



WOMEN'S MONTH

2011

CELEBRATING THE STRUGGLE OF WOMEN  
FOR SOCIO-ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT  
IN OUR LIFETIME



## FOREWORD

EXECUTIVE MAYOR SEDIBENG DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY: CLLR. MAHOLE SIMON MOFOKENG

It is my pleasure to once again welcome the women's month programme. This time around like in all the previous programmes, the pride and joy of Sedibeng District Municipality will be pampered with many developmental programmes which are aimed at empowering them both with information and knowledge.

During this period, the Sedibeng District Municipality and the country observe and celebrate the gains and present opportunities for the women of South Africa. We will be taking the opportunity to highlight and showcase the opportunities which exist for all women in the District.

These programmes and campaigns are further aimed at recognising the important gains which women have brought about and acknowledging that there is a lot more work to be done before we can say that we have truly achieved gender equality in our country. Women are still faced with challenges of poverty, unemployment, abuse and violence.

Among a wide range of campaigns and programmes which have been lined up in paying a special attention to the needs of women, priority has been given to promoting women's access to economic opportunities. This is translated into the many programmes which will be unfolding throughout the Women's Month and beyond.

It is through these programmes and campaigns that we commit ourselves as the Sedibeng District Municipality not to forget the massive demonstration of women in Pretoria on 9 August 1956 which played a major role in ensuring the attainment of the freedom which we enjoy today.

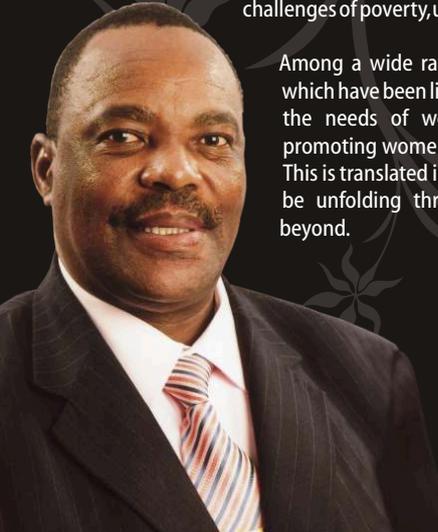
It is interesting to note that this year's programme we will be paying tribute to our revolutionary mothers who may have since joined our ancestors and while others living ancestors in the name of Maletanta and MaLefiedi, not forgetting Theresa Ramashamole, a member of the Sharpeville Six.

Fifteen (15) of the twenty (20) houses will be handed over to women beneficiaries on the 5th August 2011 in the New Village, Sebokeng. Among these women beneficiaries are the two women who were born in 1918 and one born in 1924. This is a milestone which we commit to sustaining throughout the year in commemoration, celebration and recognition of the participation of women in the struggle for freedom that we enjoy today.

I take this opportunity to invite all people of Sedibeng and in particular women in their many formations, across all demographics to participate in the programmes that the Sedibeng District Municipality has lined up in their celebration

**“Working Together to Enhance Women's Opportunities to Economic Empowerment”**

**Malibongwe!**



## FOREWORD

SPEAKER SEDIBENG DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY: CLLR. BUSI MODISAKENG

As we characterise the world that we live in beyond 1956, it is clear that we have a real challenge to further advance the gains that have been made. Most importantly, we need to do this so that those who are still not covered by some of these gains are able to equally enjoy the benefits of the progress made in the emancipation of women and the transformation of our Sedibeng. 2011 August month aims to celebrate women, the cycle of womanhood, gender equality and women's rights under the theme: **"Celebrating the struggle of women for socio-economic empowerment in our lifetime"**. The programme not only honours women from all over Sedibeng but also pays tribute to all the contributions that women have made to make Sedibeng a better place. This year women's month is observed in a special way to give it meaning, context and relevance.

Women's month will not only be marked by linking the struggles and achievements of South African women with all the women of Sedibeng who contributed towards the struggle for liberation. Significant strides were made all over the globe to place issues of women's emancipation firmly on the world agenda. National struggles of women in different countries have accumulated in a global united effort to oppose and eradicate the subjugation of women in all spheres of our society. These global efforts have mainly been responsible for the progress made by humanity in the fight against the oppression of women. The emancipation of women therefore should also entail the eradication of inequality and segregation within society and indeed inequality amongst women.

Women's Month is one of the key initiatives of Sedibeng District Municipality together with the local municipalities. It is specifically targeted at women as the key drivers and participants. Not only is the programme in the district wide but the month is also celebrated with activities throughout the country in commemorating women's achievements. It is also during this period that the government takes stock of the challenges that persist in attaining women's

empowerment and gender equality. It is therefore also the time when government departments identify necessary measures that need to be taken to address these challenges. As a yearlong programme is launched marking the 55th Anniversary of the march of the women, the reality that women have been active in the struggle for emancipation and empowerment at individual and also at a collective level should be embraced.

