



WESTERN CAPE GOVERNMENT COLLEGE OF EMERGENCY CARE

NEWSLETTER



Nelson Mandela Day 2025

New Haven Educare – Moorreesburg

The Western Cape Government College of Emergency Care (WCG CEC) proudly celebrated International Nelson Mandela Day in Moorreesburg by providing warm, nourishing meals at a food shelter and creche as part of the 67 Minutes of giving back initiative.

With dedication and compassion, the WCG CEC staff, alongside volunteers from New Haven Social Concerns Moorreesburg, worked together to prepare and serve meals to community members and children. Taking a moment to walk through the neighborhood, the WCG CEC team engaged with the local community, sharing joy by distributing treats to the children. We express our heartfelt gratitude to the WCG CEC staff for their incredible contributions and to the New Haven Social Concerns Centre for graciously opening their doors to celebrate this meaningful day with us.

The team felt truly privileged to give back to the community and to experience the joy of connecting with families in a non-medical context. These events remind us of the privileges we sometimes take for granted and deepen our connection to the community, allowing us to better understand their needs and create lasting, impactful memories through the power of giving.

Morné Bosman





Small Boat Rescue

West Coast

The College of Emergency Care Rescue students recently completed their small boat awareness training in the West Coast.

The enthusiasm, engagement and growth, especially from the students previously uncomfortable with water, is the driving force behind ensuring that candidate preparation is paramount.

The highlight of this module was the viewing and interaction with a school of dolphins that continuously surrounded the vessel at sea – such a privilege to engage with nature whilst attaining a qualification that will be utilized to save lives.

Michele Kings



Women's Day 2025

Sanitary pad drive

In celebration of Women's Day 2025, both the Emergency Care Assistant (ECA) and Diploma in Emergency Care (DIPS) students from the Western Cape Government College of Emergency Care launched a successful sanitary pad drive as part of their community initiative project.

Donations were collected between 30 July and 7 August 2025, with filled boxes delivered on 8 August to three vital shelters: The Saartjie Baartman Centre, The New Life Centre, and Sisters Incorporated. This initiative was made possible through the generous support of all staff and fellow students at the College, whose contributions helped ensure its success.

Special recognition goes to ECA students Anna-Marie Schmidt, Johan Engelbrecht, Blaine Davids, and Zoe Arendse, as well as DIPS students Elmarie Els, Kwanda Magazi, Travos Van Eck, and Mikayla Bailey for leading this meaningful act of solidarity.

Elmarie Els





DoHW Marketing week

Garden Route

The College of Emergency Care team had the privilege of visiting schools in lower income communities, where we saw firsthand the power of education and opportunity.

Throughout the week the college visited schools in Oudtshoorn, Mosselbay, Plettenberg bay and many more.

The warmth and respect we received from students was truly moving, and their eagerness to learn left a lasting impression.

At one under-resourced school, many learners heard about paramedics for the very first time. Their excitement was contagious, and one student's question—"Do I qualify with 70% in math, science, and life sciences?"—captured both their potential and their uncertainty about the future. These talented learners have the right subjects and ability, but often lack the guidance to see the opportunities available to them.

Our visit gave them not only information, but also hope. For me, the impact was profound: sometimes making a difference is about opening doors, not just saving lives.

A heartfelt thank-you to Dr. Cermak and Mr. Thorne for their leadership and dedication. This was more than a marketing week—it was about changing lives. We look forward to welcoming many of these promising candidates to the College of Emergency Care in the near future.

Andre Swanepoel



Cape Careers Exhibition Association (CCEA)

West Coast

The WCG College of Emergency Care recently took part in a dynamic Marketing Week across the West Coast, visiting schools in Citrusdal, Hopefield, Clanwilliam, Veldrift, Lamberts Bay, and beyond. Our team introduced learners to the exciting world of emergency medical care, showcasing our two qualifications—the ECA and the Diploma.

Throughout the week, we engaged with Grade 9 to 12 learners, guiding them on subject choices and the academic journey needed to pursue a career as a paramedic. The highlight for many students was exploring our student ambulance, where our passionate HRD staff—Chrishando, Nico, Morne, and Trish—brought the profession to life. They demonstrated medical equipment, manikins, and even the drugs used in the field, while sharing valuable insights into what it truly means to be a paramedic in today's world.

Timothy Thorne





DoHW career day

Western Cape Sport school – Kuilsriver

The WCG College of Emergency Care recently participated in the departmental career day event hosted by People Development at the Western Cape sports school in Kuilsriver, aimed at motivating and guiding interns from across the Western Cape.

Representatives from the college and students shared hands-on insights into the dynamic and rewarding field of emergency care. Through interactive demonstrations by our Diploma students and the necessary college information from our admin team, the interns gained a clearer understanding of the vital role paramedics play in saving lives. The event sparked enthusiasm and provided valuable information to help interns envision their future careers in this fast-paced and impactful sector.

Timothy Thorne



Anatomy and Physiology

Introduction to the cardiovascular system anatomy

As part of their practical training, students enrolled in the Diploma in Emergency Medical Care recently took part in an insightful hands-on pig heart dissection. Guided by Ms. Stacey Alcock, the session formed a key element of their Anatomy and Physiology module, offering a rare opportunity to explore the heart's internal structure up close.

Pig hearts are anatomically similar to human hearts, making them ideal for educational dissection. Students were able to examine the chambers, valves, and major vessels, bridging classroom theory with real-world understanding.

