



To: Members of the Media/Stakeholders

MEDIA ALERT:

'RAF ON THE ROAD' TAKES SERVICES TO THE PEOPLE IN FOUR PROVINCES ON 11 OCTOBER, 2014.

October Transport Month (OTM) reaches its climax next weekend when Road Accident Fund (RAF) takes its flagship campaign on the road in four provinces.

Led by Transport Minister Dipuo Peters, her Deputy Sindisiwe Chikunga, and RAF CEO Dr Eugene Watson, 'RAF on the Road' will run concurrently on Saturday 11 October from 06h00 to 18h00 in Giyani (Limpopo), Alexandra Township (Gauteng), KwaZakhele (Port Elizabeth) and Mfuleni (Cape Town), supported by live television and radio broadcasts.

This campaign has been a highly recognised brand with groundbreaking achievements in public service delivery, reaching thousands of people countrywide. Key milestones include creating access to services through the opening of new offices in the Northern Cape (Kimberley), Limpopo (Polokwane), North West (Mahikeng) and Free State (Bloemfontein). This expansion of RAF's geographic footprint is in addition to the existing network of 83 Hospital Service Centres (HSC) housed in government hospitals. "These offices provide physical access to road accident victims, who would otherwise not have had the opportunity to interact face-to-face with the RAF consultants without travelling long distances to the nearest regional offices," said Minister Peters during last week's RAF office launch in Kimberley.

Since March 2012, a total of 40 communities across the country were visited, 685 people were attended to in makeshift offices on Saturdays, 27 439 claimants were assisted nationally, and R591 million worth of claims were paid directly to claimants. According to Dr Watson, RAF's aim is to expand communication, improve access & care, rehabilitate crash victims, and accelerate the claims process of those adversely affected by the scourge of road crashes.

To date one in four claimants now come directly to lodge claims, 364 claimants walk through our Hospital Service Centres (HSCs), and an average of 40 consultations are recorded at Customer Service Centres on a daily basis. This has brought much needed relief and socio-economic balance amongst claimants and families torn apart by road crashes. Lenka Damazane, a fashion designer in Welkom (Free State) was able to realise his dreams with monies paid to him by the RAF. "I took part of the money to register myself for fashion designing at Motheo FET College," said Damazane, who now runs a thriving small business.

On 11 October, eligible community members will be encouraged to claim directly with the Fund, thus saving them unnecessary contingency fees and disproving the old notion that they can only claim through a representative.



They will also be educated about the RAF, assisted with claims enquiries, completion of claim forms and provided with support to rehabilitate survivors.

As part of the build up to these OTM activities, road safety education and awareness aimed at promoting compliance to traffic rules, changing road users' behaviour, and curbing the escalating rate of accidents and fatalities will also be offered over three days. This includes defensive driving training to 100 public transport drivers, road safety awareness campaigns in taxi ranks, and the provision of cycling helmets to learners at the main 'RAF on the Road' event in Giyani.

The Department of Transport will also hand over 100 bicycles and helmets to learners as part of its Shova Kalula bicycles for school kids project at a media briefing. The project targets users in most disadvantaged rural and urban settings who currently have to walk long distances to get to school.

RAF CEO Dr Watson hereby cordially invites you to attend the event in your respective provinces in order to utilise this opportunity to meet the RAF's key stakeholders and understand the Fund's mandate over the transition period to the Road Accident Benefit Scheme.

Event Details

Date: 11 October 2014

Venues: (Per Province)

Province 1:

Limpopo, Giyani Township, Giyani Community Hall, BA 41, Giyani Main.

Province 2:

Gauteng, Alexandra Township, Central Johannesburg Technical College, Alexandra Campus.

Province 3:

Port Elizabeth, KwaZakhele Township, Lillian Ngoyi Indoor Sports Centre, Mbilini Street.

Province 4:

Cape Town, Mfuleni Township, Zolile Malindi Community Hall (Afrika Tikkun), Trevor Tokwana Drive.

Time: 06h00 to 18h00.

Media Briefing: 10h00.

CSR & Road Safety Awareness: 11h00 (handover of scholar patrol uniforms, helmets & school shoes).



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