

**KEY NOTE ,GBVF AWARENESS CAMPAIGN AT VAALBANK COMMUNITY HALL BY THE HONOURABLE EXECUTIVE MAYOR**

**CLLR NOMSA MTSHWENI**

**VENUE: VAALBANK COMMUNITY HALL**

**DATE : 25TH NOVEMBER2023 (SATURDAY )**

**TIME : 10h00**

Program director – Mr Ntuli

Traditional leaders

Mmcs

Cllrs

Ward committee

All pastors – Mr Zulu

Guest speakers – (Mr Martin Ntuli ,Mr Paneng and Dr Moukangwe)

All managers

Support staff

All departments (saps ,social development

stakeholders

Community members

All protocols observed.

**INTRODUCTION**

Program director its indeed privilege and honor to address the community of Dr JS Moroka Local Municipality on GBVF. Such awareness’s are greatly appreciated as especially with the high raising number of GBVF in the entire country, it is a global pandemic that affects 1 in 3 women in their life time, with severe consequences. By 2022/2023 fiscal year South Africa has reported over 50 000 domestic violence -related crimes.

The purpose of today’s event is to make people in our municipality aware of GBVF and build a platform for transparency and breaking the silence in the communities. Whether we are individuals ,families ,communities ,religious or traditional leaders ,let us take responsibility for ending this problem, let us support ,not discourage survivors who want to lay charges. Let us believe our children when they tell us they are being abused.

As government we have committed to join hands with stakeholders to fight against this harmful,in-human act against our women and children, hence this awareness campaign today.

In remembering the many lives we have lost to gender-based violence, let us work with urgency and determination for a time when no woman or children should ever again fall victim to violence. Let us work for a time when we no longer need these 16 days of activism.

Program director I think the biggest question here today would be:

1.For how long must me sit and allow our women and children suffer?

2. And for how long must take us to stand up ,do what is right?

Therefore, I need to emphasize and urge the urgent need for working together to fight against this pandemic. As the Municipality we call upon all males to become the champions for the fight against gender-based violence and femicide.

We condemn any form of violence and perpetrators needs to be prosecuted.

As i close program director -men ,must say No and say not in our name and gender based violence has no place in this country and more especially in our municipality. We will win this war if we work together.

I thank You all

Ke a leboga,

Ngiya thokoza