This immersive experience not only deepens anatomical knowledge but also equips students with practical insight crucial for clinical decision-making in emergency settings — reinforcing the high standards of training in our programme.

Elmarie Els





Kaleidoscope Career Day

Cape Winelands

The WCG College of Emergency Care partook in the Cape Winelands Education District's Career Kaleidoscope which was hosted at Worcester Gymnasium High School.

The team formed part of a variety of exhibitors which had the opportunity to engage with scholars ranging from Grade 8 to 12, from 32 different schools within the Cape Winelands Education District.

The team had fun engaging with curious learners, providing them with the necessary entry requirements, demonstrating some of the equipment used to train paramedicine, provided then with an opportunity to get into the back of an ambulance and engage with a manikin, and address any general questions posed by the learners. The team felt privileged to see so much learners interested in becoming Pre-hospital Emergency Care practitioners. We would like to express our gratitude to the Cape Winelands Education Department for allowing us to take part in shaping the future of tomorrow.

Beatrix Bester

The Haarlem Career Expo

Haarlem Secondary School – Uniondale

The Haarlem Career Expo took place on 20 June 2025 at Haarlem Secondary School, in partnership with the Uniondale Youth Office and George Municipality. The event aimed to expose learners—from foundation to senior phase—to various career paths.

Around 600 learners attended in the newly built school hall. Foundation Phase learners enjoyed an EMS uniform parade, while Intermediate and Senior learners took part in an interactive "Reach One, Teach One" CPR session and a competitive "CPR Rally." Winners received education backpacks sponsored by the Life Orientation Career Club. Thanks were extended to the Uniondale EMS Team, CFARS management, and volunteers who helped make the event a success.

Mario Grispe





Cape Careers Exhibition Association (CCEA)

Cape Winelands

The Western Cape Government College of Emergency Care (WCG CEC) staff participated in the Cape Careers Exhibition Association (CCEA), organising a successful market day in Beaufort West, Laingsburg, and Touws River to showcase the transformative Higher Certificate and Diploma in Emergency Medical Care qualifications.

In Beaufort West, where there is a critical shortage of Advanced Life Support personnel, the WCG CEC team engaged with around 500 eager students from various schools, sharing vital information about both qualifications. The session featured inspiring demonstrations of CPR and trauma care, offering students valuable hands-on experience. In Laingsburg, the WCG CEC team held a dynamic 90-minute session with Grade 9 and Grade 12 students from two different schools, illuminating the path forward.

The focus was on empowering Grade 9s to make informed subject choices and highlighting the matric symbols necessary for those aspiring to pursue Emergency Medical Care qualifications at the WCG CEC.

Timothy Thorne

Anatomy and Physiology

Introduction to the Kidney

Ms. Alcock introduced us to the fascinating world of the kidneys. These small but powerful organs filter waste, control fluid levels, regulate electrolytes, and even help manage blood pressure.

To make the lesson more interactive, Ms. Alcock brought pig kidneys to class, giving us the chance to examine their structure up close and connect theory to something real. The hands-on experience made the class both engaging and memorable.

This introduction set a strong foundation for future lessons, where we'll dive deeper into the urinary system and how our bodies maintain balance every day.

Casside Van Rensburg





EFAR Training

Department of Police Oversight and Community Safety

The Western Cape Government College of Emergency Care (WCG CEC) recently partnered with the Department of Police Oversight and Community Safety to deliver Emergency First Aid Responder (EFAR) training, an initiative aimed at empowering communities with vital lifesaving skills.

During the program, participants received both theory and practical training on how to respond to emergencies, from performing basic first aid and CPR to stabilizing patients until professional medical services arrive. The sessions were designed to be hands-on and engaging, giving participants the confidence to act quickly and effectively in real-life situations.

Timothy Thorne



ECA Practicals

Maternity and incubation

The College of Emergency Care's ECA students recently stepped into an exciting chapter of their training with practical classes on maternity and incubations. These hands-on sessions gave students the opportunity to practice vital skills for assisting mothers and newborns in emergency situations. From understanding maternal care to safely managing incubations, the training was both eye-opening and empowering. Beyond the technical know-how, the sessions also reminded students of the importance of empathy and reassurance during some of the most critical moments in a patient's life—equipping them to serve their communities with confidence and care.

Annelize Schmidt





UPCOMING EVENTS

Sports day 2025

Heritage day

The College of Emergency Care is excited to announce our upcoming Heritage Sports Day on 15 September! After last year's successful day, this special event will bring together students and staff to celebrate our diverse heritage through fun, teamwork, and friendly competition. With a variety of sports, games and activities planned, it promises to be a day full of energy, unity, and community spirit. Don't miss out on the chance to showcase your skills, support your peers, and enjoy a day of celebration and togetherness!





Applications for 2026 academic year

Higher Certificate and Diploma in emergency medical care

The College of Emergency Care is excited to announce that applications for our Higher Certificate in Emergency Care and Diploma in Emergency Medical Care will officially open September 2025.

If you're ready to take the next step toward a career in emergency medical services, now is the time to apply!

We look forward to welcoming passionate and dedicated future emergency care professionals to begin their journey with us.



**ONLINE
APPLICATIONS
OPENING SOON**



**Higher Certificate and Diploma
in Emergency Medical Care**

Closing date: TBC

For more enquires visit:

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