



CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS AND ICT

3366 Besemmer Str Telkom Building
Industrial Site Mahikeng, 2745
Private Bag X 2145, Mmabatho, 2735
Tel: +27 (18) 388 4824/5

NWDC Cnr, University & Provident Drive
Private Bag X 2145, Mmabatho, 2735
Tel: +27 (18) 388 4913

2nd Floor West Wing, University Drive
Garona Building
Private Bag X 2145, Mmabatho, 2735
Tel: +27 (18) 388 4824/5

MEDIA STATEMENT

To : All Editors and Journalists

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North West Human Settlements continues to address housing backlog in the Province

The North West Department of Human Settlements as part of addressing housing backlog in the province continued with its commitment of ensuring that communities are provided with better human settlements and title deeds as part of restoring their dignity.

The Department handed over 10 houses and more than one thousand title deeds to beneficiaries, who were mostly the elderly, people living with disabilities and child headed families. The handing over was part of the Thuntsha-Lerole Accelerated Service Delivery Programme which seeks to mobilise communities to be part of a solution in addressing service delivery challenges confronting the province.

Addressing community members during the handing over at Madibeng, MEC for Cooperative Governance, Human Settlements and Traditional Affairs Patrick Dumile Nono Maloyi acknowledged that the Department has been moving at a slow pace in addressing housing backlog in the Province, however, vowed to speed it up. "It is through your efforts that as government, we will achieve the creation of human settlements that are habitable and also home to millions of fellow South Africans who continue to live in abject poverty".

One of the beneficiaries of the houses, Ms Nkele Mokwena, an elderly woman from Block B in Madidi village expressed gratitude to the department for the gesture, citing that it has regained her confidence. Ms Mokwena has been living in poor conditions for decades and with the receipt of the house she will now be able to sleep peacefully knowing that her family is protected.

Another beneficiary was Raymond Maimane, a 33 year old male living with disability from Kopela



younger brother Thapelo Maimane who is unemployed and both depend on the disability grant Raymond receives. Thapelo said he is thankful because his brother is going to lead a decent life.

According to Maloyi, the department of human settlements is not only mandated to provide decent house to our communities, but it is about transforming our localities, and building cohesive sustainable and caring communities, with closer access to work and social amenities.

Aletta Tlhomelang a 90 years old granny is also one of the title deeds recipients. Aletta hails from Schweizer-Reneke and has been staying in Letsopa since her mid-years. She lives with her great-grandchild and they survive on both the old-age and child support grants they receive monthly. “I am overjoyed by what the department has done for me, my dream of having a title deed came true today.” said Tlhomelang.

“As government we understand that our people have been subjected to marginalisation for a very long time, and as such, we will do everything in our power to ensure that they are given their right to property ownership in the form of title deeds and land redistribution,” said MEC Maloyi.

MEC Maloyi says the Thuntsha-Lerole Accelerated Service Delivery Programme is very important and should be sustained on a weekly basis to deal speedily with community and service delivery challenges faced by our municipalities.

Ends.

Issued by the Department of Human Settlements (North West)

Enquiries: Ms Dineo Lolokwane

SPOKESPERSON: Department of Human Settlements 072 542 8444 \ 018-388 3291

Or

MEC's spokesperson

Tumelo Maruping

072 901 7653

