

Union reaches out to poor

Sanitary towels donated to school girls to show commitment to pupils and community

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THE Independent Municipal and Allied Trade Union (Imatu) in the Mahikeng area has donated sanitary towels to needy pupils at Lokaleng Middle School as part of its outreach programme.

The newly formed union operates in the local government sphere and the donation to Lokaleng was the first of its community projects.

Imatu's Mahikeng branch chairperson Thabang Modikoe said they resolved to plough back into the community of Lokaleng because of the level of needs in the area.

"The school was targeted as the beneficiary because of the level of poverty experienced in that area and the union decided to alleviate the suffering of the community by donating more than 100 sanitary towels to girls at the school," Modikoe said.

During the handover union members encouraged pupils to take their studies seriously so they made a better life for themselves.

"As a union, we want to make a promise that we will come back to this school and share more of what we can offer to help your cause as pupils and the community of Lokaleng.

"It is deliberate that the donation took place during youth month because we are cognisant of the vital



HELPING OUT: Union members, school management and pupils during the handover of sanitary pads at the Lokaleng Middle School in Mahikeng.

role young people played in shaping our history. We also seek to make sure they are supported in every way possible," Modikoe said.

Most of the pupils said they came from families that were solely dependant on social grants and some of the pupils were heads of families.

One of the pupils said: "I'm happy to receive the sanitary towels because

it's often difficult to get money to buy these necessities. Some of us are sometimes forced to put our health at risk using substances that are not safe. We are grateful to Imatu today."

The union said it would remain committed to the upliftment of pupils to help the less fortunate.

"We want to show the spirit of ubuntu and motivate pupils to uphold

the drive to learn and become outstanding members of the future of our country," Modikoe said.

School management expressed gratitude to Imatu and said there was a need for more interventions not only to assist the needy but to motivate the pupils so that they can become successful individuals.

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