



DEPARTMENT OF  
**SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT**

**MEDIA STATEMENT - DISASTER ASSISTANCE FOR MOPANI DISTRICT COMMUNITIES IMPACTED BY THUNDERSTORMS**

December 29, 2016

Dr Phophi Ramathuba, MEC for Health and who is currently the Acting MEC for Social Development will today provide social relief of the distress to communities who were impacted by severe thunderstorms recently in the Maruleng, Letaba and Baphalaborwa Municipalities in the Mopani District. Dr Ramathuba will meet with Kgosi Seshego Sekororo in Ga Sekororo, prior visiting the local affected families to give them support.

The Department of Social Development is making a call to "Individuals and families, in these areas and across the Limpopo Province that were affected by thunderstorms to seek advice about what assistance is available to help them with the recovery process. We are as a province committed to supporting natural disaster affected communities and ensuring that the necessary assessments are done and intervention is available to those most in need.

**For those in need of assistance, or those who are able to lend a helping hand, can call Disaster Management Limpopo Province Toll Free number 0800 222 111 or Mike Moja, Director Disaster Management at COGHSTA 083 455 9565**

In the immediate aftermath of the thunderstorm and flooding, we wish to remind communities that it is critical to remain vigilant and exercise caution around free standing water/dams. Parents are urged to take care of children as rain continues to fall. Never leave your child alone near, with or in water inside or outside your home because all children are at risk of drowning.

It is important that parents take extra care and know their children's whereabouts during the festive season because people are more relaxed and often when adults get together for festivities, the children are left to play unsupervised and are forgotten. Parents and/or caregivers must be warned that the SAPS will not hesitate to any person for the neglect of a children in terms of the Child Act.

Let's put our children first 365 days of the year and make child protection everybody's responsibility.

For immediate assistance on child negligence and abuse please call your nearest police station or child line **08000 55 555**

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