

14 February 2022

To: All Media / News Editors

Media Release

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CHURCH LEADERS' SPORTS DAY IN THE PINK (Phoenix, Inanda, Ntuzuma, KwaMashu) REGION & BEYOND

On Saturday 19 February 2022 church leaders in the Phoenix, Inanda, Ntuzuma and KwaMashu (PINK) region and beyond are hosting a celebratory sports day to mark the process towards reconciliation that they have been on since the July 2021 civil unrest. Leaders from Newlands East, Umhlanga and Durban North have also been involved in this process.

Church leaders and fraternalists in the region, supported by the KwaZulu-Natal Christian Council, Heartlines and the Diakonia Council of Churches, have played an instrumental role in de-escalating the violence and tension in the region since July. Through a series of peace talks and engagements we have seen the active involvement of local pastors leading the way towards dialogue and peace in their communities. Part of this process involved a two-day "Bridge Leadership Engagement" led by Heartlines, which enabled leaders to cement this journey towards reconciliation.

To celebrate this progress together we have decided to hold a Sports Day on 19 February. The day will be:

- 1) A celebration of the process and relationships built between church leaders.
- 2) A moment to demonstrate reconciliation to the community through something fun and inspiring – and a space to tell the story of the journey we have been on together.
- 3) An opportunity to draw the community further into this reconciliation process.

We invite members of the media to join us at this historic event. This will be a chance to tell some of the "good news" that has emerged in the wake of the tragedy of July 2021. Six months on from the KZN disaster, this is an important story to tell.

The details are as follows:

Date: Saturday, 19 February 2022

Venue: Dr JL Dube Stadium, Inanda

Time: 09h00 to 13h00

ENDS

Issued by the church leaders' working group for the Reconciliation Sports Day

For more information or interview queries contact Craig Bouchier +83 612 3438

