



human settlements
MPUMALANGA PROVINCE
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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DEPUTY MINISTER HANDS OVER HOUSES TO THE NEEDY

After enduring devastating experience of living in a mud house, 16 year old Nonhlanhla Nsimbini living with disability who stays with her eight siblings in Louieville, City of Mbombela in Mpumalanga has finally received her decent house. Human Settlements Deputy Minister Zou Kota-Fredericks and South African Woman in Construction (SAWIC) Chairperson, Ms Nomhle Tshaba Nyumba handed over a fully furnished house to Nsimbini family this week much to the delight of neighbours and the community as part of the Construction Week Celebrations programme (25 – 29 March 2019).

An overjoyed Nonhlanhla Nsimbini said this is the best present since life was very difficult living in a mud house with her siblings in her condition. "I am so grateful and would like to thank everyone that has played a part in making our dream come true to have a morden house" said Nsimbini holding her walking sticks with a shy smile. I thought government has abandon us in this rural area but today we have a fully furnished house with running water. "I still can't believe that this is happening to me thanks to Human Settlements and SAWIC for making sure that we get a decent house, which can also accommodate my disability" concluded Nsimbini.

The department is delivering 150 housing units in the area as part of the 500 units given to SAWIC affiliated contractors in Ehlanzeni. Sharing the same sentiment 68-year old Timothy Gama from Shiyalongubo who was also delighted to receive his fully furnished house. "It's a relief that now I will sleep peacefully not worrying about the rain, thanks to our councillor and human settlements for hearing our cry" said Gama. SAWIC Chairperson, Ms Nomhle Tshaba-Nyumba thanked the department for trusting women and giving them the opportunity to prove themselves in the construction sector. "We do not just build houses for the sake of money but we build good quality homes with love for our people" she charged. She also stressed that the sector demands dedication and resilience.

Deputy Minister Ms Kota-Fredericks applauded the women contractor for building such quality houses. "I am very excited that we are handing over quality houses with fully furnished and the contractor has stacked to the norms and standard of the department" cited Ms Kota-Fredericks. She mentioned that items of the geo-tech it is a difficult area to bring building material since it's up in the mountain, we encourage the team approach from the community and councillors to monitor the project. "To ensure the possibility and intense participation of women in the build sector, the Department has taken a posture to allocate 30% of its overall budget to women, 10% to the youth and 2% to people with disabilities" concluded Zou Kota-Fredericks. The department's allocation of houses is biased towards senior citizens, people with disabilities, orphans and child headed households.

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