



human settlements

MPUMALANGA PROVINCE  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Building No 6 & 7, No 7 Government Boulevard, Riverside Park, Extension 2  
Mbombela, Mpumalanga, Private Bag X11328, Mbombela, 1200  
Tel: +27 (13) 766 6088, Fax: +27 (13) 766 8441

Litiko  
Lekuhlaliswa Kwebantfu

Departement van  
Menslike Nedersittings

UmNyango  
Wokuhlaliswa Kwabantu

**Press Release**  
**02 August 2023**

## **MASHILO CONDEMNS WOMEN ABUSE**

The recognition and honouring of women, particularly older people, should never cease and their empowerment agenda should live on. This as the Mpumalanga MEC for Human Settlements Mr. Speed Mashilo and Nkomazi Local Executive Mayor, Cllr. Phindile Magagula handed keys of a fully furnished house to gogo Emmah Mathenjwa (96) from Langeloop Village in Nkomazi. The handing over was part of the launch of Women's Month under the theme: "Accelerating Socio-Economic Opportunities for Women's Empowerment".

Receiving the house keys, Mathenjwa thanked the government for making her dream come true. "I am extremely grateful for this house; this day cannot be compared to any treasured moment in my life as my dignity is restored", said Mathenjwa. She added that she is proud that her grandchildren shall live to enjoy the new home when she is long gone and the house will keep her memory alive.

The Executive Mayor Cllr. Magagula, who appreciated the intervention, echoed her words of appreciation. "We are restoring her dignity and that of her family. Improving women's lives has multiple benefits for the families, communities and our society as a whole," said Magagula. She added that the Department should continue listening to the cries of the needy and not looking the other way. To this end, through its special programmes unit, the municipality has tailor-made programmes to assist people in need with the help of different stakeholders.

Speaking at the handover, MEC Mashilo took the opportunity to denounce women abuse, for women play a fundamental role in their families and society; as such, they deserve our utmost respect and support. "Violations against women and children are a tragic reflection on our societal ills and the lack of moral string that seems to have infected it", asserted Mashilo. He concluded by thanking the contractor for donating the furniture and going the extra mile installing butlers for gogo's safety. The Women's Month celebrations will continue throughout the province.

---

**ISSUED BY THE COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTORATE**  
**MPUMALANGA DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SETTLEMENTS**  
**CONTACT PERSON: FREDDY NGOBE – 013 766 6014 / 082 859 4630**

---