
MEDIA RELEASE

For immediate release
17 July 2017

SALGA #ActionAgainstPoverty dedicated to 67 minutes for Mandela Day Mandela Day Commemoration 2017

The South African Local Government Association (SALGA) will spend the better part of Mandela Day supporting and helping those in need at Kodumela Primary School in Pyramid, Pretoria. Kodumela Primary School is a no fee farm school in the rural Tshwane located on the road to Hamanskraal.

Mandela Day has become a day on which SALGA chooses charity to make a difference directly to the lives of the less unfortunate.

SALGA Mandela Day activities will unfold as follows:

Date: Tuesday, 18 July 2017
Venue: Kodumela Primary School in Pyramid, Pretoria
Time: 9h00

Planned Activities for the School

- Provide dignity packs for a semester to 67 girls including puberty education on the day – the kids will on the day receive a pack comprising of Pads, Diary, Bag & Puberty booklet
- Donate books towards starting a library at the school – on the day SALGA staff will reorganize the identified site, put-up book shelves, set-up the books and create a management system
- Revive the school food garden - Seeds will be donated by identified partner – on the day Staff will assist learners in planting vegetables to supply the school feeding scheme and the partner will conduct an educational programme for the learners on vegetable farming
- Social Cohesion through sport - Staff to play netball and soccer including other indigenous games on the day with the learners (soccer and netball balls will be donated to the school)
- Donate plates and spoons to the school kitchen for learners

- Maintenance of school infrastructure – on the day the main classroom will be painted (City of Tshwane)
- Provide food parcels to the kids to take home (SALGA / City of Tshwane)
- Provide food for learners during the event (SALGA / City of Tshwane)

In what was like a competition of Good Samaritans, on Friday, 14 July, SALGA staff met up, were all organisational directorates' showcased food and dignity packs, including gifts they have collected for Mandela Day. All the contribution will now be donated to Kodumela Primary School on Tuesday.

About Kodumela Primary School

Kodumela Primary School is a no fee farm school in the rural Tshwane located on the road to Hamanskraal, Plot 20 & 21 Nerina Street, Horingnestkrans, Pyramid Pretoria.

The school has about 495 learners mostly from indigent families in the surrounding farms. Learners are transported to and from school on a daily basis by buses. Learners at the school are mostly from indigent families in the surrounding farm communities depend on the daily meal provided by the school feeding scheme for their nutrition in between classes.

The school is receiving much needed attention from the government and the municipality, but is still in dire need of various aspects for the learners and the school infrastructure including computers and printers for learner administration, parameter fence to address security challenges and other essentials.

The school was identified based on the theme for the 2017 Mandela Day, #ActionAgainstPoverty. After site visits at possible beneficiaries including this school, it was concluded that Kodumela Primary school faces serious challenges associated to poverty and it's in need of various forms of support.

Involvement of the City of Tshwane

Investigations on developments at the school indicated that the City of Tshwane, through the office of the Chief Whip recently conducted an Outreach Programme at the school. The Chief Whip accompanied by a multi-party delegate handed out uniforms to 150 children, took some learners to the Zoo and visited three indigent families in the nearby farm community and handed out food parcels. Traumatized by the state of the school, the office of the Chief Whip promised the school to come back support where possible.

During consultation with the office of the Chief Whip, it was indicated that they had planned to go back to the school and paint one of the main building used as classes for grade 5 to grade 7's as part of Mandela day commemoration on 18 July 2017.

After indicating SALGA's plans for the same beneficiary on the same day, it was agreed that a joint initiative would make more impact to the benefit of the school.

In attendance at the Mandela Day, SALGA is expecting City of Tshwane, Members of the Media, Seeds Partner – SAKATA Seeds / British Embassy, Social Development representatives and Department of Education representatives among others.

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