



**water & sanitation**

Department:  
Water and Sanitation  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

## INTERNET ARTICLE

### **NWRI: Central Operation officials commemorate World Aids Day.**

**05 December 2017**

The National Water Resource Infrastructure (NWRI): Central Operation officials commemorated World Aids Day on Friday, 1<sup>st</sup> December 2017 at Madibeng Boardroom.

World AIDS Day is commemorated annually on the 1st of December and is an opportunity for every community to unite in the fight against HIV and to show support for people living with HIV.

The event was attended by DWS employees, representatives from Government Employees Medical Scheme (GEMS) and from National Council of and for Persons with Disabilities (NCPD).

In her address to the officials, Ms Mapula Mabunda from GEMS said, “We are here today not only to commemorate the day but to educate and to raise awareness about HIV/AIDS and Disability at workplace and home by lighting candles and remembering those who have passed away from HIV/AIDS”

The event was commemorated under this year’s global theme of World AIDS Day: “The Right to Health”.

Mabunda indicated to the officials that it is very important to know their HIV Status, to use condoms, to be faithful to their partners, where and how to get tested and also how to take medications.

“Most people think that being HIV positive is the end of their life and that they are only waiting to die, but I am here to tell you that it is not true. Counselling is given to everyone who go to clinic, hospital etc. for testing in order to educate the person on how to live with HIV/AIDS”, said Mabunda.

Mabunda indicated that is not only school teachers that must educate learners about HIV/AIDS but parents also need to play their role.

The commemoration was concluded by Mr Fannie Swanepoel, from National Council of and for Persons with Disabilities (NCPD). He explained to officials on how to work, live and provide support to persons with disabilities.

He also raised awareness about the Nappy Run campaign that started in 2011 that appeal to the public to donate nappies in order to give children with disabilities.

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