

# |PRESS RELEASE|

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## Letshego Champions Blood Donation Drive to Heed National Blood Transfusion Centre Call for Donors

- *Committed to sustainable impact in minimising national blood shortage*
- *National Blood Transfusion Centre estimates that 1 pint of blood can save 3 lives*
- *Letshego to contribute to this need in a timely manner by actively involving its stakeholders in contributing towards the drive*

**GABORONE** – Sustainable impact continues to be a vital importance to Letshego Holdings Limited Group with regards to the community. This has once again proven to be true in the Group’s most recent initiative in partnership with the National Blood Transfusion Centre (NBTC) in Botswana as well as in the likes of Kenya and Lesotho. Letshego is set to engage their staff, friends and industry associates in a Blood Donation Drive. The Botswana leg of the drive is billed to take place on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of December 2015 at the Group’s Head Office, Letshego Place, in Gaborone.

In Botswana, it is estimated that 1 pint of blood can save 3 lives (source: National Blood Transfusion Centre). At present, the national demand for blood sees 40,000 units (pints) required within the NBTC at any given time. The current donor levels, however, see only 20,000 to 25,000 units being donated on average per year.

“December marks a time when most countries are in dire need of blood, with the increased number of festive season trauma cases adding significantly to the demands on national blood centres. So many of our staff and business associates are regular donors; in partnership with all our stakeholders, we want to collectively make a difference. We are committed to actually making a difference throughout our environment, and the Letshego Blood Donation Drive is one such way in which we can realise change in partnership with others,” said Letshego Group Head of Corporate Affairs, Mythri Sambasivan-George.

In the true sense of community effort, the Blood Donation Drive is open to all who would like to donate blood and contribute to the worthy cause provided they meet the basic eligibility requirements as prescribed by NBTC. Criteria includes:

- All individuals who weigh 50kg and above and are 16 to 65 years old are eligible to donate blood.
- One must be healthy, not be on any medical treatment and is advised to have eaten 4 hours or less before donation.
- One must not drink alcohol or take any treatment/drugs before donation.

“For us, this is a good testing point to see what kind of impact we can make. We encourage all eligible donors to come join us at 22, Khama Crescent, Gaborone at any time during the day on the 2nd of December and help save a life. All staff, customers, stakeholders and, indeed friends and family, of Letshego are invited to donate and are encouraged to help spread the word so that we can make a difference together. We are already planning similar drives in Kenya and Lesotho, with our other markets across Africa to follow shortly,” concluded Sambasivan-George.

For more information, please contact Mrs. Mythri Sambasivan-George – Head of Corporate Affairs, Letshego Holdings Limited on [mythris@letshego.com](mailto:mythris@letshego.com) or 3643300. Alternatively, visit [www.letshego.com](http://www.letshego.com) for more information.



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