Deputy Minister Ntuli to visit Free State as part of 'Taking Social Development to Communities' Campaign

23 August 2011

The Deputy Minister of Social Development, Ms Maria Bongi Ntuli will on 25 August 2011, visit the rural community of Dealesville in Tokologo Municipality in the Free State province as part of the department's "Taking DSD to communities" campaign. The Deputy Minister will be accompanied by the MEC for Social Development, Mme SH Ntombela.

Members of the media are invited to cover the event as follows:

Date: 25 to 26 August 2011
Venue: Dealesville Village, Free State province
Time: 09h00

'Taking Department of Social Development (DSD) to the communities campaign is anchored on the staunch belief that community development will never take off the ground unless there is intimate interaction between government and the people we serve,' said Deputy Minister Ntuli.

Spearheaded by the Deputy Minister Ntuli, the campaign aims to create greater public awareness of the department's programmes and services to tackle socio-economic challenges such as poverty, HIV and AIDS, social exclusion, child protection and substance abuse amongst others. The campaign also seeks to strengthen and mobilise communities, strengthen service delivery partnerships through promotion of constructive engagement between the department, its agencies as well as communities.

As part of the campaign the Deputy Minister will also attend the launch of Thaba Noka Cooperative in the Xhariep District on 24 August 2011 in Luckhoff, Free State province. Funded by the National Development Agency (NDA), the cooperative's prime objective is to promote community-driven sustainable livelihood initiatives. The project activities include training of beneficiaries on sheep farming and other management skills, purchasing of sheep for breeding purposes and creation of jobs opportunities.

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