

Thoughts on Women's Day 2024



Women's Day is a tribute to strength, resilience and extraordinary achievements of women around the world. It's a day to celebrate our past, acknowledge our present and look forward to a future of endless possibilities. It's also a celebration of the incredible women of today who are mother's, daughters, sisters, friends, professionals, colleagues, leaders and so much more.

As we continue to break barriers in every field, I call upon each of you to be kind to one another and support each other in your individual journeys as we rise to reach our full potential.

LEANNE COX
GENERAL MANAGER - OFFICE | GROWTHPOINT



For me, Women's Day is a day to celebrate the great strides that women have made. It is also when we can look back with gratitude in honouring those amazing women that have gone before us to pave the way and who have fought for gender equality. It is a commemoration of our strength, resilience and determination to continue the ongoing struggle for women's rights and the work that still needs to be done.

I believe it also reminds us to continually break barriers and challenge norms, renewing our commitment to fostering a world where every woman can thrive.

VANESSA MURRAY
DIVISIONAL EXECUTIVE |
NEDBANK



To all the women who inspire hope and strength every day: As we celebrate Women's Day, let's continue to stand tall, break barriers along the way and surpass our own expectations.

Let us support and uplift one another, forging a path where every woman can thrive and shine. Together, we can create a future where equality and empowerment are not just aspirations but realities. Happy Women's Day!

THULI MPUNTSHE - WPN NATIONAL CHAIR



Women's Day is a powerful reminder of the significant contributions women make to our society and the property industry. It celebrates the achievements of women who have driven progress through their vision and leadership. This day highlights our ongoing journey towards equality and empowerment, urging us to break down barriers and create new opportunities.

JOANNE SOLOMON
CEO | SAREIT ASSOCIATION

On 9 August 1956, 20 000 women marched to the Union buildings to start the wave of positive change for all of us. We owe immense gratitude to them for being bold and courageous. In 2024, our duty is to continue to make a deliberate effort to identify talent, mentor, sponsor and advance women all around us, every day.

At L2D, we are proud to advocate for women by showcasing concrete actions to advance gender equality and women's empowerment, and a place where we all belong.

A tough mind with a tender heart, the embodiment of strength and compassion, create a powerful force of positive change for women.

AMELIA BEATTIE
CHIEF EXECUTIVE
LIBERTY TWO DEGREES



As women we are the bedrock of our families and communities, we carry responsibilities and purpose through everything we touch and embrace.

Our power lies in our humanity, humility and vulnerability to lead with emotion and not fear.

I wish all women across South Africa a Happy Women's Day and a blessed Women's month.

IPELENG MKHARI
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
MOTSENG INVESTMENT HOLDINGS



Recognising the significant contribution that women make to our society in one "Women's Day" hardly seems fitting. To reflect, however, on the bravery of the 20 000 women that participated in the march in 1956 is significant. The collective of these women working towards a changed outcome is what brought about the change. Every women in that march supported each other and brought a collective message.

The commercial property industry, although slow to change, has made significant progress in the past 10 years. In the "2023 Definitive list of women CEO's in Africa" of the 787 companies that fall within Group 1, 40 of these have women CEO's. The list of women is impressive and includes women CEO's on JSE listed REITs and London listed REITs. Women hold top positions throughout the various aspects of property and are shaping the property industry. .

Organisations such as the Women's Property Network need to continue to build the network of women. Businesses around the world are largely driven by networks. Women need to build stronger networks and view each other as partners and colleagues rather than competitors. Women can make the changes they want to see, grow successful businesses and actively drive the progress of women as a collective.

LYNETTE FINLAY
CEO | AMABUTHO INVESTMENT MANAGERS



Women's Day in South Africa encourages us all to take a moment to celebrate what it means to be a woman, as well as how far we have come as a country and as a company. It also gives us an opportunity to continue to advocate for access to equal economic opportunities, safety and security for all women and children. As the next generation of women, the baton has been handed over to us to pave the way for generations of women to come.

As the recently appointed Managing Director at Amdec Property Services, I am fortunate to be in a position of influence, where I am able to collaborate, support and inspire women, in a community that is connected and committed to the upliftment of women within our industry. We have come a long way within the property sector, and I am proud that we are able to contribute to skills and wealth transfer with our female-focused leadership. I wholeheartedly support the empowering mission of like-minded, female-oriented organisations such as WPN, where Amdec Property Services management are proud members; as organisations like WPN strengthen executive leadership, magnify their influence, and pave the way for more women to follow suit.

Over the course of my career, I've learned that while a single woman may have power, collectively as women

we have impact, and we need to stand together to overcome barriers and challenges we face.

When it comes to leading and serving within the property industry, my decisions and actions need to have impact, with a conscious effort to uplift and empower women throughout the year, and not solely during Women's Month. From a leadership perspective, at Melrose Arch and Amdec Group Services, we have diverse leaders who provide a structured approach to ensure that women are afforded equal opportunities and the resources to succeed, and where the promotion of women is top of the agenda.

With inclusion and diversity at the heart of our corporate culture and ethos, together with the women in my team, we can encourage the exchange of ideas and strategies on creating a community that supports less sacrifice, more opportunity, economic empowerment, and safety and security for women. Being able to lead as a woman is an honor, and supporting transformation challenges the status quo, to promote equal opportunities for all, which is essential for economic development.

NATALIE STEWART
MANAGING DIRECTOR | MELROSE ARCH