### The objectives of 2011 women's month programme are:

- To celebrate, commemorate and champion the cycle of womanhood.
- To mobilise women and society in general in commemorating the 55th Anniversary of the National Women's Day (August 9).
- To highlight the role that women can play in the development of their communities
- To champion a 365 day programme to achieve:
  - Sustainable programmes for women empowerment.
  - Sustainable partnerships between the public and private sectors as well as with women representing civil society.



05 AUGUST '11

## WOMEN'S MONTH LAUNCH

- Program Director Lebohang Metsing
- Media conference led by the Speaker of Sedibeng District Municipality Cllr. Busisiwe Modisakeng

District Municipality, Outlining the events for the Women's Month Programme Cllr Simon Moremi Speaker Lesedi Local Municipality, Presentation of 365 days programme by Cllr Msebenzi Gqelosha Speaker Emfuleni Local Municipality, Vote of Thanks Cllr Allan McCloughlin Speaker Midvaal Local Municipality.

- Entertainment by local women artists:  
Lebo Sekgobela – Gospel Artist, Big Mama – Local Traditional Music
- Guest appearance by Chomee - National Kwaito Artist
- Distribute booklets of Women's Month Programme.
- Literacy campaign (distribution of leaflets – educational material for women)

**Date:** 05 August '11

**Time:** 10h00

**Venue:** Zone 10 New Village

**Contact Person:** Lebo Mofokeng - 016 4500 3964 / 079 510 7324



05 AUGUST '11

## SERVICE DELIVERY AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES

### Recognizing the role women play in the housing construction sector

#### (New Village Housing Project – Showcase)

- Leadership: Project steered by Woman Ward Councillor, Woman MMC for Housing in Emfuleni Local Municipality, Woman Manager for Housing, a Woman Project Coordinator
- Women Entrepreneurship and technical expertise: Woman Contractor, Women Engineer

#### Housing beneficiaries

- Allocation of twenty (20) out of forty (40) houses to women beneficiaries (Profile 2 elderly i.e. two elders i.e. 92 years and 93 years, child headed household or a person living with a disability).
- Handing over of keys to beneficiaries by Executive Mayors of Sedibeng District Municipality, Cllr Mahole Simon Mofokeng and Emfuleni Local Municipality, Cllr Greta Hlongwane

**Date:** 05 August '11

**Time:** 10h00

**Venue:** Zone 10 New Village

**Contact Person:** Esau Moleko - 016 450 3312



09 AUGUST '11

## WOMEN'S DAY CELEBRATION

This commemorates the national march of women on this day in 1956 to petition against legislation that required African persons to carry the "pass", special identification documents which curtailed an African's freedom of movement during the apartheid era.

- Mobilisation of women from Sedibeng to attend the National Women Day Celebrations.



**Date:** 09 August '11

**Time:** 09h00

**Venue:** Tshwane Union Buildings

**Contact Person:** Tommy Maleka - 016 450 3177

10 AUGUST '11

## SANITARY TOWEL CAMPAIGN

This project seeks to enhance participation, retention and performance of girls in school through provision of sanitary towels. To address the issue of absenteeism due to lack of sanitary towels. The campaign will commence in partnership with Department of Education District 7 and Department of Social Development.

The programme will be sustained for 365 days

**Date:** 10 August '11

**Time:** 09h00

**Venue:** Ratanda Secondary School, Lesedi

**Contact Person:** Mampe Moagi (016) 340 4314



12 AUGUST '11

## WOMEN'S RIGHTS SEMINAR

Working together with Chapter 9 Institutions such as the Commission for Gender Equality and other Justice Agencies.

Main Objective of the Women's month Seminar is to ensure equitable sharing of resources, information and benefits of development for women, and to integrate women to understand their rights in accordance with their capabilities and needs, in order to enhance the quality of life and ensure a peaceful and prosperous nation.

- Commission for Gender Equality- Gender Equality
- Justice Agencies - Family Law (Advocate/Prosecutor)

Action oriented discussion will allow dialogue between women involved and the panel, and will continue into a 365 days programme.

