

Correctional Services supports Mandela Day to inspire change

The South African community is for the third year running called upon to put their hands on deck and dedicate 67 minutes of their time in support of the Nelson Mandela Day initiative. The initiative is celebrated annually on 18 July, the day the former president was born 93 years ago.

The annual celebrations are in honour of the South African's first democratic President Nelson Mandela who dedicated 67 years of his life to community service. The voluntary 67 minutes of community service expected from the South African masses are no consolation to the 67 years the man affectionately known the world over as Madiba, contributed to inspire change to the lives of many globally. As the theme for celebrating Madiba's birthday, people are called upon to ***"Take Action; Inspire Change; Make Every Day a Mandela Day."***

Buoyed by the challenging theme, the Correctional Services principals have made a clarion call to all its officials in their individual capacity or in groups to support the internationally acclaimed Nelson Mandela Day.

The department will also be having a national celebration event at its Western Cape Region on 18 July while other regions and employees will also get their hands dirty by doing community services at the locations of their choice elsewhere in the country (***see a schedule of DCS activities planned for Mandela Day***).

The overarching objective of Mandela Day is to inspire individuals to take action to help change the world for the better, and in doing so build a global movement for good. It is done voluntarily under the guise of community empowerment. Individuals and organisations are free to participate in Mandela Day as they wish but must adhere to the ethical framework of "service to one's fellow human". Change was the gift given to all South Africans by Nelson Mandela, now it's your turn!