

Launch of Child Protection Week

National Child Protection Week (CPW) is commemorated in the country annually to raise awareness of the rights of children as articulated in **the Children's Act of 2005**. The campaign that began in 1997 also aims to mobilise all sectors of society to ensure the care and protection of children. The campaign is led by the Minister of Social Development; however it is incumbent on all of us to play a role in protecting children and creating a safe and secure environment for them.



Me "Sisi" Ntombela at the launch of child protection week

In the Free State the campaign was launched by MEC Sisi Ntombela on the 27th of May 2013 in Bloemfontein at **Pholoho Special School**.



Performing We Are The World: Children from Martie Du Plessis and Brema School

During the Launch we had performances from children who attended the event. SASSA handed out school bag packs to all the children who were present. Other government Departments such as the Department of Labour, Education, Correctional Services, SAPS, NDA just to name a few were also present to exhibit services they render.



MEC Ntombela giving a SASSA bag to one of the programme directors for the day : Learner from Kagiso Secondary School.

The **Closing event will be held in Tweeling** on the 4th of June where a centre for children will be officially handed over to the MEC by Deena and Revi Pillay Foundation.

The MEC will also use the opportunity to commission **182 Child and Youth Care Workers** to implement the Isibindi Model within communities.

The Model seeks to respond to the needs of Children, Youth and Families who are vulnerable and at risk. The focus of the CPW 2013 will furthermore be on strengthening Community Base Care Services through the Isibindi Model.