



DIPALESENG LOCAL MUNICIPALITY

**KEYNOTE ADDRESS BY THE EXECUTIVE MAYOR, CLLR. NB KHANYE AT THE
DIPALESENG DISABILITY AWARENESS CAMPAIGN, HELD ON THE 29TH OF
NOVEMBER 2024 AT SIYATHEMBA THUSONG SERVICE CENTRE**

PROGRAM DIRECTOR

**OUR VALUED STAKEHOLDERS, AUTISM SA, DPSA, SASSA, DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH, DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT, DARDLEA,**

GERT SIBANDE TVET – BALFOUR CAMPUS

LE JOY WOMEN EMPOWERMENT

OFFICIALS FROM DIPALESENG LM

MEMBERS FROM THE DISABLED COMMUNITY

WARD COMMITTEES, & COMMUNITY MEMBERS

SAFE TO SAY, ALL PROTOCOL OBSERVED

I GREET YOU ALL IN THE NAME OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, AMEN

Program Director, allow me to commence by referring to the holy book, in the book of Philippians, chapter 2 verse 3-4, the Lord says: “Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others”. Thus let our actions towards others, especially the less fortunate, be kind and righteous with good intent.

Annually, South Africa celebrates National Disability Rights Awareness Month between the 3rd of November and the 3rd of December. The latter

being the International Day of Persons with Disabilities, also celebrated as National Disability Rights Awareness Day.

This year's theme is celebrating 30 years of democracy, creating a disability inclusive society for a better quality of life and protection of the rights of persons with disabilities”

Considering the above, we have also inclusivity is broadly evident through the Expanded Public Works Program, wherein members from this group were adequately accommodated.

Equally, we have noted gaps or areas of improvement in terms of possible improvements in areas of local economic development, recruitment processes and as well as building accessibility to deem our disability friendly. Encouragement directed to this community sector needs to be put in place, this should further be reinforced by advocacy for their integration thereafter.

We note and appreciate the nature of multi-sector collaborative service delivery programs within our area. This commendable spirit, program director forms the backdrop of our service delivery success stories.

Program Director, as an institution, we commit to continuously support programs of this nature led by key relevant departments in fulfilling their mandated roles.

16 Days of Activism

We are right in the middle of 16 Days of Activism for No Violence against Women and Children Campaign which is a United Nations campaign which takes place on an annual basis from 25 November to 10 December.

The 16 Days Campaign forms the centre point of government's comprehensive 365 Days of Activism for No Violence Against Women and Children.

During the 16 Days period, government together with civil society and the private sector, through community-based activities to foster a collaborative effort in dealing with GBVF.

Food Borne Illnesses

In response to the President's call, the municipality approved Standard Draft By-Law on Township Economies to regulate spaza or tuck shops and ensure compliance to application legislation.

(Importance of safe guarding our children's lives)

Further to that, we have also commenced compliance inspections at these places of operation across the municipal jurisdiction. Program Director, we do not want to leave anyone behind in this process, therefore consultations regarding this by-law, its implications and the registration process are also currently underway. In fact, the office of the Speaker is leading a public participation initiative, wherein a meeting is scheduled for 10H00, on the 4th December 2024 at this same venue.

Festive Road Safety

We are fast approaching the Festive Season, a wind down period where people take a break to rest and relish precious occasions with loved ones. Road safety becomes a major concern during this time as increased numbers of people commute to different areas. Drivers should obey the rules of the road and comply with all road safety regulations, don't find yourself on the wrong side of the law.

Equally, as we enjoy ourselves, let us do so responsibly and within the confines of the law. I want to implore our communities to remain vigilant and report suspected and criminal offences to relevant authorities.

Let me wish you all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Thank you.