

**SPEECH TO BE DELIVERED BY THE HONOURABLE MAYOR,
CLLR. B.P MABENGU DURING THE COMMUNITY DIALOGUES FOR
DISTRICT PARENTING SKILLS PROGRAMME TO BE HELD AT
MOUNT FRERE TOWNHALL ON 20 SEPTEMBER 2018.**

Programme Director

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Distinguished Guests

Municipal Officials

Sector departments and all present stakeholders

Present Media Stakeholders

Residents and Community at Large

Ladies and Gentlemen I greet you all in the name of Jesus Christ.

Our country celebrates Nelson Mandela and Albertina Sisulu at a time when the principles of the democracy they fought hard to put in place are continually being tested. Our youth is in constant need of credible parental guidance due to the temptations of their inner circles that have the potential to rescind their careers. We, as the government of this country have a duty to protect our social environment, both socially and economically. Let us all come together to honor their life and legacy and take it upon ourselves to move South Africa forward.

Programme Director; today we are gathered under one cause. A cause for unity in our dismantled communities. Who do we need to address on this matter? Is it perhaps a governmental issue or are we just simply shifting blame to avoid the elephant in the room. Residents; the reality is that this is not a governmental problem but a societal problem and failure to view it as such.

Ladies and Gentlemen; I hereby stand before you as a proud government representative and community based leader especially when the department of social development has embarked on a journey to further promote stable and healthy families. I personally believe that the white paper guidelines developed for the parenting skills programme is a start to the eradication of poverty in our area.

Programme Director; I say this because family is the basic and natural unit of society, which plays a critical role of nurturing and caring for individual family members. Families bear the primary responsibility for the development, education and socialization of children. They provide material and non – material care and support to their members and are a backbone of intergenerational solidarity and social cohesion.

Ladies and Gentlemen, before I get carried away with a topic dear to heart, let me welcome you all to this session and trust that we'll go back to our society and bring about the necessary change we seek to achieve.

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SPEECH DELIVERED BY:

CLLR B.P MABENGU

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