

GREATER TZANEEN MUNICIPALITY GROTER TZANEEN MUNISIPALITEIT

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MEDIA RELEASE

MAYOR 'S FUND TO HELP NEEDY LEANERS GET EDUCATED

Mayor Dikeledi Mmetle's Student Financial Aid Scheme (**MSFAS**) will this year (2014) assist 68 learners from impoverished backgrounds further their education. MSFAS was created to help learners from poor families register in universities and further education and training colleges (FETs) with a view that the National Student Financial Aid Scheme (NSFAS) will finance them further.

Due to the high levels of poverty in the municipality the Mayor's Bursary Scheme (covered full tuition) was discontinued and replaced with the more inclusive Mayor 'Student Financial Aid Scheme. Last year the scheme help 43 learners further their education in various universities and FETs.

The scheme's budget was increased from R250 000 to R400 000. The 68 students were selected from a pool of over 500 applications from GTM's 34 wards and 125 villages. Successful applicants had to meet stringent requirements. Applicants had to provide proof of their parents 'income, admission letter from a reputable tertiary institution or proof of registration, a detailed curriculum vitae and a motivational letter.

To ensure that all 34 wards benefit, each ward was allocated two (2) beneficiaries, which resulted in 68 beneficiaries being identified. GTM will monitor the progress all beneficiaries to ensure that there is value for money.

For Immediate release

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