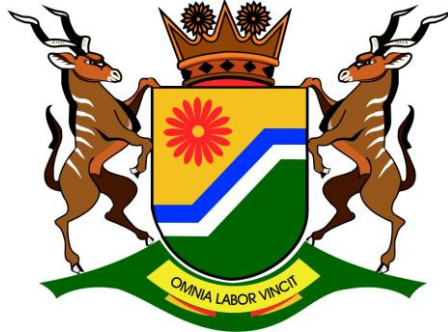


# MPUMALANGA PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT

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## *Department of Human Settlements*

Litiko  
Lekuhlaliswa Kwebantfu

Department van  
Menslike Nedersittings

Umnnyango  
Wokuhlaliswa Kwabantu

### **Press Release 07 December 2011**

#### **EARLY CHRISTMAS FOR TWO DESTITUTE ORPHANS AT MATSULU *Government delivers during the 16 Days of No Violence Campaign***

A family of two young orphaned girls have received an early Christmas following the building of a government low-cost house by the Department of Human Settlements at Matsulu Township near Nelspruit, Mpumalanga. The Department in collaboration with Correctional Services and the Mbombela Local Municipality joined forces during the construction of the house as part of the contribution in the **16 Days of Activism of No Violence Against Women and Children** Campaign. The beneficiaries are Marry-Jane Mahumane who has a 4 year old daughter and looks after her 19-year old sister. Their father deserted them, lost their mother in 2004 and have fell victim of abuse by community members.

The destitute children will now have a house of their own and will no longer feel unsafe and stay in the mud house which they occupied for several years. The children were identified by neighbours and later reported the matter to the Department of Human Settlements. Engagements ensued between the Department and the Department of Correctional Services and the municipality to intervene in the children's plight. A contractor was appointed to supply building material while the local municipality made land available and Correctional Service provided labour.

The combined efforts by government departments, municipality and the contractor assisted in building the house as part of the National Campaign. Chief Director in the Department of Human Settlements, Ms Bellinah Mojapelo expressed her gratitude at the volunteers who assisted in the building of the house and thanked the Department of Correctional Service for their efforts in building of the house which would otherwise have taken a long time to be built. ***"To all the men here today, I take it is your responsibility to protect them against victimisation and harassment and ensure that these children are assisted with social needs and provided for with food"***, urged Mojapelo.

The children thanked government for intervening in their dire situation. Different activities are being carried out country-wide during the Campaign of No Violence against Women and Children. The house is expected to be completed and handed over late this December 2011.

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**ISSUED BY THE COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTORATE  
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