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**Media alert**

As a continuation of promoting and ensuring healthy animals, safe animal products and welfare of people, the Free State Department of Agriculture and Rural Development has been hitting the ground running by offering an educative Rabbits awareness campaign in schools across the province.

The programme started on September 21—23 in Qwa qwa, Fouriesburg and Ficksburg and is the whole month awareness vaccination programme, which will also be held today in Bloemfontein areas such as Bochabela (BoikhucO Old Age) and phahameng. Community members are encouraged to visit the said areas in order for their pets to access the vaccine to live healthy and longer. The programme will escalate to all other districts in the province.

This is a clear demonstration by the department to radically serve people with the dignity they deserve because this was a commitment made under oath by the MEC Oupa Khoabane. “We encourage our communities to come in numbers to take their pets for the injection to promote a healthy animal population in our households because if we don’t, our children are at high risk of being affected by different diseases from Rabbits. We call on our communities into our space, support our programmes because we need each other in taking our pulse and letting us taking their” said MEC Khoabane.

He added that learners and members of the community must view this programme as an opportunity provided by the department to ensure that they live in a safe and healthier environment hence it is crucial to make use of it.

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