



Press Release
15 May 2015

28 DESTITUTE HOUSEHOLDS BENEFIT FROM WOMEN PROJECT

Excitement enveloped three of 28-destitute families from several villages in Bushbuckridge Local Municipality as they received fully-furnished houses from the Mpumalanga Department of Human Settlements on Friday (15 May 2015). The handover of the houses came few hours after Human Settlements MEC, Ms Violet Siwela donated school uniform to 140 pupils at Pugishe Primary School.

Overwhelmed Ms Thembi Mashego (33) mentioned that she will now begin to experience a peaceful sleep with her six children since they lived in fear of their old dilapidated house, **“I am enthralled by the generous act of our provincial department. It has been a tough road to reach where we are today – and I would like to say many thanks to everyone that had played a role in recognizing me and taking me out of my plight.”** Mashego is among the 28 beneficiaries whose houses have been completed through the Women in Construction Programme. The programme has dedicated 30% of the Department’s budget towards delivery of 1956 housing units by women contractors in the province.

During the handing over, MEC Siwela said: **“In our strive to deliver better and laudable human settlements in the province the Department has successfully strengthened its association with the private sectors and our stakeholders to ensure that all our people’s needs are realized.”** She emphasized that communities must use their constituency office in order to bring to light some of the concealed issues that needed urgent attention and that by doing so, this will heighten the chances of bring even more closer the community and the provincial government for an amicable service delivery.

The sponsored uniform was a commitment by MEC Siwela to assist the ailing school with uniform, sanitation challenges and construction of houses for the community during the school’s re-opening programme early in January. Parents were urged to take their children to school and never allow any dropouts under their watch as schools like Pugishe has a serious enrolment challenge. School Principal, Ms Mabel Sedibe was equally delighted, **“we are very grateful with this gesture from government and I therefore urge all parents around here to rally around their children and support them for a better future”**

ISSUED BY THE COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTORATE
MPUMALANGA DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SETTLEMENTS
CONTACT: FREDDY NGOBE – 013 766 6014 / 082 859 4630/ flngobe@mpg.gov.za
