



## water & sanitation

Department:  
Water and Sanitation  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



## MEDIA STATEMENT

### Kameelsdrift residents elated by Sanitation and Hygiene campaign

26 June 2019

The Gauteng Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) and the City of Tshwane have today, 26 June 2019, successfully conducted a door-to-door campaign in the Kameelsdrift Informal Settlement outside Pretoria to educate the public about the dangers associated with inadequate handwashing and unhygienic sanitation practices.

The informal settlement still used the bucket system and it was therefore important for the Department and the municipality to conduct the campaign.

The campaign was aimed at making the residents aware about regularly washing hands before and after using toilets. Inadequate handwashing and cleaning toilets each day have had devastating results for especially communities that do not have proper toilets.

The Department's Community Development Officer, Mr Aipheli Makumbane, expressed satisfaction at the manner in which members of the community welcomed the campaign, saying the campaign has gone a long way to change the community's attitude towards issues of handwashing and sanitation.

"The situation here is that many families share toilets and so it is vital that they embraced hygienic practices so that they prevent diseases such as diarrhoea which can be a challenge in communities like this one," said Mr Makumbane.

A local resident, Mr Ben Tikiso, welcomed the efforts of the Department and the municipality, reiterating that communities in informal settlements were adversely affected by illness that arose out of unhygienic practices.

Mr Tikiso said: "Our community does not have enough resources for each household to have its own toilet so and so we have to share everything including taps. Thus, it is very important to try to keep these toilets neat all the time. Failure to do this could result in people and especially children falling ill.

Mr Tikiso said the campaign was vital so that people did not get sick and became a burden on their families because of something that could have been prevented.

**End**

**Issued by the Department of Water & Sanitation**

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