

bokgabane

botoka le botoka – better and better

from THE ROYAL BAFOKENG Operations Room

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PROJECT SPOTLIGHT

FEATURED PROJECT

Annual Youth Arts Festival

Project manager: Gabriel Lenkwe

The youth of today are the leaders of tomorrow and we need to present them with enough opportunities that will grow their minds and cultivate their talents. The annual youth arts festival is one of the RBN projects that affords the youth of the Royal Bafokeng Nation the opportunity to show case their talent and creativity through music and dance. The festival is also used as a platform to educate the youth about the history of the Bafokeng nation through the use of a book on the nation's history, 'Mining the Future: The Bafokeng Story', and documentary film, 'Playing the game the Bafokeng way'.



The event took place on the 24th of September 2010 in the Phokeng Civic Centre auditorium with 838 Bafokeng youth, 6 staff members and one *kgosana* attending the event – eight cultural groups and two hip hop groups performed at the event.

To ensure the success of an event of this magnitude, the project manager needed to secure a venue that could accommodate the expected turnout of people, gain approval from Public Safety Department to host a public gathering, arrange catering, emergency medical services and a public announcement system. In addition, proper marketing of the event is needed to generate public interest.

During the project planning phase the project manager identified two potential risks to the project; he realized, firstly, that some of the performers might expect to get some kind of remuneration for their performances and, the second risk was the possibility of alcohol abuse; specifically, groups performing under the influence of alcohol and youth drinking on the premises. To mitigate the risks a contract stipulating terms and conditions of performance was drawn up and signed by all participants and security officers were placed at all entrances of the venue to ensure that bottles and weapons are not taken into the venue.

According to the project manager's close out report, the organizing committee should, in future, identify a venue that can accommodate the needs of the youth and attract more community members as the venue used restricted movement of attendees. The caterer prepared food and drinks for only 570 people as opposed to the agreed upon 1000; this resulted in a shortage of food and drinks on the day. This issue was, however, speedily resolved; the caterer managed to prepare more food at the last minute and offered the organizing committee a substantial discount as compensation.

Despite the aforementioned issues, the event turned out to be a fun-filled day and managed to achieve the project purpose successfully – to afford the Bafokeng youth an opportunity to show case their talents and abilities.

FEATURED PROGRAMME

Victim Empowerment Programme

Programme manager: Lawrence Mokuoa

The Victim Empowerment programme aims at continuously offering support to survivors of rape, domestic violence, human trafficking, child neglect and abandonment. The programme is run by the Phokeng Trauma Centre, a nongovernmental organization situated at the Phokeng Police station.

The trauma centre was established in 2004, after the South African Police Service (SAPS) released statistics showing an alarming increase in rape and domestic violence in and around the Phokeng area. The Health and Social Development Services department of the RBA joined forces with SAPS and the Department of Social Development to offer support to victims of these crimes.



The programme receives funding from a number of organizations, other than the Royal Bafokeng Nation, like the Department of Social Development, RBH and Zurich Insurance, the United Nation's Office of Drugs and Crime, Vodacom and Xstrata Alloys & Merafe Metals.

Morafe has responded positively to the service and various recipients of counselling and other services have expressed their appreciation repeatedly. The Victim Empowerment programme offers a range of services; trauma support, counselling and debriefing, community education and awareness campaigns, Psycho education, accompanying victims to court, court preparation, support groups, referral services and overnight shelter for victims. In 2010 the trauma centre managed to reach 1200 people through awareness campaigns, 4950 learners, 2750 people through door to door presentations, and offered counselling sessions to 600 individuals offering a minimum of two sessions per person.

The Trauma Centre has experienced issues of accessibility; the centre caters to all RBN villages and surrounding areas. Some members of the community have to travel over 25km to access the services. As a result the Trauma centre is opening additional satellite sites in Mfidikwe, Chaneng and Boitekong Police Station in 2011. It is envisioned that, in future, satellite centres will be opened across all 29 RBN villages.

Accessibility is not the only difficulty that the Trauma centre is faced with, because of the increased popularity of the centre and demand for services, language has also become a challenge. Deaf people cannot receive the services due to limited resources; an interpreter has to be contracted for the duration of the counselling session. To add to the problem, because the interpreter is not a full time employee of the trauma centre he/she is not always available to assist during operating hours.



