Building 3, NO. 7 Government Boulevard, Riverside Park, Mbombela, 1200 Mpumalanga Province, Private Bag X 11213, Mbombela, 1200 Tel: +27 (13) 766 3428, Fax: +27 (13) 766 3456/57

Litiko Letekutfutfukisa Tenhlalakahle UmNyango WezokuThuthukiswa KwezokuHlalokuhle Departement van Maatskaplike Ontwikkeling

MEDIA STATEMENT

Attention: News Editors, Journalists and Online Reporters

Date: 19 March 2024 For Immediate Release.

MEC FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT LINDIWE NTSHALINTSHALI APPRECIATES THE SIGNIFICANT ROLE PLAYED BY SOCIAL WORKERS.

Mbombela – The MEC for Social Development Lindiwe Ntshalintshali joins the global community and partners across the globe to celebrate World Social Workers Day under this year theme "Buen Vivir: Shared Future for Transformative Change."

The month of March was set aside to recognise and highlight the contribution of social work profession to the health and well-being of individuals, families and communities across the universe, and in particular the 19th of march has been set aside as World Social Workers Day.

In celebrating Social Workers Month, MEC for Social Development Lindiwe Ntshalintshali calls upon all people of Mpumalanga to unite and work together with social work practioners, towards ensuring that all who participate in initiatives and programmes that are aimed at addressing socials in the province are supported.

"On this day, let us mobilise all communities to give full support to all Social Work Practioners in their task of protecting the vulnerable and to make better the lives of our people. We are also mindful of the challenges faced by the social work practioners and commit to provide them with the necessary support"

in the province and this the province will have less incidents of any form of abuse against the vulnerable our societies".

Social Workers Day is not about commemorating the day only, but it also affords the department and stakeholders to recognise social work as essential professions in responding to the challenges faced by our vulnerable groups in society. Social workers are always in the forefront in addressing unfortunate incidences such as gender-based violence and femicide.

As Mpumalanga province The" **Place of the Rising Sun** "We are mindful of the significant role that social workers played during the COVID 19 pandemic, disasters and recent floods in some parts of the province and the manner in which they have implemented developmental programmes that are designed to protect the majority of our people, particularly the vulnerable groups in our society.

We are pleased with the work they do and we commit to providing all the necessary supportconcluded MEC Ntshalintshali

ISSUED BY THE MPUMALANGA DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENTMedia inquiries may be forwarded to Mr Centie Ngubane on 076 941 7887 / 013 766 3321 or CentieN@dsdmpu.gov.za