



## MEDIA & COMMUNICATION

### Media statement

**03 August 2016**

#### **MEC Gaolaolwe brings hope to destitute families in Mokasa village**

An 87-year old pensioner in Mokasa village near Taung in Bokone Bophirima had almost given up hope of owning decent house until recently when the MEC for Local Government and Human Settlements, Galaletsang Gaolaolwe visited him at his home after a plea from a local ward councillor.

Ben Saku stays in a dilapidated house, no proper windows shield him during freezing winter season, no proper furniture including cooking utensils. He still relies on wood fire to cook outside throughout all seasons. He stays with his son who is also not working but makes a living by selling peanuts which are also only seasonal. Upon hearing the news that he will get a house, Saku said he wished his wife was still alive to share the good news.

Mosipidi Semanu (46) and his partner also stay in mud house which had previously been destroyed by rain and its one side has been replaced by worn out sink sheets. Two of their three children passed away and they currently stay with their only surviving child who is also not working. Semanu family survives on old age grant.

MEC Gaolaolwe said officials in the department will work round the clock to ensure that the elderly get first preference.

#### **Issued by Department of Local Government and Human Settlements**

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