

## INTERNET ARTICLE

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## DWS assists Tshwane's Refentse Clinic with much-needed handwashing stations

The Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) in Gauteng has given impetus to Refentse Clinic's efforts in Hammanskraal, north of Tshwane, to comply with Covid-19 regulations following the installation of four handwashing stations recently.

Working jointly with the Envirosan, the Department is part of a charge to provide an assorted of material to stave off the impact of the escalating impact of the Coronavirus pandemic. So far, water-stressed communities and schools across the province have been provided with water and sanitisers.

DWS's Provincial Head, Sibusiso Mthembu, said the spike in cases of the Coronavirus in the province necessitated that the Department worked hand in and hand with other organisations to help members of the public to observe the prescribed Covid-19 safety protocols.

He said now, more than ever, was the time that every institution complied with the regulations as infections were continuing to reach high levels in Gauteng, adding that the welfare of vulnerable people should be at the top of the agenda.

Mthembu said clinics were one of the areas that would have a number of people requiring services and therefore it was critical that such facilities were given the means to prevent the spread of the virus in communities.

"It is important that we provided handwashing stations to clinics so that patients are able to wash hands given that they are at risk of contracting the disease if they are not practicing proper hygiene," said Mthembu.

Manager at the clinic, Ms Elizabeth Zitha, thanked the Department and Envirosan for the washing stations, saying it although the clinic had similar facilities to wash hands more was needed.

She said patients the additional facilities were making it easy for them everyone to wash hands, saying patients have to be protected against the rising tide of the pandemic.

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