

Media Alert

Tuesday 06 August 2013

First proper shelter at 109

At 109 years Ms Hlokwana Lina Mahlalela, will for the first time stay in a proper shelter. Thanks to the North West provincial Government for taking the initiative to build a house for the elderly woman who is still in her good memory about her past. Gogo Mahlalela was staying in a hazardous structures that could fall apart at anytime in Rankelenyane village North of Rustenburg.

The Department of Human Settlements in conjunction with its partners and Rustenburg Municipality responded to the media call that told Gogo Mahlalela's touching story. Gogo Mahlalela who is said to be the oldest in the village smiled when she heard the good news about the construction of her house. Although she struggles to speak properly because of old age, she still can recognise the local chief, whom she jokingly refers to as his husband.

All she could say when she met the MEC for Human Settlements Public Safety and Liaison Nono Maloyi was that she was thankful for the gift. Gogo Mahlalela has been staying with relatives since her four children died a long time ago. She has been surviving with her pension money that she receives every month.

MEC Maloyi promised Gogo Mahlalela that her house will be completed in a short period. " It is government's priority to take care of the elderly people in this country and this is what we are striving for as government, to take care of our elders," said MEC Maloyi.

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**ISSUED BY THE NORTH WEST DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SETTLEMENTS, PUBLIC
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