



**Address by Her Worship, Deputy Mayor Cllr Fawzia Peer  
on the Occasion of the Launch of the Graduation  
Ceremony of Participants of the Dreams Project**

**30 September 2016 – 10h00  
Havenside Community Hall**

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- Programme Director,
  - Representatives from the Dreams Project,
  - Religious and community leaders,
  - Stakeholders and partners,
  - Participants,
  - Distinguished guests and dignitaries,
  - Ladies and gentlemen,
  - All protocol observed,

## **Good morning ladies and gentlemen!**

On behalf of eThekweni Municipality, we are honoured to have received an invitation to attend this graduation ceremony.

Programme Director, today we witness the graduation of care givers who underwent training that will drastically contribute to strengthening our public health sector.

Today we will also witness the graduation of adolescents who we empowered in morals and values and how to go about approaching different situations in life.

Ladies and gentlemen, our Municipality supports this programme because it takes medical services to the household, especially when the patient is unable to make their way to a medical facility like a hospital or a clinic.

They will receive medical attention in the comfort of their own home. Our City is proud of this programme because we do need committed caregivers who are passionate about their job. In that way, they will serve the public with pride and they will ensure that patients are cared for in an appropriate manner.

Importantly too, is the adolescent programme. It is in line with our government's moral regeneration movement. This programme will assist us in dealing with issues that affect our young people. It will also prevent them from falling through the social cracks of drug and alcohol abuse, teenage pregnancy, crime and being infected with HIV and AIDS.

The social ills that I have just mentioned to you have the potential to hinder the growth and prosperity of our country.

Programme Director, moral regeneration interventions encourage people to recommit to efforts of building communities grounded on positive values and rededicate themselves to building a caring society in pursuit of creating lasting peace and prosperity in our country.

We must understand that we are currently in a very important period in the history of our democracy, where our country is now in the second transition phase of the national democratic revolution.

This requires us to focus on building a truly moral society. We need to start with our young people. Now is the time to stand together and face social ills head on to stop the scourge moral decay which is ravaging our society.

Also important is the issue of HIV and AIDS. We must create awareness around the pandemic because new HIV infections especially amongst adolescent girls and young women are unacceptably high.

It is time we take a stand and find the scourge with young people. This is the only way we can curb new infections.

While on this platform, I encourage young people to focus on their education so that they realise their dreams. It is a very important tool to empower yourself.

Also, our Municipality has various programmes aimed at empowering young people. Through these programmes we hope to touch the lives of the youth and take them off the streets. EThekweni Municipality wants to partner with you in doing so.

In closing, I congratulate the participants of this caregivers and adolescent programme. You have done well. I am confident that you will make a difference in our communities through your work.

**Thank you!**