



MEDIA STATEMENT

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Gauteng Government to develop strategy to empower programme on Boy children

The Gauteng Provincial Government hosted a one-day summit with Non-Profit Organisations (NPO's) and Non - Governmental Organisations (NGO's) that render services to boy children, to discuss their social development and empowerment at Boksburg on Tuesday.

“For some boys, the transition to adulthood is difficult. Some boys become victims of crime or commit crimes themselves, some abuse substances at an early age and drop out of school and find themselves in difficult socio-economic conditions”, said Bongani Ngomane, Chief Director of Research and Stakeholder Relations at the Gauteng Department of Social Development.

The summit resolved that the Provincial Government must develop a framework for the empowerment of boy children before the end of the year. Participants also expressed the need for organizations and individuals who work with the boy children to register with the Department of Social Development, as required by the Children's Act. It further encouraged practitioners in the sector to be vetted as to prevent paedophiles and those who might abuse the boy children or perpetuate violence and gender oppressive tendencies in the boy children. A boy child sectoral forum will be set up to co-ordinate activities for boy children.

“Women's Month provides a unique opportunity to sensitize boy children about the need to be champions of gender equality, protection of women and to educate them about the

value of stable homes and communities based on common humanity and worth”, said Ngomane

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