



# BLOUBERG LOCAL MUNICIPALITY

## MEDIA STATEMENT

Tuesday, 09 November 2016

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### HIV TEST DRIVE AND AWARENESS CAMPAIGN TO FARM WORKERS

Blouberg Local Municipality in partnership with the Department of Health (Gideon Clinic) will be hosting HIV Test Drive and Awareness Campaign to farm workers at Wilnick Boerdery Farm near Tolwe. The awareness campaign will be under the theme: **“Be Wise and Get Tested and Know your status”**.

The Local Aids Council adopted the Municipal Multi Sectoral 2016/2017 HAST Operational plan guided by the 2012-2016 Limpopo Provincial Strategic Plan during their meeting held on the 04 October 2016. As part of the implementation plan there is a need to identify the Key populations Area or High transmission area to conduct the HAST awareness campaign. Farm workers are identified as key population and are at higher risk for the HIV infections.

Farm workers are particularly vulnerable to lack of information, sexual violence, discrimination and other violations of their human rights which in turn increases their vulnerability to HIV infections and undermines their ability to access the available HIV related services. Failure to address the risk of violence and improve their access to key HIV and violence related services will increase in the number people who are HIV positive.

Some of the topics to be thoroughly looked at include: **Farm workers and risk of HIV exposure and access to HIV Education and Information and Prevention Services.**

### The campaign is scheduled as follows:

Date : 10 November 2016  
Time : 11:00  
Venue : Wilnick Boerdery Farm (Tolwe)

Issued by Communications Division of Blouberg Local Municipality

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