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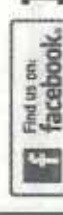


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# HALSTED

WE DO CLEANING WITH MEANING

# International FASD day with a BANG

BRITSTOWN – International Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders (FASD) Day is commemorated worldwide on 9 September every year.

The aim is to raise awareness regarding the dangers of alcohol use by pregnant women and to gain support from community members, friends and family to support them to have alcohol free pregnancies and therefore babies without FASD. In August FARR was approached by the Department of Social Development to form part of the department's Women's Month campaign. At the same time it gave FARR the opportunity to start raising awareness regarding FASD and the prevention thereof.

On 30 August representatives of the Department of Social Development, FARR, SAPS, the local Traffic Department and the Emthanjeni Municipality held a roadblock on the N12 close to Britstown. The 128 drivers and passengers of the vehicles who were stopped, each received a FASD-knot and a short message. The symbolism of the knot was explained: The circle represents the uterus of the pregnant woman which should provide a safe, alcohol-free environment for fetal development. The rope represents the umbilical cord, providing the fetus (unborn baby) with nutrition, and not alcohol. The knot indicates the strong support provided by family, friends and community members to pregnant women to enable them to have alcohol-free pregnancies. The frayed ends of the rope, indicate the possible damage to the central nervous system (and brain) of the fetus, if it is exposed to alcohol during pregnancy, potentially causing FASD.

FARR would like to thank the Department and all the other collaborators for the successful day and valuable support. Together we can make a difference!



The group of volunteers who helped to make the day successful.



The FARR team with one of the Traffic officials.