



# SUPPORT SERVICES MONTHLY NEWS

27<sup>th</sup> May 2016

## TOY AND BOOK LIBRARY LAUNCH

### JOY COMES TO THE CHILDREN AT CATO MANOR

NOMPILO BUTHELEZI

**E**thekweni Municipality Office of the Deputy City Manager, Support Services Unit together with Cato Manor Area Based Management in



**Pictured: Guest speakers for the day.**

partnership with the Hope *worldwide* Foundation, hosted the Cato Manor ABM Early Childhood Development Programme Toy and Book Library Launch at the Umkhumbane Hall on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> May 2016.

The day boasted smiles and cheers as the donation boxes came in. The EThekweni Municipality crew added wonderful rainbow colours to the theme with their t-shirts.



**Pictured: Veena Naidoo & Mhlengi Gumede playing with the children**

First up was Mbali Mthembu from Environmental Health, who opened up the day with a prayer to thank the Lord for the helping hands in making tomorrows future leaders the best leaders to come. After that everyone stood proud as they sang the National Anthem.

Mhlengi Gumede, Area Manager, officially opened up the day and welcomed all the parents, guest speakers, partners in the programme and sponsors. He shared briefly why this day was important to everyone especially the young children who were happily playing with the sponsored Lego blocks throughout the day's proceedings.



**Pictured: Area Manager, Mr Mhlengi Gumede delivering his opening and welcome speech.**

He acknowledged everyone who gave a hand in making the day a success and

thanked them for their passion for wanting to make a difference in disadvantaged areas and schools.

Next, on behalf of eThekweni Municipality's Deputy Head of Human Resources Mr G Vundla, Coordinator of the Support Services Unit apologised for his absence and shared her message for the day. She shared that the Support Services office is mandated to carry out STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Accounting and Mathematics). "We identify disadvantaged areas where we raise the awareness of Maths and Science."



**Pictured: Coordinator Support Services, Veena Naidoo delivering her speech on behalf of Mr G Vundla from eThekweni Municipality Human Resources**

She stressed that the city is in short of engineers and how it is better to target learners at an early age such as pre-school (which is the foundation phase) to develop their minds in such a way that they know how important Maths and Science is in order to have successful careers.

Thandeka Jali from Hope *worldwide* was next. She thanked everyone for coming to the launch and also thanked everyone who had a hand in making sure that donations

are collected for the Library Launch.



**Pictured: Thandeka Jali delivering her speech**

She also briefly shared who Hope *worldwide* is. She shared that it is a Parent Engagement Programme for Early Childhood Development (ECD) which was developed to equip parents and caregivers with the knowledge and skills required to create a safe and nurturing environment to promote their child's growth and development.

Nobantu also from Hope informed everyone about the purpose of having the Toy and Book Library.



**Pictured: Nobantu from Hope worldwide**

"Not every parent can afford to buy their child a toy and educational toys are quite pricey." She said. The Toy and Book Library will allow parents to come in the library and let their children play with any toy they like and if they want to take the toy home for a period specified by the

library they can do so.



**Pictured: Toys and books for the library**

In this way, children will be exposed to all materials needed to stimulate their mind and promote learning and interaction.

Mzwandile Ntombela, the story teller from Izibuko Zethalente woke up the crowd with singing and dancing.



**Pictured: Mzwandile Ntombela making everyone sing and dance to his tunes**

He first introduced himself in a poetic way using South African Artists names and song titles in a creative way adding humour to tell a story about where he comes from (His background).

He then asked everyone to sing along with him the “Shaka Boomba” song.

He later sat everyone down and told them a story entitled “Jabulani and the Lion”. The purpose of this story was to educate

the children on keeping promises.



**Pictured: Mzwandile Ntombela telling his story for the day**

Mbali Mkhwanazi from TREE (Training & Resources in Early Education), informed everyone that Tree is a non-profit organisation that specialises in early Childhood Development, resources and training.



**Pictured: Mbali Mkhwanazi from the TREE Organisation delivering her speech**

Their vision is to ensure that young children develop to their full potential in line with their rights and needs. She added that TREE is happy to be involved in such an initiative.

Last but not least Councillor Lorraine Mbongwa shared her key note message. She spoke about being responsible parents, caring for your children and making sure they get the best possible education. She spoke about making sacrifices for your children as they are the future generation

and leaders.



**Pictured: CLLR L Mbongwa delivering her key note message**

She encouraged parents to make use of the Toy and Book Library and to support their children fully.

Programme Director Nompilo then asked the Area Manager to assist her with handing out a gift to the Councillor and in turn the Councillor handed out a gift to the Area Manager.



**Pictured: Area Manager Mhlengi Gumede and CLLR L Mbongwa exchanging gifts of appreciation**

Then followed gifts to Hope and TREE.

The Councillor, Area Manager and Coordinator of Support Services were then called to cut the ribbon as to officially



**Pictured: Thandeka Jali presenting Veena Naidoo with her gift of appreciation**

open the Library.



**Pictured: Mhlengi Gumede and CLLR L Mbongwa cutting the ribbon to open up the library**

Phindile then gave her vote of thanks to all who assisted in the days programme and acknowledged them individually for all their efforts.



**Pictured: Phindile Hlubi delivering her vote of thanks**

As it was still Africa Month, the AU (Africa Unite) Anthem was sung to end of the joyous day.



**Pictured: Thandeka Jali presenting programme directors Thembelihle Shandu and Nompilo Buthelezi with gifts of appreciation**