

## **MAYOR THAMAGA SENDS CONDOLENCES TO MOJELA FAMILY FOLLOWING TRAGIC DEATH OF THEIR DAUGHTER, CONDEMNS GBVF**

Blouberg Local Municipality Mayor, Cllr Maria Thamaga, has expressed her heartfelt condolences to the Mojela family at Desmond Park in Senwabarwana following a tragic death of their daughter.

Nthabiseng Mojela, a 22-year old grade 12 learner at Phala Secondary school, Ga-Broekman was last week murdered by her boyfriend who also took his own life.

Speaking at the memorial service, held earlier today, Mayor Thamaga urged women to report gender-based violence to the police and not turn a blind eye to abuse.

" Our deepest condolences to the Mojela family, May the Lord comfort and grant you strength in this difficult time. We visited the family last week after hearing the sad news, that's when the family informed us about the violence and abuse Nthabiseng went through in the hands of the man who was supposed to love and protect her.

To women, girls whenever you experience violence or any form of abuse from men, please report it to the police, do not say he will change, get the protection order, do not wait until it's too late. I have received several calls throughout the week; gender-based violence related incidents whereby women are being killed. What saddens me the most is that, these evil acts occurred when the nation and international communities are commemorating the 16 Days of Activism for No Violence Against Women and Children.

Mayor Thamaga further called on men to protect women instead of killing them.

"The scourge of gender-based violence and femicide is violating the rights of women and girls robbing them from feeling safe and realizing their human potential. The abuse, rape and killing of women and girls is getting out of hand.

We are calling out to every man in this municipality, in this country to stand up and fight this GBVF pandemic"

The Mayor was joined by Acting Municipal Manager, Mr Refilwe Ramothwala.

Mojela will be laid to rest on Saturday, December 4, 2021.