

MEDIA ADVISORY

**ISSUED BY DEPARTMENT OF WOMEN, YOUTH AND PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES
ATTENTION: JOURNALISTS AND NEWS EDITORS
FRIDAY, 19 SEPTEMBER 2025**

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**DEPUTY MINISTER LETSIKE, LEAD THE 9TH ANNUAL SILENT WALK AND RUN IN
COMMEMORATION OF DEAF AWARENESS MONTH.**

JOHANNESBURG: The Deputy Minister in the Presidency for Women, Youth and Persons with Disabilities, Mmapaseka Steve Letsike, joins Neema Foundation on Saturday, 20 September, in leading the annual 2025 Silent Walk and Run to commemorate DEAF Awareness Month.

The Annual Silent Walk and Run brings together more than 2,000 participants from the Deaf, hard-of-hearing, and hearing communities to raise awareness, promote inclusion, and celebrate South African Sign Language (SASL) as South Africa's official language.

MEMBERS OF THE MEDIA ARE INVITED TO JOIN THE 9TH ANNUAL SILENT WALK AND RUN AS FOLLOWS.

DATE: SATURDAY, 20 SEPTEMBER 2025

TIME: 08:00-12:00

VENUE: MARKS PARK SPORTS CLUB, EMMARENTIA, JOHANNESBURG

There are approximately 600,000 Deaf people in South Africa who primarily use South African Sign Language (SASL), according to a 2024 National Council of and for Persons with Disabilities (NCPD) report. This number is part of a larger group of about 12 million South Africans experiencing varying degrees of hearing loss, with almost 5 million having a hearing disability.

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Issued by: Department of Women, Youth and Persons with Disabilities.