**Date:** 12 August '11

**Time:** 09h00

**Venue:** Meyerton Town Hall, Midvaal

**Contact Person:** Itumeleng Lehloo - 016 450 3114



16 AUGUST '11

## WOMEN IN FARMING

- To expose emerging women farmers to commercial farming
- Touring the farm
- Assisting other emerging farmers
- Understanding the progression from emerging farming to commercial farming
- Handing over of certificates of recognition of commercial farmer and emerging farmers by the Sedibeng District Municipality Executive Mayor, Cllr Mahole Simon Mofokeng and the Emfuleni Local Municipality, Executive Mayor, Cllr Greta Hlongwane

**Date:** 16 August '11

**Time:** 09h00

**Venue:** Lochvaal - Africa Piggery

**Contact Person:** Moagi Mokgatlhe - 016 450 3306



16 AUGUST '11

## HANDING OVER OF FOOD GARDEN EQUIPMENT

A substantial proportion of South Africans (possibly 50%) are food insecure and many suffer from nutrient deficiencies. There appears to be some evidence that homestead food production can make a significant contribution to food security and incomes. Homestead food production contributes to food security and livelihoods for rural and urban areas. A wide range of NGOs, churches, foundations, CBOs are applying homestead gardening by developing a programme that can fund a wide range of structures, so being able to operate at scale.

- To provide support for women cooperatives in their endeavour to promote food security and contribute towards the fight against poverty.
- Women cooperatives will be handed homestead food gardening equipment in the form of farming tools like wheel barrows, forks, spades, rakes and watering cans; production inputs like seeds, fertilizer, seedlings and insecticides to grow their own vegetables (Executive Mayors of Sedibeng District Municipality and Midvaal Local Municipality)

**Date:** 16 August '11

**Time:** 14h00

**Venue:** Sivuze Primary School - Residensia

**Contact Person:** Moagi Mokgatlhe - 016 450 3306



16 AUGUST '11

## EARLY ANTENATAL BOOKING CAMPAIGN

Statistics in Sedibeng District reveal that women still booking antenatal care after 14 weeks of conception or none at all and this delays HIV & AIDS prevention from mother to child transmission (PMTCT) and other chronic conditions that could have been identified early. Objectives of the campaign are:

- To minimize infant mortality rate and maternal death
- The purpose of this early antenatal booking awareness is to give out information to women on the importance and the outcome of attending clinic early

The campaign details are as follow:

- Conduct door to door visits to community of Sicelo (Deployment of 40 volunteers)
- Distribute antenatal material
- Deploy mobile unit for HIV Counseling and Testing (HCT) and health screening

**Date:** 16 August '11

**Time:** 09h00

**Venue:** Sicelo, Midvaal

**Contact Person:** Disebo Masukela - 016 450 3235



17 AUGUST '11

PREMIER IMBIZO

Imbizo hosted by the Premier of Gauteng Nomvula Mokonyane

- Forging social compacts with all stakeholders to strengthen social partnerships for improved service delivery in Gauteng
- Promoting participatory democracy to ensure ongoing interaction between government and civil society

Tracking commitments and issues which aim to:

- Promote women's and girls' awareness of, access to and participation in government services, programmes and gender policies
- Promote positive role models of women and girls

**Date:** 17 August '11

**Time:** 17h00

**Venue:** Siculo Stadium, Midvaal

**Contact Person:** Bob Mthembu - 016 450 3210



18 AUGUST '11

## BUILDING SOCIAL COHESION

Women of different racial, educational political and social backgrounds discussing social and economic issues in the form of a dialogue under the theme: *"Walk Together"*. The social dialogue process is run as a public domain exercise to contribute to South Africa, according to the Dinokeng Scenarios guidelines. The Dinokeng Scenarios are intended to stimulate open conversations among South African leaders and citizens; they are not intended to advocate for particular ideologies or policies.

Facilitated by one of the Dinokeng Scenario team members Thami Ka Plaatjie.

*"If you want to walk fast, walk alone. If you want to walk far, walk together"* – African Proverb

**Date:** 18 August '11

**Time:** 10h00

**Venue:** Rhoda Yende Hall, Sharpeville

**Contact Person:** Jeff Rademeyer - 016 450 3224



19 AUGUST '11

## WOMEN'S PARLIAMENT

In preparation for the 2011 Women's Parliament the Gauteng Legislature, through the Public Participations unit will identify and invite participants to be part of this historic event. Participants will be mobilised from across all regions of the Province. Regional, preparatory workshops and dry run session will be held prior to the main event taking place.

**Date:** 19 August '11

**Time:** 09h00

**Venue:** Gauteng Legislature

**Contact Person:** Prince Kubheka - 011 498 5408



22 AUGUST '11

## WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT WORKSHOP

Women Empowerment Workshop was held in 2009/2010 and the main objective was to enlighten and empower women from all walks of life with business skills i.e. how to start a business and acquiring all necessary documentation in support thereof. This year the workshop will focus on the practical side of what has been theorized in 2009/2010.

The event will be facilitated together with CIPRO in order to ensure registration of companies.

