



human settlements

MPUMALANGA PROVINCE  
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## Press Release 08 July 2015

### **ANOTHER ILLEGAL RPD HOUSE OCCUPANTS EVICTED “Gogo moves into her house after 13 years of waiting”**

After having lived and waited for 13 years to be allocated a low cost house (RDP), a rightful beneficiary, Ms Betty Manzini (100) from Mashishing, Thaba Chweu Local Municipality received her house this week (July 07, 2015) which was in the hands of an illegal occupant since 2002. Gogo Manzini who could not even remember when she applied for her house was shocked to hear that her house was approved and allocated to her 13 years ago. To Manzini’s surprise, she has never seen or been to her house.

The discovery surfaced after Gogo’s eldest daughter, Ms Linah Shabangu registered a complaint with the Human Settlements authorities in the local municipality. “It all happened when I was advised to take my mom’s identity book to the municipality to check in their records if her house was not delivered,” indicated the distressed daughter.

After finding out that her mother was allocated a low cost house, Ms Shabangu then launched a search to find out who benefited from the house or any developments regarding the application. “It was very troubling and painful to realize that the house had people already occupying it and it was difficult to confront them because we had no proof in papers to present to them,” she explained.

After a brief investigation into the matter, the Department of Human Settlements together with the municipality visited the area and successfully evacuated the illegal occupants from the house before handing it over to the rightful beneficiary, Gogo Manzini. Department’s Ehlanzeni Regional Head, Mr Roy Ledwaba charges that the Department is working around the clock to ensure that such mishaps are tackled.

He said, “There are similar cases that we are currently working on especially in the areas of Graskop and Mashishing whereby people have invaded houses illegally. The Department will not tolerate any unlawful activity regarding the allocation and occupation of houses because these houses come with an approved list for needy beneficiaries to occupy them.” The Department recently successfully evicted another illegal occupant at Graskop recently and the rightful beneficiary has since moved into the house.

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