



INTERNET ARTICLE

Mqandashe Hostel residents applaud DWS's sanitation and hygiene campaign

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The Department of Water and Sanitation's Sanitation and Hygiene Week Campaign, which it held at Mqandashe Hostel Number 2 in Krugersdorp on the West Rand on Thursday, 13 May 2021, is anticipated to be a game-changer for the residents of the hostel.

The primary aim of the campaign was to heighten awareness around toilets as enablers of healthy societies, highlighting the importance of keeping them clean and encouraging residents to practice proper handwashing.

Ms Lungile Zulu, an official of the Department, told the hostel dwellers that the purpose of the campaign was to remind them about the critical role that toilets played in their lives, adding that many people took them for granted and thus relegated the importance of these facilities.

Ms Zulu said the result of ignoring the role of toilets caused people not to look after them properly and keeping them clean at all times. She described this situation as having a detrimental effect for their health.

She decried the throwing of foreign objects into toilets, saying such kind of actions affected not only the irresponsible person but had dire consequence for the whole community as the overflowing of sewer systems became the order of the day.

"When one person throws into the toilets objects that are not supposed to go there, they are causing a problem for the entire community. It is not only them who are affected but other people's health is negatively impacted upon too. This is something we should encourage each other to desist from," she advised.

Another official of the Department, Ms Bridget Maleka, appealed to the residents to intensify handwashing, saying ignoring washing hands with soap regularly could lead to the decline of the quality of life.

She said: "We wish to emphasise that handwashing is key to preventing illnesses. Members of the community must practice this daily and during critical times. During this time of COVID-19, handwashing becomes an intervention that everyone must take."

A resident at the hostel and an Extended Public Works Programme employee, Ms Naledi Morake, applauded the Department for enlightening and empowering them about information that was key to staying healthy. She vowed that she would pass this information to other residents who did not have the opportunity to attend the campaign.

Ms Galefele Masete, who is also a resident at the hostel, concurred with Ms Morake as she praised the Department for spearheading the campaign and for reaching their place of residence.

Hosia Sithole

