



human settlements

MPUMALANGA PROVINCE
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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EFFECTIVE REALISATION OF SOCIAL AMENITIES IN THULAMHASHE

The effective implementation of the Department's broadened mandate to deliver sustainable integrated human settlements also entails the provision of social amenities to communities. As such, the community of Thulamahashe in Bushbuckridge, Mpumalanga benefited from the handover of a modern state of the art Community Hall with a Child Care Centre that was handed over by MEC for Human Settlements, Mr Speed Mashilo yesterday (06 February 2024). The hall with the capacity to accommodate 750 people is expected to enhance the municipal revenue, arts and recreational development in the locality.

With regards to the Child Care Centre, it shall be used to promote Early Childhood Development (ECD) to the benefit of the local children and surroundings. Government has placed ECD at the centre of education with an appreciation that the development of young children has a direct effect on their overall development and on the adult they will become. The centre consists of three classrooms, ablution fitted with sanitary ware for kids and two restrooms. In addition, the centre is fitted with safety camera, changing rooms and the play area among others.

Speaking at the handover, MEC Mashilo emphasised the need for sound maintenance of both facilities. "We are doing this for the greater good of our communities and to see them thrive, thus maintaining these facilities in a good state shall yield everlasting benefits to the local community", charged Mashilo. Mashilo also called on young people and schools in the locality to take advantage of the opportunities presented by the facility though advancing recreational programmes that will take many of them off the streets and drugs temptations.

Speaking on behalf of the community the Local Executive Mayor, Cllr. Sylvia Nxumalo hailed the development and called on the community to protect the new facilities. "We want to appreciate the provincial government for bringing such a beautiful development in our rural municipality. I also want to urge the local community to jealousy protect this hall and the centre against any vandalism", urged the Mayor. Meanwhile, Department of Education's ECD Head, Ms Hazel Brukwe welcomed the delivery by the Department. "ECD plays an important role in preparing the ground for children before they enter the formal education", she stressed. Nearly R23 million was spent to build both facilities and 37 locals were employed during construction. The Department is currently delivering social amenities throughout the province.

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