

## Mayor Shadrack Maluleke launches 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence:

In commemoration of the 16 Days of Activism for No Violence Against Women and Children campaign, Mayor of Collins Chabane Local Municipality Cllr Shadrack Maluleke has commended men and young men who continuously support the fight against gender based violence in their communities. “Sixteen Days of Activism for No Violence Against Women and Children is a moment for all of us to reaffirm our commitment to reclaim our streets and create a society that is safe and secure for women and children” said Mayor Maluleke during the 16 Days of Activism launch which was held at Mukhomi village sports ground. The 16 Days of Activism Campaign focuses primarily on generating an increased awareness of the negative impact of violence on women and children as well as society as a whole. The campaign further seeks to address issues that affect vulnerable groups (women, girls and boys, LGBTI communities, people with disabilities, etc.) such as sexual harassment, rape, cultural practices that are harmful to women and children. As South Africans, we must pause and ponder the real impact of gender-based violence. These include direct costs relating to health care services, judicial services, social services and other related services. Gender-based violence robs women and children of the opportunity to become productive citizens of the country. It denies them their constitutional rights and condemns them to a life of perpetual fear. They are therefore prevented from enjoying the fruits of our freedom and democracy. The Mayor was joined by the PMT members of the municipality, Executive committee members, councillors, Hosi Mukhomi, Contralesa , Pastors forum, SAPS and deployees from the provincial government of Limpopo.

