

PRESS RELEASE

SUBJECT: NELSON MANDELA DAY PROJECTS

The Department of Roads and Public Works believes that despite our usual service delivery to communities, it is crucial to demonstrate the real meaning of humanity through giving. The benefits of working together to serve others are multiple as it contributes to self-fulfillment, it strengthens working relations amongst officials and it keeps us in touch with reality and the needs of communities. We cannot turn a blind eye to poverty and unemployment especially during these economic challenging times. Nelson Mandela Day is an opportunity for every individual to assist the elderly and the disabled.

The departmental programme is as follows:

- Honourable MEC Mxolisa Sokatsha handed out 100 food parcels and served lunch for needy families in Hanover. In addition he visited households, painted two houses and handed over two washing basins and two beds.

Officials from the department engaged in the following:

- Donated sanitary towels to the Thutuzela Care Centre in Galeshewe
Mrs. Deyi Zandile the site coordinator of the Thuthuzela Care Centre had the following to say:
“Thank you very much, the donations which eth department handed over to us today is very important to our victims. We thank them for the sanitary towels. Our dream is that everyone must own the Centre and it must belong to all of us. It is not only poor people who get raped, you never know what the future hold and you may arrive at the centre with just a towel around your body. To be raped is not a choice, even 6 months old babies get raped.”
- Painted a house in 8 Stockroos Street who recently suffered serious damage after a fire broke out
Mr. Allie Nassiep stated that their house burned down on 6 June 2017. The mother and the grandchild suffered from some inhalation when it happened, but currently they are fine. He said “I am grateful for DRPW for assisting us with painting the house. We do not have money to pay for all the renovations as there is major work that needs to be done. Although some of the members of the Muslim Community assisted in terms of cleaning the rubble, there is still a lot of work that needs to be done. We will appreciate any donation of clothing, beds and bedding, as the winter is very cold”
- Officials handed over blankets, handed over blanket, served a warm cooked meal to the elders of the Tshwarangano Old Age Home in Delpportshoop just outside Kimberley.
“All of us at the Tshwarangano Old Age Centre appreciate the efforts of the Department of Roads and Public Works. The Premier visited us on the 8 June and she promised she will send a team to attend to our needs. We appreciate everybody’s hard work and the blankets and the food, we really appreciate it. Nelson Mandela Day is a unique and special day that is internationally recognised,” said Mr. Revelation Sebolao, Secretary of the Tshwarangano Old Age Centre

- Not many of us think about saving a life on Nelson Mandela Day. Some of the officials contributed by donating blood.
- Renovated a Shack in 137 Diamond Park, Greenpoint Due to poverty he is unable to buy the material needed to build a shanty. The current structure did not have sufficient ventilation and it is not stable against the wind.
The owner, Mr. Willem Martins, mentioned that he is very grateful for the renovations done to his shanty. Before the repairs the dogs even entered through the broken door. Now he is able to open the window to get some fresh air.

The department will be running its Sanitary Towel Campaign as an ongoing initiative and we aim to have similar projects next year.

Ms. Crystal Robertson

Spokesperson of the Department of Roads and Public Works