

Bojanala Platinum District Municipality



International Deaf Awareness Week Commemorated



Bojanala Platinum District Municipality



Cllr. Louis Diremelo, Mayor of the Bojanala Platinum District Municipality

Bojanala Platinum District Municipality – in partnership with the Rustenburg Local Municipality – was at the forefront of a march to commemorate International Deaf Awareness Week. The event, which was attended by a large number of people, was held in Rustenburg on Wednesday 7 September in a bid to make the community aware that deaf people are not helpless people.

The march started at the Missionary Mpheni House, down President Nelson Mandela Drive, turned into Bethlehem Drive, up Oliver Tambo Drive and back to the municipal offices in Beyers Naude drive.

The Executive Mayor of Bojanala Platinum District Municipality, Cllr. Louis Diremelo, also joined in on the march, showing his support. Thereafter, the official proceedings to mark the beginning of the Deaf Awareness Week were held at the Rustenburg Civic Centre.

In her welcome address, the MMC for Special Projects in the Rustenburg Local Municipality – Cllr. Mmaphula Diutweli – revealed that the municipality would come up with programmes designed to sup-

port deaf people living within the community. She said, “We are going to come up with programmes specially designed to benefit deaf people living within our community. As a municipality, we have already appointed an interpreter for sign language and we would like a situation that sees jobs being created for deaf people.”

Speaking at the same occasion, the MMC for Special Projects in the Bojanala Platinum District Municipality, Cllr. V. Tihapi said people should stop looking down upon deaf people as they are able to do a lot of things that other people can also do, and sometimes even more.

In her keynote address, Mrs. Sonia Mogapi – chairperson of the South African Sign Language Forum (SASL) outlined some of the challenges being faced by deaf people in the North West and in South Africa. She said, “We need more interpreters in the North West. We need these interpreters so that we can be kept abreast of issues that affect us like TB. People who are not deaf should work hand in hand with us – instead of sometimes being prejudice.”



Cllr. V. Tihapi
MMC for Special Projects



Cllr. Philemon Khunou MMC
IDP, PMF Monitoring & Evaluation

