



MEDIA RELEASE

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Local Drug Action Committee Reaches out

The Local Drug Action Committee (LDAC) hosted an outreach workshop in Rheenendal on Thursday, 28 June. The workshop, which was attended by approximately 80 committee members from across Greater Knysna, focussed on the LDAC processes and the establishment of sub-committees in the various wards.

During her address, Ward 5 Councillor, Eleanore Bouw-Spies acknowledged that substance abuse is reality in most of Greater Knysna communities. “Substance abuse is a prevalent challenge amongst our youth in all our communities. In order for us to combat this problem we need to join hands and work together. We all need to be committed on the new journey we are about to embark on.”

She applauded the representatives from various stakeholder for the commitment and hard work in combatting this disease. “To this end, our Local Knysna Alcohol and Drug Centre and the Local Drug Action Committee has been extremely instrumental. I must thank both the National and Provincial Departments of Social Development, Education and Labour. As well several stakeholders, which include the South African Police Services and community members. Although we may sometimes feel as if we are not winning the battle. Already the impact that the Local Drug Action Committee’s Outreach programme can be seen in so many of our communities.”

The day’s programme also included applications for LDAC sub-committees in different wards. The nomination process is open until the end of July 2018. If you need more information do not hesitate to contact our Social Development Officer, Ms. Lizel Smith at lsmith@knysna.gov.za or telephone 044 302 6343 should you require any further information.

Bouw-Spies concluded, “The mentality and behaviour of drug addicts and alcoholics is wholly irrational. Until you understand that they are completely powerless over their addiction, and unless they have structured help, they have no hope”

The LDAC seeks to improve coordination and integration of activities aimed at combating substance abuse in Greater Knysna. It further seeks to promote partnerships amongst various departments and stakeholders involved in services and programmes aimed at combating substance abuse and mitigating its impact on the individual, family and community.

ENDS

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