



## ***National Youth Camp - (Kimberly)***

The National Department of Social Development has held three successful National Youth Camps in partnership with the Department of Defence at a military facility since 2012. The National Youth Camp is the Department's legacy project. This programme is designed to respond to the National priorities and to the plight of the youth in the country. It is also

intended to promote activism, patriotism and social cohesion amongst the youth. All nine provinces are represented at the camp.

These youth come from youth organizations, youth from children's homes, youth from farms and youth with disabilities. The camp started with mentorship training that started on the 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2015. On the 1st of December 2015 the rest of the delegation from the Free State and the whole of South Africa joined the mentors at the camp. On the 03<sup>rd</sup> December 2015 the minister of Social Development, Honourable Bathabile Dlamini officially opened the 2015 youth camp. During the official opening the YOLO HIV/AIDS youth movement was also launched. YOLO meaning You Only Live Once.

During the 11 days stay at the camp the youth were taught discipline, leadership, social entrepreneurship, project management, introduction to the YOLO model and Asset Based Community Development.

Mr Calvin Mosoeunyane who was recognized for being the most helpful mentor of 2014 National youth camp was appointed by the service provider as a facilitator for 2015. The cream of the camp was when Jimmy Tau asked one of the young people doing grade 12 to join him on stage. One of our own Palesa Nzala from Viljoenskroon confidently went upstage and after talking to her, he pledged to pay for her registration fees at the university. Of note is the fact that the camp came alive when our very own DJ Nicholas (a blind young man from Bartimeas School) took to the floor to entertain the crowd.