



human settlements

MPUMALANGA PROVINCE
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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Press Release
09 May 2016

86-YEAR OLD GOGO FINDS JOY IN HER NEW HOME

A struggling 86-year old Ms Sarah Molefe was delighted to receive a new fully furnished house and groceries when the Mpumalanga Departments of Human Settlements, Social Development together with the Govan Mbeki local municipality handed over low cost houses to various needy families in eMbalenhle Township at the weekend. Molefe became part of the three beneficiaries including a child-headed family to move into their newly built houses by government.

Molefe, who described her new home as Canaan, could not hold back tears of joy as she received the keys to the house, "My days at the farm were appalling. I could not see the difference between me and a rat from that living condition. I am privileged to receive such a beautiful house," wept Molefe. Gogo Molefe and others had been living at a farm in Greylingstad near Balfour, before they were identified by the municipality and engaged the Department to intervene by building houses for them at the new settlement (Extension 10) of the township.

The households benefited from a 31 units housing project delivered by government in the municipality. MEC Violet Siwela explained that the Department had made an emphasis to prioritize the elderly, people living with disabilities and the most indigent. "We are grateful to be working hand in hand with our municipalities and the business community. These partnerships have brought a huge impact in our communities and from time to time we have seen impeccable change", she commended. The project which started late last year was delivered through the informal settlements upgrading programme.

Another beneficiary on the day was 46-year old Ms Minah Phindile Mthimunye who received a sponsored house (Not RDP) from the Black Lawyers Association (BLA) as part of their social responsibility. The BLA was mobilised to build the house as a token to appreciate the late community developer, Mr Khanji Mthimunye who had been playing a key role at Emzinoni to coordinate and direct traffic during funerals. His voluntary spirit was noticed by Executive Mayor, Cllr Lindi Masina who then mobilised sponsorship for his contribution in the community. "We are very grateful for your support, hence challenging other business people to do the same in improving our communities", she pleaded.

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