

## **JTGDM ESTABLISHES DISABILITY FORUM & CONDUCTS A WORKSHOP**

One of the resolutions taken on the disability seminar that was held on the 26<sup>th</sup> of May 2015 was that the District structure be established and that the training for people with disability be advocated. This was accomplished on the 02<sup>nd</sup> of September 2015 at The John Taolo Gaetsewe District Municipal Council Chamber. The South African Human Rights Commission was also component of the establishment of the forum and conducted a workshop on human rights.

The main purpose of the disability forum is to work in partnership with the Special Programmes Unit in the Office of the Executive Mayor concerning essential planning and service delivery intended to result in meeting, reviewing and analysing programme effectiveness, create and analyse the needs and satisfaction of people with disabilities.



***The newly established disability forum committee with Ms Thobeka Mthintelwa (right - back row) and Councillor Mosimanegape Mochwari (right – front row)***

One of the factors regarding this forum, the structure will be the vocational representatives of the disabled people in order to coordinate the work of the structure with the activities of other disability related structures including sector departments in the district. This is also inclusive of establishing and maintaining a positive working relationship with the Special Programmes Unit of the JTGDM.

During this workshop that was conducted by one of the officials of SAHRC, Mr Lesego Raphalane; he explained to the attendees that disabled people have equal rights just like everyone else in this country. The rights of the disabled people might be violated in a manner in which able-bodied persons might not be aware of. Examples of such violations might be not taking into consideration when building a structure, how the disabled people are going to access the building, especially government buildings where are of rendering services, for instance, where there are no ramps and there are no ablution facilities that caters for them, that is one way of violating their rights. Complaints related to human right violations may be directed to the SAHRC either by an individual and groups.

The following people from the 3 localities are to serve in the District Structure:

Ga-Segonyana LM : Victor Tshikedi

: Maria Voster

: Botumile Tanke

Gamagara LM : Patricia Mackenzie

: Patricia Pante

: Moses Jonathan

Joe Morolong LM : Kganego Moleele

: Boitumelo Boo

A space has been reserved for one person in the Joe Morolong area. Councillor Mosimanegape Mochwari on behalf of the John Taolo Gaetsewe District Council, he wished the committee well in whatever they would like to attain in the near future as they are vocal representatives of all the disabled people in the district.