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Att: All Media Houses

## EDUCATION AND ADVOCACY CAMPAIGN ON FEMICIDE

The call to action under the hashtag **#WHATWOMENWANT** reminds us of the social compact that is required to break down the multiple barriers and threats that women, young women, and women with disabilities still face in communities. This action compels us to get women talking about the real issues they face through traditional and social media platforms.

The Commission for Gender Equality's (CGE) in provinces has identified hotspots for Gender Based Violence (GBV) including the Free State where critical interventions in light of the evolution of GBV are needed in places like; Welkom, Odendaalsrus, Virginia, Bloemfontein and Botshabelo. Lejweleputswa has experienced a lot of cases on Femicide involving young people that were reported from 5 towns of Lejweleputswa with special reference to Welkom, Hoopstad, Bothaville, Ventersburg, Virginia and Odendaalsrus

The Free State Department of Social Development has therefore organised the **EDUCATION AND ADVOCACY CAMPAIGN ON FEMICIDE** in a form of dialogue at Matjhabeng Local Municipality targeting young women and young men from Further Education and training-(FET's) in the five institutions in Welkom area. (Welkom College, TOSA, Central University of Technology (CUT), Nursing College, Men's Fora – Bothaville, Men and Boys).

The Dialogue will be one of the platforms for inspirational women and men to share with other women and mobilise the society to ensure that the province addresses the many challenges faced by women and girls including gender-based-violence. The scourge of violence against women and girls persists and there is a need to promote access to Gender Based Violence (GBV) awareness amongst young women in Further Education and training-(FET's). The dialogues will also position TVET Colleges as primary institutions to educate the public on GBV as well as information sharing and awareness by engaging students in a dialogue.

Women and girls are continuously subjected to high levels of rape, sexual offences, femicide, domestic violence and intimate partner violence. Patriarchal violence still drives the systematic abuse and oppression of women as a result of male supremacy, societal norms, cultural beliefs and value systems with regard to gender roles. Through this Femicide dialogues the Department of Social Development and Government are committed to

- a. To capture what women across the spectrum want
- b. Focus on Young Women and Women with disabilities.
- c. Target GBV hotspots

The details of the **EDUCATION AND ADVOCACY CAMPAIGN ON FEMICIDE EVENT** are as follows :

Date : 30 August 2019

Venue: Matjhabeng Municipality – Ballroom

Time: 8:00

**All Media enquiries should be directed to**

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