**Date:** 22 - 26 August '11

**Time:** 09h00

**Venue:** Vanderbijlpark Library

**Contact Person:** Keitumetse Iris Nthebe - 016 950 5345 / 083 609 2726

23 AUGUST '11

## YOUNG WOMEN EMPOWERMENT

To capacitate young women on social life skills also addressing issues such as substance abuse, Social grants, cancer affecting young women in particular, Adoption, Forster Care, Id and Birth Registration and lastly HIV and Aids.

The event will be done by The Speakers Office jointly with Cancer Association, Dep't of Home Affairs, Provincial Health and Social Development, SANCA, SASSA and Emfuleni Health Department

**Date:** 23 August '11

**Time:** 09h00

**Venue:** Evaton, The Twelve Apostle Church

**Contact Person:** Moji Tshabalalla - 016 950 6467



25 AUGUST '11

## WOMEN IN PRAYER

Sedibeng District Municipality will be hosting the 5th women in prayer day in partnership with faith based organizations. A platform where women from various denominations get together and pray for substance abuse and Satanism at the Civic theater. The key objective of his event is to forge solidarity of women in faith through prayer and worship.

- Bophelong Gospel Choir
- Sello Malete
- William Sejake

**Date:** 25 August '11

**Time:** 10h00

**Venue:** Vereeniging Civic Theatre

**Contact Person:** Lerato Nkoli - 016 450 3226 / 072 724 3439



27 AUGUST '11

## WOMEN'S FESTIVAL

The festival will bring women from across the entirety of Sedibeng District together with the aim of paying homage to the cause of the 1956 women's march and also to raise public awareness on human rights issues through music and make the public aware of the Human Rights violations, in particular those suffered by women.

**Date:** 27 August '11

**Time:** 09h00

**Venue:** George Thabe Stadium

**Contact Person:** Eva Baardman - 016 950 5386



29 AUGUST '11

## WREATH LAYING CEREMONY

A dignified and sombre gathering where a suitable tribute is paid at the graveside of Elizabeth Letanta in honor of the ultimate sacrifice to bring South Africa to where it is today.

*Wreath laying by the Executive Mayors of municipalities in Sedibeng led by the Executive Mayor of Sedibeng District Municipality.*

**Date:** 29 August '11

**Time:** 11h00

**Venue:** Evaton Cemetery

**Contact Person:** Mncedisi Mpontsane - 016 450 3235



29 AUGUST '11

MEMORIAL LECTURE

*"Commemorating the life of the struggle icon Elizabeth Letanta"*

- Program directors : Connie Letlhake and Martha Morobe
- The lecture will be rendered by Jessie Duarte, Member of the National Executive Committee of the ANC and Member of the National Working Committee
- Preview - Profile the life of Mme Letanta:
- Exhibition of pictures and photos of Mme Letanta and local women struggle icons

**Date:** 29 August '11

**Time:** 14h00

**Venue:** Vereeniging Civic Theatre

**Contact Person:** Mncedisi Mpontsane - 016 450 3235



31 AUGUST '11

## WOMEN'S CAUCUS

Multi-party Women's Caucus chaired by the Speaker, Cllr Busisiwe Modisakeng. Women Councilors from the entire district will merge in a common platform to discuss issues that will enhance socioeconomic development of women in Sedibeng and to hold municipalities accountable on Gender Policy, Gender mainstreaming strategy implementation as well as mapping a way forward towards expanding the plans further. Women councilors to track progress on the IDP and budget based on women empowerment and gender transformation. The caucus is responsible for driving women empowerment and to contribute to gender equality throughout the district. The objectives of the caucus are:

- To make Council a gender sensitive structure on issues of service delivery
- Development and equal representation, as part of transformation
- To ensure that gender is taken into account in policy formulation, planning and budgeting processes
- To promote women empowerment amongst women councilors and women of Sedibeng

**Date:** 31 August '11

**Time:** 09h00

**Venue:** Vaal Teknorama

**Contact Person:** Kate Plank - 016 450 3087 / 082 908 8316



10 SEPTEMBER '11

## RELIEF FOR ORPHANAGES AND OLD AGE HOMES

The aim of the activity is to reach out to Orphanages and Old Age home around Emfuleni area by through distribution of blankets, groceries, seeds for food gardening and maintenance equipment.

Partnered with:

- Vaal Commandos
- The Biker Team
- Standard Bank
- and Local businesses

**Date:** 10 September '11

**Time:** 10h00

**Venues:** Zone 12, Hand in Child Care Centre and Barrage

**Contact Person:** Bongzi Zililo - 016 950 6465





*"Many women have now the vote, and a part of the governing power of their land. If we wish to use our power to its noblest end, we shall have to learn ... that the freedom of all human creatures is essential to the full development of human life on earth. We shall have to labour, not merely for a larger freedom for ourselves, but for every subject race and class, and for all suppressed individuals!"*

**Olive Schreiner,**

Women have indeed endured a long and brutal history in South Africa