



human settlements

MPUMALANGA PROVINCE
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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**Press Release
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PROPERTY OWNERSHIP BESTOWED TO EMAKHAZENI HOUSING BENEFICIARIES

The local residents of Siyathuthuka, Emakhazeni Local Municipality in Mpumalanga must be proud of their government for delivering much needed services. These were the remarks by the Executive Mayor, Cllr Thomas Ngwenya during the handing over ceremony of title deeds to government subsidised houses beneficiaries at Entokozweni Community Hall at the weekend (Friday, 05 April 2019). The event saw nearly 200 beneficiaries from Siyathuthuka Ext 8 becoming legal owners of their low cost subsidised houses.

In his address, Ngwenya called upon the residents to be patient with government in her quest to realise the aspirations of the Freedom Charter in the execution of the constitutional obligation to give shelter and dignity to South Africans. "We have a long voyage ahead of us, as we strive for full realisation of the aspirations of the Freedom Charter and executing our constitutional mandate to restore property rights and ownership to you, thus patience becomes virtue," remarked the Mayor. He concluded by reaffirming government's determination and commitment to see everyone with the better life as envisioned in the National Development Plan Vision 2030.

One of the beneficiaries visited by the Executive Mayor and his entourage at her house was Nomshado Eva Zondi (71) who lives alone. Upon her receipt of the title deed, she expressed her delight into becoming a legal homeowner, saying that the title deed defines her being. "This is what defines a human being. It completes my being and existence. I am very happy and grateful that this day has finally arrived," she said. Her reaction was no different from another beneficiary, Notshi Josephine Mgwenya (67) who views her legal ownership as a generational asset. "I am now a legal owner of my house. It is my house now. This is a generational property," said a jubilant Notshi.

The department has been on an intensive title deeds issuing programme at Nkangala District having covered various municipalities such as Victor Khanye, eMalahleni and Steve Tshwete and Emakhazeni being the latest on the programme. The rolling out of the programme will now be continued to other parts of the province to ensure that full property ownership and dignity is bestowed to beneficiaries. Property ownership allows beneficiaries to use their homes to leverage their economic circumstances by making income. Houses can also serve as an economic asset as it encourages investment through renovations and funding for business purposes. The department has targeted to issue 15 000 title deeds for the 2019/20 financial year.

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