



social development

Department of  
Social Development  
FREE STATE PROVINCE

## **Media Advisory**

**14 October 2022**

### **Men and Boys Walk of Hope Fun Walk**

With the alarming rise of gender-based violence in the country, which can be attributed to structural conditions such as poverty, unemployment and other inequalities; the Department of Social Development under its HIV/AIDS and Victim Empowerment Sub-Directorate will be hosting “Men and boys-walk of hope” 21 October 2022 at all its different districts in the Free State respectively.

Walk of Hope will create a platform for men and boys to communicate and engage in a dialogue focusing on fatherhood, prevention of Gender-Based Violence, healthy sexual behaviors and the spread of HIV/AIDS. 50 men and 50 boy children will participate in the fun walk in each district, with men and boys invited through the men’s forum in each district. At the end of the walk there will be plenary discussions on the given topics.

Through this project the Department seeks to intensify engagement with the Men’s sector through the Social and Behavior Change (SBC) under the banner of Men Championing Change Programme. This is in line with the National Department of Social Development’s Social and Behavior Change Programmes (SBC) which details a compendium of interventions to foster behavioral changes as part of addressing HIV/AIDS and related forms of vulnerabilities.

The objectives include amongst others the increase and involvement of men and boys in the protection of women and girls from Gender-Based Violence and HIV/AIDS acquisition. Secondly, to instill positive values in men and boys to become change agents within their communities and active citizenry amongst men and boys. It will also enhance communication between men and boys by creating platforms for discussions on the prevention of Gender-Based Violence and Femicide.

**Details of the campaigns are as follows**

**Date:** 21 October 2022

**Time:** 09:00

**Town: Kroonstaad:**

(Contact Person Fezile Dabi District: Mpho Letsheleha- 072 315 2121)

**Warden:**

(Contact Person Thabo Mofutsanyana District: Kelopile Legegeru - 060 984 6346)

**Thaba Nchu:**

(Contact Person Mangaung: Ms. Limphe – 066 487 4889)

**Reddersburg:**

(Contact Person Xhariep District: Ms. Sherrill-Anne Farao - 066 486 6696)

**Virginia:**

(Contact Person Lejweleputswa District: Mr. Mokhethi Lichakane- 072 315 3159)

**ENDS.**

**ISSUED BY FREE STATE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT**

For media enquiries please contact:

Themobile Ngabeni

Media & Parliamentary Liaison Officer

Cell: 066 476 6193

Email: [Themobile.Ngabeni@fssocdev.gov.za](mailto:Themobile.Ngabeni@fssocdev.gov.za)

**AND FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Lindiwe Mnguni

Acting Head of Communications

Cell: 066 473 9707

Email: [Lindiwe.Mnguni@fssocdev.gov.za](mailto:Lindiwe.Mnguni@fssocdev.gov.za)