



Press Release
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NEEDS HOUSEHOLDS BENEFIT ON FREEDOM DAY

Three destitute families in the Thembisile Hani Local Municipality in Mpumalanga benefitted greatly when the Department of Human Settlements handed over to each one of them fully furnished RDP houses during the Freedom Day celebrations in Kwaggafontein. Among the three, a child-headed family of 19 members blissfully said that they could not have asked for any other better day than the day they would wake up to own a proper house of their own: The freedom of having a proper house is certainly inestimable to us. Since the death of our parents several years ago we could not afford anything and all became worse and as a result, we were subjected to live in a life threatening cracking house for years.

“We celebrated many freedom days in our lives but this is by far the most outstanding one and we shall treasure these moment for as long as we live. Receiving a house that is fully furnished means everything to us,” said the delighted Ms Dorah Mtshweni. She mentioned that she was humbled by the kind gesture she got from the Department and that this had come at a time they needed it the most since the number of her siblings had drastically risen and their house became too small that they could not all be accommodated in it. “We were too swamped up and living in that house was becoming too risky every day. All the walls have cracked we could even see the outside while we’re sleeping,” expressed Mtshweni with an anxious voice.

Equally excited was Gogo Sophie Sikhosana who could not hide her excitement after receiving her furnished house and a wheelchair: ***“This has been our lifelong wish to have a proper shelter and live together. Now we won’t mind the rain when it comes as we used to move from corner to corner trying to dodge the leaking roof. We are proud of the generous act of our government for stepping in to meet our needs where we are failing,”*** expressed Ms Emelinah Mathibela who’s gogo Sophie’s eldest daughter.

Earlier in the week, MEC Violet Siwela praised the contributions made by different stakeholders who donated some of the items given to the families. She said, ***“We appreciate your efforts of contributing to a good course in the province, however, we need to join hands in condemning the atrocious acts of xenophobia in the country. These attacks do not reflect us as a nation and the freedom that we have fought for, for the better living of all persons in the country”***. The 2013/14 project delivered a total of 32 units within the municipality.

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