilities

There is a dedicated school building inside the correctional centre

Centre manager: Mrs Nzwana

Programmes offered

AET Levels 1 – 4

Level 1 – SeSotho, English and Numeracy

Level 2 – SeSotho, English and Numeracy

Level 3 – Sesotho, English, Maths Literacy, and Introduction to SMME, LO, HSS, T&T, Wholesale and Retail

Level 4 - SeSotho, English, Maths Literacy, SMME, LO, HSS, T&T, Wholesale and Retail

Grade 12 as a self-study. Educators do organise classes for helping those who struggle especially with Mathematics.

There are TVET educators in this CLC who prepare learners for N courses in Engineering after they have passed Level 4.

Offenders who pass their grade 12 go to TVET and do Business Studies.

Most popular courses offered

All courses

Requests for courses that they cannot offer

Offenders who wish to do their grade 10 to 12 are transferred to Groonspleit Prison because there they are taught as in other schools outside correctional centres.

Non-formal learning offered

- Bricklaying
- Plastering
- Decoration
- Sewing
- Beading
- Paving

Non-formal learning that learners want

None other than those already offered.

Number of learners served

373 learners in in 2018

AET Level 1 – 42

Level 2 – 71

Level 3 – 101

Level 4 – 129

Self-Study Grade 12 – 30

Number of educators employed in the centre

10 educators work here

Staff qualifications

It has not been possible to get information about qualifications of staff at this CLC.

Educators are employed and paid by Department of Correctional Services on a salaried basis

Do they feel adequately trained?

Although they hold teaching qualifications, educators feel that they need more training in the learning areas they teach.

Problems/disadvantages at this centre

- The CLC needs updated books that align with the new curriculum
- Their pass rate in Mathematics is not high, and they feel that regular in service training is needed for educators.

Advantages at this centre

Educators here believe that this CLC has many advantages:

- DSC pays for them to attend DHET educator's workshop; for instance, educators attended the unpacking of SBAs workshop at DHET
- They have a graduation ceremony for offenders who excel in their studies
- DHET do invite educators from this CLC to their moderation sessions
- The centre has learners text books provided by DCS, and educators have teaching materials provided by DCS
- There is a dedicated school building inside the correctional centre
- There is a hall which is used for examinations
- Their pass rate is good
- Nurses employed by the correctional centre ensure that offenders who have problems with eye sight are given glasses
- Unusually for prisons, there is a high rate of participation in classes here. Almost all the offenders are participating in some kind of learning, either in AET learners, N Courses, Skills Training, or Grade 12 through self-study. They also work in the kitchen, in the library and as child minders when there are children in the correctional centre
- The centre has bought heaters because it is very cold in the cells, but educators say the heater will only be used in AET classes in order to motivate the offenders to attend the classes
- The centre host awards ceremonies and give the certificate of merit to those who are doing very well as a motivation to others.

Support that is most needed

- The CLC needs updated books and information
- Training for educators in their learning areas
- Training for educators to cope with special needs skills, and special needs facilities, for instance with deaf offenders who are interested in attending AET – currently the educators cannot help.

Educators' sense of their work at this centre

Educators here say that they work as a team, and enjoy helping the offenders and see them progressing. They play the role of motivators and parents to the offenders, encouraging them to at least participate in skills training so that when they are released there have something they can do to make a living for themselves. They are proud of one of the offenders who was released and got employed in a leather work factory that produces sandals, belts, bags and mats. She was hired because of the skills she gained in the correctional centre.