

REMARKS BY HUMAN SETTLEMENTS MEC, HON. VIOLET SIWELA
DURING MANDELA INTERNATIONAL DAY CAMPAIGN.
GOVAN MBEKI LOCAL MUNICIPALITY.
21 JULY 2015.

Programme Director
Executive Mayor: Clr LL Masina (Govan Mbeki Local Municipality)
Councilors
Head of Department, Mr. K Masange
Municipal Manager
Social Cluster Members
Sponsors (D R Bongani Investments)
Officials from the Department and Municipality
Members of the Media
Distinguished Community Members

Greetings to everyone with Tata Madiba's spirit.

Allow me to quote the former President, Nelson Mandela – **“What counts in life is not the mere fact that we have lived. It is what difference we have made to the lives of others that will determine the significance of the life we lead”**.

South Africa is fortunate to have had a gallant leader such as the former State President, Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela.

In 2009 the United Nations General Assembly declared 18 July - **Nelson Mandela International Day** - in recognition of the former South Africa President's contribution to the culture of peace and freedom.

The campaign was inspired by a call Nelson Mandela made a year earlier, for the next generation to take on the burden of leadership in addressing the world's social injustices when he said that “it is in your hands now”.

It is more than a celebration of Madiba's life and legacy. It is a global movement to honour his life's work and act to change the world for the better.

REMARKS BY HUMAN SETTLEMENTS MEC, HON. VIOLET SIWELA
DURING MANDELA INTERNATIONAL DAY CAMPAIGN.
GOVAN MBEKI LOCAL MUNICIPALITY.
21 JULY 2015.

For 67 years, Nelson Mandela devoted his life to the service of humanity as a human rights lawyer, a prisoner of conscience, and an international peacemaker, amongst others.

The former president is being recognised for his values and dedication to the service of humanity, in the fields of conflict resolution, race relations, the promotion and protection of human rights.

The spirit of reconciliation, gender equality and the rights of children and other vulnerable groups, as well as the upliftment of poor and underdeveloped communities were some of his qualities.

The Mandela International Campaign is celebrated under the theme:

“To Take Action; Inspire Change, make Every Day a Mandela Day”

And it aims to:

- To inculcate the culture of selflessness and Ubuntu,
- Inspire individuals to dedicate 67 minutes to the advancement of communities,
- Encourage stakeholder participation in devoting action to social challenges, and
- Create awareness about the Mandela Campaign and enhance participation of all people in social cohesion towards nation building and sustainable communities.

REMARKS BY HUMAN SETTLEMENTS MEC, HON. VIOLET SIWELA
DURING MANDELA INTERNATIONAL DAY CAMPAIGN.
GOVAN MBEKI LOCAL MUNICIPALITY.
21 JULY 2015.

The overarching objective is to inspire individuals to take action to help change the world for better and in doing so build a global movement for good.

The campaign calls for everyone, institutions, private sector, and all role players within society to take part in doing good for communities.

In heeding the call, the Department of Human Settlements in collaboration with Govan Mbeki Municipality and D R Bongani Investments have joined hands to do good for the needy.

The contributions will benefit 68 households with food parcels, blankets, clothing and uniform for an orphaned household.

Also to benefit is 20-year old Mbali Nkosi who stays with her four months daughter and her three younger sisters at a rented place.

This family is just like many which the ANC government is taking care of through a number of social interventions such as child support grant.

Today's activities will culminate with the symbolic construction of a house for 68-year old Joseph Mabena from Siphumelele Township at Kinros and later by painting and handing over of furniture to 87-year old, Ms Fikile Salina Zwane.

So let us dedicate time and work selflessly to improve the less fortunate.

Let's all take action and make everyday a Mandela Day.

I thank you.