

MEDIA STATEMENT

To all reporters and editors

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For immediate release

SOCIAL WORKERS DISPATCHED TO PHOOKO VILLAGE IN SEKHUKHUNE AFTER THREE CHILDREN WERE FOUND DEAD.

The Limpopo Department of Social Development has dispatched a team of social workers to Phooko village outside Dennilton in Sekhukhune for them to start providing psychosocial support to the families of three children whose bodies were discovered in a river. The children aged between eight and fifteen were reported missing in the area last week. The bodies of Themba Ngomane (8), Nonjabulo Ngomane(9) and Katlego Sibande (15) were found floating in the river.

MEC Nkakareng Rakgoale says the department is concerned about the increasing number of cases of missing persons in the province. In another incident the search for two Raphasha children, Tshegofatso (6) and Kamogelo (7) is still continuing in the Senwabarwana area. The siblings were reported missing on the 24th of last month. MEC Rakgoale has described these incidents as despicable.

“It is concerning to learn about this cruel incident which has seen us losing three children at a go, after they were reported missing in the area. We are now starting to see cases of missing persons raring its ugly head in the province, a trend which we must all guard against and not allow to happen.

It is our responsibility as government and communities to ensure that kids are safe and protected at all times. Social workers have been dispatched to Dennilton for them to start with the provision of psychosocial support to the families and other affected parties.” said MEC Rakgoale.

Meanwhile social workers are remaining with the Raphasha family, while the search for their children is still continuing.

Issued by the Department of Social Development’s Communications Unit. For enquiries, kindly contact Spokesperson Witness Tiva on 0823808403 or 0716099090.

End.