

## **WELCOME ADDRESS BY THE HONOURABLE MAYOR OF LEPHALALE LOCAL MUNICIPALITY DURING THE MEET AND GREET SESSION WITH BAROKA FOOTBALL TEAM**

- **Programme director**
- **Chief Whip**
- **All Councillors**
- **Management of Baroka FC and players**
- **Officials led by Acting Municipal Manager, Mme  
Charity Radipabe**
- **Distinguished guests**
- **Ladies and gentlemen**

Firstly let me start by thanking every one of you for the overwhelming interest in the Development of Soccer in this Municipality. Receive my warmest and fraternal greetings in this year of Nelson Mandela. This year we will be celebrating 100 years of the birth of the liberation icons that is Nelson Mandela and Albertina Sisulu. Our government has declared 2018 as the year of Nelson Mandela. The life and legacy of Nelson Mandela reminds us that every person has the ability to make a difference in the lives of others. Throughout his life, Mandela fought for freedom, justice, and equality for the people of South Africa. He is the embodiment of all that is good about our great nation. Nelson Mandela played a pivotal role in the country's struggle against apartheid. His stewardship of the liberation movement on Robben Island made him one of the world acclaimed statesman of the 20th century.

There is no better way of celebrating the life of Mandela who was also a sporting fanatic than to bring change to the lives of previously disadvantaged communities.

It is indeed a privilege and an honour that the management of Baroka Football Club saw it fit to visit Lephalale for empowerment. We view all the scheduled activities of the team in this area as a valuable skills transfer and encouragement for our youth to participate in sporting activities.

Bakgaga, our people are happy that our accord us this opportunity to unearth raw talent from our Municipality. I want to thank you personally appreciate your efforts in ensuring that our young people are directly involved in this processes that you are embarking on. Lephalale will not disappoint you, as the collective leadership of this 811form of unfair advantages. We want to make sure that we spread our sporting wings beyond the boundaries of this Municipality.

Late last year we officially opened a multi-million Sport Complex at Shongoane Village, so your decision to conduct football coaching clinics here bears testimony to our commitment to escalate sporting codes to higher level. Be rest assured that that we will provide those that are selected to the next level of opportunity with the necessary support. In all our clusters we intend to invite private partners to

provide more infrastructures so that our children have those facilities to use.

Your presence in this Municipality will encourage our youth to take up soccer as a career and also to lead a healthy lifestyle. We are looking forward to more of the coaching clinics and hopefully in the next instalment, your shining stars in the professional ranks will be coming from Lephale because **LEPHALE ROCK**

As the collective leadership of the Municipality we really appreciate your initiative and we will support all activities that you bring to this Municipality. It is indeed the kind of progressive initiatives that will assist in bettering the lives of our people.

**I thank you**