

## MAYOR CALLS ON COMMUNITIES TO TAKE STAND AGAINST GBVF AS BLM HOSTS WOMEN'S MONTH COMMEMORATION AND GBVF PRAYER EVENT

As the nation continues to celebrate Women's Month, the Blouberg Local Municipality has also joined and continuing with activities to celebrate women's achievements and the important role they have played and continue to play in our society. Hosted by the municipal' Special Focus Programmes and Employee Wellness divisions at Senwabarwana Sport Complex, the commemoration was paired with Gender-Based-Violence and Femicide(GBVF) prayer in a bid to create awareness about the scourge and how women can seek help. The event brought together women to reflect, pray and build resilience.

Delivering the keynote address, Blouberg Local Municipality, Mayor, Her Worship Cllr Maria Thamaga commenced by paying homage to the women of 1956 for paving the way of freedom that the South Africans are enjoying today.

"Since the march on the 09th of August 1956 to union buildings, we never looked back.

Re eme ka maoto go lwela tokologo ya naga le tokologo ya basadi ka kakaretšo.

Lehono re keteka mengwaga ye masometharo-tee ya tokologo le temokresi.

Lehono basadi ba kgona go fiwa maemo afe kapa afe mo setšhabeng. Taba ya 50/50 is part of our lives.Tša eta ke basadi pele di nwa maswi.

Re leboga karolo yeo BoMme Winnie Mandela, Albertinah Sisulu, Adelaide Tambo, Sophy De Bruyn, Lylian Ngoyi, Hellen Joseph, Dora Tamana, Charlotte Maxeke le ba bangwe ba e ralokilego. Ya lena karolo le e kgathile ka botswerere.

Moswaramarapo Mme Dora Tamana ge a bolela o re “You who have no homes, speak.

You who have to run like chickens from the vulture, speak. Let us share our problems so that we can solve them together”.

Mayor Thamaga indicated that GBVF is still rampant in our society, causing fear among women and children, robbing them from feeling safe and realizing their inherent human potential. Added to this, discrimination and abuse against women on the basis of sexual identity and preferences continues to be a challenge.The Mayor called for an end to abuse, rape and killing of women and girls and for the community to stand together in the fight.

" Lehono re kgobokane fa go go gopola kgwedi ya Bo-Mme le go rapelela ntwagaahlanong gender-based violence and femicide mo malapeng le setšhabeng ka moka. Ge re kgonne go phuhlamiša mmušo wa kgethologanyo le ntwagaahlanong GBVF re tla e fenyha. Ge re bala mo bukeng ya Bafilipi kgaolo ya bone temana ya lesometharo e re “Tsohle ke di kgona ka maatla ao Kriste a mphago ona.” A re memeng modimo gore a tsene ka gare ga rena. Tumelo ke thebe yeo e ka re kgontšhago.

Re mo nakong yeo malapa le setšhaba ka kakaretšo se nyakago tharollo. Ke ka thapelo fao re kgonago go lwa go fihla mafelelong.

Re swanetše re matlafatša malapa bjalo ka mafelo a mathoma a go lwa ntwaga ye. Re swanetše re godiša bana ba rena ka tsela ya maleba. Go tloga malapeng re fetele setšhabeng. Our communities should say no to gender-based violence and femicide.

Re dira boipeletšo go Bomme ka moka go tšea karolong ntweng ye. Basadi le bana ba swanetše go kwa ba bolokegile ka malapeng le mo setšhabeng.

Let us continue to celebrate women' month with pride. The progress of the past 31 years has given us courage and hope for the future. "A winner is a dreamer who never gives up" end quote by Madiba".

