



## **Brothers For Life – Provincial Men’s sector Meetings**

JHHESA and Sonke Gender Justice in partnership with Provincial Government are holding a series of Provincial Men’s sector summits in all provinces. The main aim of these summits is to strengthen the Provincial Men’s sector and their responses to HIV and AIDS in their localities. The summits are attended by district representatives of the men’s sector, the provincial departments of health, district municipality representatives, labour formations, the business sector and traditional leaders.

### **The key discussions include**

- The state of the epidemic in the Province (HIV and AIDS, PMTCT and Gender Based Violence)
- Provincial Response to the Epidemic
- The role of the Men’s sector in the Provincial response
- Brothers for Life as a Social Mobilization tool
- Men’s sector role in the National HIV Counselling and Testing Campaign (HCT)

### **The key outputs of these summits are:**

- District Men’s sector plans on engaging men (Including Brothers For Life activities) These district plans form the provincial plan as well as Monitoring and evaluation by the Province and Provincial Aids Council.
- Resource mobilization plan (Provincial Men’s sector with the Provincial Departments of Health and Premiers offices)
- A provincial Men’s sector steering committee that will drive the implementation of men’s programmes, this team will also include the Premiers office and the Provincial Departments of Health.
- Provincial/ District Men’s sector participation and support plans for the HCT campaign.

### **Status Update and key achievements**

KwaZulu Natal, Limpopo and Mpumalanga have held their summits. The Limpopo men’s sector will participate in the launch of the HCT campaign in Limpopo and in

all the districts of the province. A draft plan driven by the Provincial Department of Health , the Premiers' office and the men's sector has been completed.

The Nkomazi district in Mpumalanga is launching its men's indaba on the 27<sup>th</sup> of March , the major tool of engagement will be Brothers For Life . This indaba will be attended by high ranking government officials and will serve as the launch of Brothers For Life activities in the district as per the plans drawn at the Mpumalanga Men's sector meeting.

The gender unit of the Ehlanzeni district Municipality has integrated Brothers For Life into their plans.

The KZN Men's sector has decided to formalise the structure into an NGO in order to strengthen its capacity to mobilize resources for activities engaging men. A second meeting will be held shortly in order to integrate Male Circumcision and HTC in the Provincial men's sector plans.

#### Provincial Men's sector Summits Schedule

<b>Province</b>	<b>Month</b>	<b>Dates</b>
Limpopo	March	09 – 10
Mpumalanga	March	18 – 19
Gauteng	March	29 – 30
KZN	April	08 – 09
Eastern Cape	April	12 – 13
Western Cape	April	19 – 20
Northern Cape	April	29 – 30
North West	May	06 – 07
Free State	May	13 -14