



The South African Police Service Education Trust (SAPSET) aims to address the education needs of deceased members' children



The National Police Commissioner, General Phiyega, was overwhelmed by the generosity of stakeholders who donated R180 000,00 towards the **South African Police Service Education Trust (SAPSET)** at a gala dinner held on the eve of National Commemoration Day at the Premier Hotel in Pretoria.

The gala dinner, which was aimed at engaging with various stakeholders, developing mutual relations and the resolution of challenges faced by the children of members who die in the line of duty, successfully reached its goal that night. This was made possible following the generosity and donations to honour the memory of the men and women in blue and to help assist their children to further their education.

On 23 November 2010, the SAPSET was born and officially assumed its mandate to look after the education interests of the deceased SAPS members' children. The SAPSET is a non-profit organization under the leadership of Major General Nobesuthu Masiye. It is funded by donations and individual contributions.

Since the inception of the SAPSET, 42 learners have benefited from it, 11 in 2013 and 31 in 2014-2015. These learners have enrolled for their studies at a number of universities across the country, including universities in Limpopo, KwaZulu-Natal, the Rosebank College, the Ekurhuleni East College, the Tshwane University of Technology, the PC Training and Business Management College, Unisa, Mancosa, the Cape Peninsula University of Technology and the Mangosuthu University of Technology.



Recently the SAPSET was celebrating a proud moment when one of the beneficiaries completed his Engineering degree. Twenty-eight other learners are currently doing very well in higher education.

In her address, the National Commissioner explained that it was very unfortunate that although the men and women in blue performed their duties with great dedication, some lost their lives at the hands of criminals in the line of duty.

“As the Police Service, we will pursue every criminal element to ensure all those who commit crime are brought to justice. Police officials are fathers and mothers, husbands and wives, sons and daughters, brothers and sisters, uncles and aunts before they are police members. They are part of general society, coming from established families and are providing for the well-being of their families. When we lose them in the line of duty, it is our police members’ families, especially their children, who experience extreme challenges as they grow up,” said the National Commissioner.

General Phiyega further explained that taking care of our members’ beneficiaries, was one of the SAPS’s key intervention mechanisms. By giving opportunities to the children of our fallen heroes and heroines to educate themselves, the SAPS leads them into a bright future and that would have made their parents proud. In the process, the SAPS will change their lives and this will go a long way in ensuring South Africa becomes a better place, free of criminal activities.

“With this education trust, our vision is to become an organisation which provides the best education and training for the development of the children of members who died in the line of duty. We cannot forget our fallen members, because they are a part of us. Their children are our children. The children of our fallen members benefit significantly from this initiative, and this is the least the SAPS can do. The community’s overwhelming outpouring of compassion and support to the families of those police officials who made the ultimate sacrifice, is touching, to say the least,” the National Commissioner said.



“Our sincerest thanks to those who have pledged smaller amounts toward the education of the SAPS’s beneficiaries, thereby helping these children to further their careers. Thank you for caring and for your generosity – these funds will go a long way to giving financial assistance,” said General Phiyega.

With the slogan of “Educating our Children for a better tomorrow”, the SAPSET hopes to achieve more with the donations it relies on to realise its objective of ensuring better education.

Major General Nobesuthu Masiye explained that only with the generous gestures from individuals, private persons and companies, can beneficiaries achieve their educational goals. Major General Masiye further explained that the fund provides continuity in the education of the beneficiaries.

After completion of their studies, the SAPS provide beneficiaries with internship opportunities if they wish to further their careers in the organisation. The Trust gives additional support through various structures, such as Employee Health and Wellness (EHW) services.

For donations and more information on the SAPSET, contact Brigadier Mashige at 012 432 7595.

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