



# LIMPOPO

PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

## Media Advisory

**For Immediate Release**  
**Date: 28 November 2018**

### **Premier Mathabatha to address World Aids Day Commemoration – Mankweng**

The Premier of Limpopo, Mr Chupu Stanley Mathabatha and the MEC for Health Dr Phophi Ramathuba invite members of the media to join them in the commemoration of World AIDS Day on the 1<sup>st</sup> December 2018.

This year [2018] marks the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of World AIDS Day commemorations which take place annually on 1 December. The 2018 theme is “Cheka Impilo” which translates to “Know your status”. Significant progress has been made in the AIDS response since 1988, and today three in four people living with HIV in South Africa, know their status. But we still have miles to go, as the latest UNAIDS report shows, its challenging reaching people living with HIV who do not know their status and ensuring that they are linked to quality care and prevention services after they have been identified.

HIV testing and counselling is essential for expanding treatment and ensuring that all people living with HIV are healthy and productive. It is also crucial to achieve the 90% target and empower people to make choices about HIV prevention so they can protect themselves and their loved ones.

However, many barriers to HIV testing remain stigma and discrimination which still deter people from taking an HIV test. As we commemorate the World Aids Day, Government calls on men to also do the same and be tested in order to protect their loved ones. Access to confidential HIV testing is still an issue of concern. Many people still only get tested after becoming ill and symptomatic. Knowing your status has benefit because you will have to live a healthy life style and take treatment as required.

The following activities will unfold as part of the World Aids Day:-

### **5 KM Fun Walk**

Date: 1<sup>st</sup> December 2018

Time: 08h00

From Mankweng Unit C Sport Ground and back

### **World Aids Day Commemoration**

Date: 1<sup>st</sup> December 2018

Time: 10h00 am

Venue: Mankweng Unit C Sport Ground,  
Polokwane Municipality

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**Issued by the Office of the Premier***