

**WELECOME ADDRESS BY ACTING THE EXECUTIVE
MAYOR OF WATERBERG DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY: MMC
LEDWABA**

**COMMUNITY OUTREACH ON GENDER BASED
VIOLENCE**

11 MARCH 2022

Programme Director, Cllr. Sina Langa

**The Mayor of Modimolle Mookgophong Local Municipality,
Mayors from Local Municipalities,**

The Deputy Minister of Honourable Candith Mashego-Dlamini

The MEC for Social Development, Mme Nkakareng Rakgoale,

Speakers and Chief Whips,

Councillors,

Officials the department and municipalities,

The Presenters,

Community Policing Forum members (CPF),

Community Safety Forum members (CSF),

Community at large,

Ladies and Gentlemen.

Good Morning, Thobela!!

It is a great honour and pleasure for me to welcome you to this campaign. On behalf of the citizens of Waterberg, we say feel free in your deliberations and concentrate on the job at hand.

The Waterberg lives and breathes nature. The region is richly endowed with natural assets and resources and it is the principal destination of domestic tourism and the main dispersal point for foreign tourists and investors.

Programme Director this campaign is relevant in addressing some of the challenges that our communities face in the Province and the district because of crime, alcohol and drug abuse. Illegal selling of liquor is very rife and most of the killings and abuse of women and children as a result of such places.

Alcohol abuse is one of the causes of high level of women abuse in the district, alcohol abuse also leads to the abuse of women and children, however human behavior becomes key as well. We need to work on building the morale of our people and start awareness campaigns of this magnitude that will teach our young men and men that “**real men don’t abuse women**” Real men take responsibility and protect their families at all times.

This occasion is aimed at encouraging community members to speak out and report any form of abuse that is taking place in their areas. We should be able to come up with a programme of action that would ensure that we educate our people to trade and drink responsibly. It is also the role of our CPFs and the CSFs to help the community in reporting activities of gender based violence taking place within their areas of jurisdiction.

Programme Director, in the development of the programme of action, we should also think about schools and other institutions of learning where our youth are located.

We all know that there is a serious challenge of alcohol and drug abuse by the youth which also lead to abuse.

In the same vein, we must jointly take responsibility of making sure that these barbaric actions of gender based violence within communities are dealt with once and for all. Let us join forces and make sure that together we have a common understanding of building a safer community.

Programme Director, in conclusion, we call upon all the stakeholders gathered here today to know and clarify their roles and functions to make Waterberg and Mookgophong the best place to live.

I THANK YOU!!