

# INTERNET ARTICLE

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## DWS leads in 2021 World Toilet Day celebrations

11 November 2021

On Tuesday, 09 November 2021, residents of Masizakhele Hostel joined forces with Driefontein Mine workers to commemorate World Toilet Day, which calls for proper sanitation among the communities.

World Toilet Day is annually commemorated on 19 November to raise awareness on the environment and health risks of open defecation and improper sanitation practices. It also raises an awareness on the importance of toilets and the plight of many people who are still without toilets and proper sanitation facilities.

There are still many people throughout the world who do not have access to a toilet or proper sanitation. The focus of World Toilet Day is about taking action to tackle the global sanitation crisis and achieve the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 6 which deals with water and sanitation for all by 2030.

In her opening message, Driefontein Health Clinic Nurse Itumeleng Mohale said such a campaign and awareness program is needed to underscore why everyone should value their toilets.

“We want to raise an extensive awareness and move to sustainable action through World Toilet Day, given the adverse effects of improper sanitation to current and future generations as well as the environment,” she said.

Mohale added that millions of people in the world do not have access to decent sanitation facilities which are essential in the home and are imperative in promoting health and hygiene in the communities.

She expressed his appreciation for the initiative and urged her fellow nurses to support the sanitation initiatives that would be beneficial not only to the mines, but to the rest of the country.

As part of the educational awareness, the residents and mine workers were also reminded of the importance of proper handwashing to prevent the spread of diseases, especially now that we are faced with the deadly coronavirus.

Ms Lungile Zulu from the DWS Gauteng Sanitation Unit demonstrated the proper steps of handwashing and advised the community to keep their toilets always clean. She also reminded them that South Africa is a water scarce country therefore they must never leave the taps running when washing their hands.

**KHULEKANI NGCOBO**

**WATER IS LIFE – SANITATION IS DIGNITY**

**SOUTH AFRICA IS A WATER SCARCE COUNTRY**



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