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**DEPARTMENT OF  
SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT**

**MEDIA STATEMENT**

**Date: 25th September 2019**  
**For immediate release**

**SOCIAL CRIME PREVENTION, EDUCATION AND AWARENESS CAMPAIGN\***

The MEC for Social Development Mme Nkakareng Rakgoale, will lead a Social Crime Prevention, Education and Awareness Campaign in Lenyenyene, in the Greater Tzaneen Municipality.

Preventing crime has been a priority for all government departments and this culminated in the approval of the Integrated Social Crime Prevention Strategy by cabinet, in September 2011. The Strategy emphasises the prevention of crime, rather than entirely relying on the criminal justice process to arrest and convict offenders. It is also based on the idea that the South African Police Service (SAPS) alone cannot reduce crime. Communities, NGOs, CBOs, FBOs and the respective government departments are equally responsible for reducing crime.

The Strategy has laid a foundation for various relevant departments to develop strategies that are aligned to existing approaches. In dealing with crime, more emphasis is placed on an inter-sectoral and comprehensive approach.

To this end, the Department of Social Development is hosting a Social Crime Prevention Education and Awareness Campaign with the aim of strengthening institutional mechanisms in the Province; creating and raising public awareness about crime and social ills; promoting community participation and responsibilities; disseminating information and maximizing civil society' participation in mobilizing and sustaining crime prevention initiatives. The awareness campaign is expected to go a long way in also addressing Gender Based Violence being experienced in many parts of the province.

The theme of this year's campaign is: "All hands on deck towards social crime prevention". District build-up events including Sports Against Crime activities conducted earlier this month will culminate in an event scheduled as follows:

Date: Thursday 26th September 2019  
Venue: Lenyenyene Community Hall, Greater Tzaneen Municipality, Mopani District  
Time: 10:00  
You are hereby invited to cover the event.

Issued by DSD Communication Services. For enquiries kindly contact Spokesperson Witness Tiva on 071-249-2178 or 071-609-9090.

**End**