

**KEY NOTE ADDRESS BY HER WORSHIP, THE
MAYOR, CLR MATHEBE, DURING 16 DAYS OF
ACTIVISM DAY CELEBRATION**

DATE: 04 DECEMBER 2014

VENUE: NTWANE VILLAGE, DIKWENA SPORTS GROUND

Programme Director

Kgoshi Mathebe le Mantona a rena

My fellow councillors' present

Religious leaders and Traditional healers, representative of
Non Government and Community Based Organisations

Business people

Provincial Commission for Gender Equality

Community of Ntwane and surroundings

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Good day, Dumelang, Sanibonani

We are happy in joining your presence today, on this marked important day.

Each year, South Africa marks the campaign of 16 days of Activism against the Abuse of Children and Women from 25th November to the 10th of December. This year campaign is addressing the theme: ***Count Me in: Together moving a Non-Violent South Africa forward.***

The 16 days Campaign is important because we commemorate many milestones this year.

- It is the 16th year of the campaign,
- and will also reflect on 20 years of democracy in South Africa ,
- and 60 years of the Women's Charter.

The 16 days Campaign was adopted by Government in 1998 as one of Intervention strategies towards creating society free of violence, since the establishment of this campaign we are all united by the objective **of building safer communities for women and children.**

Programme Director,

The partnership between the Municipality, South African Police Services and Commission for Gender Equality has arrived in difficult times referring to the several incidents occurred in the surrounding of the municipality including Ntwane Village, where a 5 year kid was raped from her schooling and a poor woman was robbed and killed in her home, just to mention few examples.

We are appealing to everybody to pledge against the abuse of Children and Women in our societies. **The nation that does not invest and care for its “children population is a nation doomed for future.**

The leadership of the municipality has pledged its commitment to lead in the plans for mainstreaming the Children's Rights through its partnership with SALGA supported by Save the Children Organisation. To this end, Programme Director, we identified the 11 wards in which the IDP service delivery programmes will elevate the inclusion of interventions for issues related to children.

Programme director, we therefore call for collaboration and commitment from all sectors , government and non-government stakeholders, to support our municipality and its partners in ensuring that our future leaders through the Save the Children Programme yield positive and sustainable results.

Ladies and Gentleman

It is our task, as three spheres of government to advocate these 16 days of activism campaign within 365 days. Such programmes will be developed and implemented by the council of the municipality.

All of us has a role to play, let's go all out and attend the municipal programmes such like IDP's and other related municipal programmes to contribute to the plans of the services that affect our lives.

Today we should be sending the message to the public. Abusers, Murders and Rapist, that they have no place in our communities.

We urge men and children to commit themselves to become activist of gender base violence.

As I conclude, Programme Director, my plea to all of the stakeholders—let us work with the police to ensure, criminals are arrested and also the police must act decisively so that gender base violence is eliminated.

Bagaeso, Let us build the safest communities, in protection of women, children, elderly and people living with disability.

The question for all of you converged here today is: **Are we ready to be counted on, in fighting the abuse and crime?**

I can say this with conviction, Programme Director, that on behalf of Elias Motsoaledi municipality **YES...we are ready to be counted in.**

Working together we can do more and fight against the abuse for our future leaders and mothers of the nations.
KEA LEBOGA!