



human settlements

MPUMALANGA PROVINCE
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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UmNyango
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DEPARTMENT CONTINUES TO RESTORE DIGNITY TO HOUSEHOLDS

Three elderly beneficiaries from Delmas in Victor Khayi Local Municipality said they were very happy to receive title deeds to their government's low cost houses. The three were amongst the 802 beneficiaries who received title deeds.

The 802 were given their title deeds when Human Settlements MEC, Violet Siwela visited the area as part of closing the Mandela day month. One of the recipients, Johanna Mabena, 80 a pensioner and widowed said she and her family had been staying in fear that one day they will be removed from the house since they don't have ownership papers of the house.

"Getting a title deed means that my children will at least have a place to call their own long after I'm gone. We are very happy to finally receive these title deeds, I know for sure that the house I live in is mine. I would like to thank the department for giving me full ownership of my house," she said.

The issuing of title deeds is to facilitate the registration in to the names of the housing beneficiaries, ensure provision of security of tenure for beneficiaries, ensure their lives are continuously and economically improved through guarantees with the title deeds and satisfy the provision of legislation to provide them to beneficiaries. Ownership further allows beneficiaries to use their houses to leverage their economic circumstances by making additional income. Property ownership, however, compels the owners to pay municipal rates and services received.

MEC Siwela said, "***This is a legal document that ought to be valued by every beneficiary for it is important. Make sure that you keep it in a safe place.***" Siwela said this while handing over the title deeds to the beneficiaries adding that the mushrooming of informal settlements and scarcity of land can be attributed to the 1913 Natives Land Act. The Act meant that blacks were deprived of their rights to shelter. A total of 10 000 title deeds have been planned to be issued during the current financial year.

ISSUED BY THE COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTORATE
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