KEY NOTE ADDRESS BY CLLR RESENGA T.E DURING THE BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION IN RECOGNITION OF NELSON MANDELA 67 MINUTES

VENUE: THOHOYANDOU CHILDREN HOME

DATE: 29 JULY 2011

TIME: 15H00

Programme Director

I feel greatly honoured to be accorded this opportunity to say some few words on behalf of the honorable Mayor of Thulamela Municipality Cllr Mahosi N.G as she is currently involved in other government commitments. She has thus delegated me to render this item on her behalf.

Programme Director

Despite South African's historic advances in democracy and development, wide spread poverty and social excursion exacerbated by HIV/AIDS pandemics have

created a reality in which millions of children require immediate support and care.

Programme Director

Since the advert of the New South African Democratic state in 1994, a number of policies and programmes have been put in place to support vulnerable children & families. Government has also committed itself to fund these programmes.

Programme Director

Children's rights in South Africa are protected by International, Continental and National laws. Three primary sources of law pertaining to children's rights are the 1990 United Nations Convention on the Rights of The Child, the 1990 Africa Charter on The Rights and Welfare of the Child, and the Constitution of the Public of South Africa.

These instruments guarantee the rights for children and families essential to the health, wellbeing and optimal development of all children.

Section 28 of the bill of rights enshrined in the South Africa Constitution guarantees every child the right to social services. Every child has the right to basic nutrition, basic health care services and social services

Programme Director

It is therefore our responsibility to ensure that children who are brought to Social Development homes have enabling documents such as ID and birth Certificate in order to benefit from most of programmes that have been developed and being implemented by Government to realize the Socio-Economic rights guaranteed by the constitution.

Programme Director

Lets us join together to further enhance our valued principles of community responsiveness as we conclude Mandela month where various activities were held across the world in response to global call of giving on minutes of our time to good course. We are here today as part of a global call of action to try to brighten the children's day by spending 67 minutes and spreading our love in Madiba name. Our commitment towards the normalization of child need should be communicated to all constituencies, including communities believing that communities are not passive recipients of development work.

Programme Director

Every child who is an inmate here has a story to tell. All we can do is to listen and ease their burden by providing a roof over their heads. One thing that Mandela in known for is what he did for humanity. His selfless contribution to the well-being of humanity, and his love for children. In most of his birthday celebrations Mandela preferred to spend his time with children.

Programme Director

If we could take a page out of our former president book, the philosophy that we should adopt is his philosophy about caring for children. We should teach these children to live life of honour, loyalty and truth. Mandela taught us that being vulnerable does not mean the absence of strength. To be of service to life in every shape, colour and creed manifest itself in what words, can one use to the man who has given so much and asked for nothing in return.

Programme Diretor

Mandela day is a great day set aside not just to honour one of the greatest South African who, but a wonderful opportunity to give back to our communities. Life is all about giving and not receiving. I wish we could make a Mandela day our daily practice.

Promotion and protection of children's rights calls upon all of us to take responsibility and actively participate.

Programme Director

With this few words I say

I THANK YOU.