

MEDIA RELEASE **PSA celebrates Arbour Week at Jinnah Park Primary School in Bela Bela and Westernburg Police Station in Limpopo**

DATE 9 September 2024

EMBARGO None

ENQUIRIES communication@psa.co.za

The Public Servants Association (PSA) Provincial Office in Limpopo celebrated Arbour Week by planting various plants on 4 September 2024 at Westernburg Police Station outside Polokwane, and a tree at Jinnah Park Primary School in Bela Bela on 5 September 2024.

These initiatives, aimed at promoting environmental awareness and sustainability, are part of the PSA's ongoing commitment to community development. PSA members and union representatives joined by learners of Jinnah Park Primary School formed part of the Arbour Week celebrations at the School where a Mountain Karee tree was donated by the PSA to enrich the environment and provide much-needed shade for learners and educators. This event symbolised the importance of environmental conservation and the role that communities, especially the youth, play in ensuring a greener future. The choice of the Mountain Karee tree was influenced by its resilience and adaptability. The message sent to learners is to be resilient and adapt in search of success and better lives. Their family background and conditions must never be used as an excuse or barriers to fail in life.

Jinnah Park Primary School welcomed the initiative, emphasizing the positive impact on learners who will benefit from the shade, beauty, and improved air quality that the tree will provide in years to come. The learners were actively involved in the planting process, making this a hands-on educational experience about the significance of trees in the ecosystem.

As a leading trade union, the PSA is proud to contribute to the environment and the well-being of learners and educators through this tree-planting initiative. Arbour Day reminds us of all of the critical role trees play in combating climate change, improving air quality, and contributing towards an environment that supports productivity. The greening of Westernburg Police Station was a demonstration of support to the police officers in their demanding job of protecting the country.

END