Despite having a mere five permanent employees and only eleven volunteers, the Victim empowerment programme is making a tremendous contribution to victims of trauma in the community. The Trauma Centre is engaging nongovernmental organizations and RBN forums to join them in combating these social injustices.

PROJECT MANAGER OF THE MONTH: Mamaki Mothiba

- **When did you join Royal Bafokeng Administration (RBA)?**
 - 1 July 2000
- **What is it about the RBA that would make a person, such as you, so passionate about working for it?**
 - I previously worked as a community developer in Mpumalanga. I was in charge of caring for senior citizens. I realized that my community was lacking in programmes for the aged. I'm a community orientated person and I would like to develop our community to increase self sustainability.
- **What is your key role in Health and Social Development Services (HSDS)?**
 - My key roles include community development; caring for the aged, mobilizing nongovernmental organizations and social relief programmes.
- **You work for an organization that provides a service to the community (Morafe), what are some of the challenges that come with working with Morafe?**
 - When I first started working with the community I notice that there was a sense of entitlement and dependence on the revenue that is generated from the mines; the community was reluctant to partake in the different programmes. This made it difficult because in order for us to build a self sustainable traditional community (Vision 2020) Morafe needs to actively participate. I have since noticed a major turn of events; the community is buying in to the different programmes and participating more actively.
- **How many projects have you worked on since you joined Royal Bafokeng Administration?**
 - I have worked on a number of projects including; 'Upgrade of the Pension payout points', '67 minutes of community work phase1', 'Meals on Wheels', 'NGO seminar' and 'Celebration of international day of older persons' to name just a few.
- **Which projects and/or programmes are you currently working on?**
 - I am currently working on 'Close the gap' and 'Facilitation of the establishment of aged soccer club'. I have registered three programmes; 'Care of the aged', 'Social relief' and 'NGO mobilization'.
- **How do you believe do these projects improve Morafe's quality of life?**
 - Care of the aged has enlightened the senior citizens of this community, the aged community is now fully aware of their rights and responsibilities. We educate them about health related issues and promote an active lifestyle. There are 15 aged clubs across the various villages which are aimed at addressing the needs of senior citizens.
- **Do you make use of local service providers, and how important is this to you as a project manager?**



- *Yes, we use local service providers in order to empower the community and ensure that we achieve Vision 2020, which is to build a forward thinking and self sustainable traditional community.*
- **What are your views on the new programmes section on the Manage-by-Projects/Programmes System (MPS)?**
 - *It opened my eyes to so many new aspects of project management; it is user friendly and practical.*
- **How has the MPS assisted you in managing your projects?**
 - *Initially my understanding of project management was rather vague; I now have a clear understanding of all concepts of project management. I like the system because I can track my progress and measure my end results.*

 www.rbnoperationsroom.com

Web traffic on the Operations Room website:

Month	Site visits	% New visits	Average time on site	Average pages per visit
April 2011	1384 visits from 36 countries (1258 – SA; 30 – US; 9 – UK) 522 unique visits	29.26%	00:05:11	3.93
March 2011	1452 visits from 35 countries (1298 – SA; 47 – US; 10 – UK) 590 unique visits	31.27%	00:05:48	4.07
February 2011	1539 visits from 24 countries (1443 – SA; 15 – US; 8 – UK) 501 unique visits	24.89%	00:06:57	4.39
January 2011	1161 visits from 24 countries (1076 – SA; 16 – US; 7 – UK) 374 unique visits	23.86%	00:05:55	4.18

PROJECT MANAGEMENT CORNER:

Projects Management Software

Project management software is a term covering many types of software, including estimation and planning, scheduling, cost control and budget management, resource allocation, collaboration software, communication, quality management and documentation or administration systems, which are used to deal with the complexity of large projects.

Did you know that the PMO is developing its own customised project management software program? The system is already operational and due for completion at the end of June 2011. This web-based system can be viewed at www.rbnoperationsroom.com.

Bokgabane Quiz:

Have a go at the Bokgabane Quiz! Three winners will be randomly selected from the correct responses.

1. How many Bafokeng youth attended the Annual Youth Arts Festival?
2. How many individuals received counselling at the Trauma centre in 2010?
3. What is the website address of the PMO's project management software program?

Last month's winners: Please come collect your prizes from Mme Magauta Molokwane in the PMO.

Congratulations to:

1. David Ngwenya
2. Buang Khunou
3. ONLY TWO RESPONSES RECEIVED

BOKGABANE:

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