MAYOR OD F GREATER TUBATSE MUNICIPALITY'S KEY NOTE ADDRESS AT THE AIDS AWARENESS DAY

Programme Director

Members of the Executive Committee Madame Speaker Chief Whip Councillors Officials Community structures Ladies and gentlemen

We are gathered here today, to recommit ourselves as Greater Tubatse Municipality, in fighting the spread of HIV amongst community members and to remind ourselves about the existence of Aids related disease, under the theme 'STOP HIV& AIDS AND KEEP THE PROMISE'

Programme Director, we are here today to remind ourselves that we are all affected by Aids. Aids, is no longer an individual issue but a community issue. It is important that we work together as a community to ensure that those infected and affected by Aids are being taken care of.

According to the report released recently by the Department of Health, the stigmatising of HIV positive people has decreased nationally, but at the community level it remains a challenge. People living with HIV are being discriminated against by their families and communities. I would like to encourage everyone present here today, to change the attitude against those people living with HIV. People living with HIV and those who have Aids need love and support. The love and support will keep them strong and give them hope. That will help them live a positive life. They will feel that they are part of the community.

Programme director, I'm now going to focus on parents. Parents the time has come for you to stand up and discuss Aids related issues with you children at home. Children should get information about life from home not from the streets. In most cases, the information they get from the streets make them loose direction. I urge all parents to open up with their children, as another way of fighting the spread of HIV amongst young people. Parents must give their HIV positive children all the support they need.

Children should also respect their parents and ensure that their work become easy. Kids should allow parents to exercise their parenthood powers.

To the community at large, ensure that the HIV positive adults and youths get the respect, love, care and the support due.

As the Greater Tubatse Municipality, is committed in strengthening and improving the HIV programmes to ensure that HIV spread is under control. The latest report indicated that the spread of HIV is on the decrease, but let's work together as the community of Tubatse, to strive for a HIV/Aids free generation. The municipality relies on the community for the success of the programmes.

In conclusion programme director, Aids e gona e ya phela, Re setse re lobile magagabo rena ka lebaka ka bolwetsi bjo. Se se le go gona bjale ke gore bjalo ka setshaba re ipope ngata e tee go lwantshana le phatlalalo ya HIV. Setshaba sa Tubatse a re emeng ka maoto go lwantshana le bolwetsi bjoo bo hlakahlakantshago setshaba. Bolwetsi bja go dira gore bana e be ditshiwana, batswadi ba a hlalana ka lebaka la Aids. Lehloyo le a ata setshabeng le gona bolwetsi bjo bo

hlohleletsa bodiidi le tlaala ka malapeng. KA FAO A RE TSHWARANENG KA MATSOGO, RE KUKANE BJALO KA SETSHABA GO LWANTSANA LE BOLWETSI BJO.

'STOP HIV& AIDS AND KEEP THE PROMISE'