## BLM COMMEMORATES WORLD AIDS DAY AND 16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM FOR NO VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND CHILDREN

Blouberg Municipality Mayor Her Worship Cllr Maria Thamaga today led the municipality's 2023 World AIDS Day (December 1) and the 16 Day of Activism for No Violence Against Women and Children commemoration held at Kromhoek (Ga-Makgato) in Ward 15.

The event was organized by the municipality in partnership with Lesedi Youth Empowerment, working hand in hand with

the Department of Health and Anova Health. Deliverying the keynote address, Mayor Thamaga indicated that the municipality joined the nation and the international communities in observing the day and will continue to educate and raise awareness about HIV/AIDS to locals.

"Rekgobokane fa lehono go tlo keteka letšatši la boditšhaba-tšhaba la HIV/AIDS bjalo ka Masepala. Ngwaga ka ngwaga letšatši la di 01 December le theilwe bjalo ka la boditšhatšhaba la HIV/AIDS. Re leboga unit ya rena ya special focus ka mošomo wo mobotse woo ba o dirago. Tšwelang pele Sesi Shiely ka thušano le batšeakarolo ka moka go eta pele masolo kgahlanong le leuba le. Re leboga lefapha la tša maphelo,di CBO,NGO ka karolo yeo ba e ralokago".

The 2023 World Aids Day is commemorated under the theme: "Let Communities lead", calling for communities to take leadership roles.

"Ga go se re ka se dirago ntle le ditšhaba tša rena. Re swanetše go bona gore re matlafatša Setšhaba se eta pele ntwa kgahlanong le HIV/AIDS. Re swanetše go matlafatša dikomiti ka moka tša mabapi le lesolo le. Re bolela ka HIV/AIDS Technical committee,HIV/AIDS Council,ward based HIV/AIDS committees bjalo bjalo. Re swanetše go thušana le mantona a rena, ward committees le batšeakarolo ka moka.

Go ya ka dipalopalo batho ba go lekana 8 Million ba phela ka twatši ya HIV ka Afrika Borwa. Batho bao ba lego kotsing ya go fetelwa ke Adolescent girls and young women aged between 15-24 years. We should ask ourselves why are they at risk? Go a kgonega go fenya ntwa kgahlanong le HIV/AIDS".

In line with this year's theme, "Let Communities lead", Mayor Thamaga urged communities to take the lead in HIV/AIDS matters by:

- Knowing our HIV/AIDS status (Get tested and treated)
- A re fetoleng maitshwaro a rena
- ♣ A re šomišeng di tšhireletša malwetši a thobalano The ABC method works. Let us Abstain, Be faithful and Condomise

The Mayor called for end to Gender Based Violence and Femicide (GBVF) in Blouberg. She further called on members of the public to join hands in the fight against GBVF scourge.

"Twantšho ya tlaišo ya bana le basadi le bana16 Days of activism Lesolo la twantšho ya tlaišo ya bana le bomme la ngwaga wo le fihla mafelelo ka di 10 December 2023. Eupša re dira boipeletšo go batho ka moka gore a re lwantšheng tlaišo ya bomme le bana letšatši ka tšatši. Let us report acts of violence against women and children. Safety women and children is our safety. We are not safe if women and children are not safe"



