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## **Rise Young Women**

Thabo Seadira

Stellalander-Taung - The Northwest Provincial Council on AIDS in partnership with Soul City gathered young women between the ages of 15 and 24 at the Taung Mmanaba.

On Saturday (18 April) young women them such as child abuse, substance abuse from all corners of the Dr RS Mompati came and teenage pregnancy.

together.
The purpose of the gathering was to launch young women clubs in different communities and also to train them on leadership skills and how to positively and courageously face life challenges with confidence.

Among other reasons for the gathering was

to celebrate young women and make them ambassadors of change in their different communities as explained by Provincial Cordinator, Refentse Moeketsi.

"Soul City is here to salute you, and extend continuous support in your journey as young leaders," Moeketsi said.

Boitumelo Mokaleng (18), from the Alabama Combined School, indicated that she was excited about the initiative of The Northwest Provincial Council on AIDS and Soul City, as this will capacitate them with skills to stand on their own.

Mokakaleng indicated that she will share the experience acquired at the gathering with other young women in her community, by having discussions on issues which affect

Kediemtse Gill, who is a parent and educator at the Thapama Secondary School at Matlapaneng in Taung, also expressed her excitement about the initiative as it will help young women to be self-reliant, to resolve challenges that they are faced with both at school and in the society.

Gill said that it is their responsibility as parents and educators to continue supporting young women to become better people and encourage them to share their experience with others at their different communities.

Mpho Mogapi from Soul City indicated that they have already launched clubs in the

Ngaka Modiri Molema District.

Mogapi said the main objective is to see that young women are being provided with skills to become agents of change in their communities and schools.

"We take the responsibility of seeing to it that young women are groomed into being future leaders through different workshops and training which we organise on regular base", emphasised Mogapi.



Mpho Mogapi from Soul City giving training during the launch of 'Young Women Rise' at the Mmabana in Taung. Committee members from various clubs are listening attentively. (Photo: Thabo Seadira)

