

MAYOR HAND OVER A HOUSE & SWITCH ON LIGHTS

BAKENBERG: The Mogalakwena Municipality Mayor, Her Worship Cllr Andrina Matsemela accompanied by councillors and officials recently handed over a house to an impoverished family in Kromkloof village, Bakenberg Cluster.

The unemployed Ms Rinah Manganyi had been living in a one roomed shack with her seven children and they depend on children's social grant to put food on the table. The family was identified by the late Ward 9 councillor, Ms Emily Libisi, Kgošana **xxxx** and a community Development Worker who then informed the Mayor about their plight.

The Mayor visited the family to assess the situation and later appointed a contractor to build a house for the family. During a Mayoral Imbizo held in Kromkloof village this year Mayor Matsemela made a commitment that the Manganyi family will have a roof over their heads come September.

Ms Rinah Manganyi thanked the Mayor for the house and further encouraged the Mayor to continue helping other needy families as well.

“I want to thank our Mayor, Cllr Matsemela, for responding so swiftly when she heard of our plight. When she visited us earlier this year and saw the difficult conditions in which we lived, she immediately made plans to help us. Her visit wasn't for publicity, she showed leadership. We will now breathe a sigh of relief as we will sleep comfortably in a proper structure. We are grateful for the house, groceries and blankets,” said Ms Manganyi.

“A few months ago we came to this village and witnessed circumstances of the majority of our people, which mostly arise from the legacy of apartheid, it would be a crime to deny them an opportunity to have secure and decent homes. Hence we decided that we should provide a shelter for this family,” added Mayor Matsemela.

“What the history of our country tells us and confirms is that the homelessness of our people is not a natural development. It is the result of decisions and actions that were taken by human beings deliberately to disadvantage others. By the same token, its defeat will be the result of decisions and actions we take deliberately and collectively to advantage everyone but particularly to remove the disadvantages from most,” said Matsemela.

“I know we have had challenging times and we still have challenging times ahead but we will soldier on and provide basic services to our people. I can imagine that there have been many days on which you wanted to give up. But I hope that today heals some of that pain. I also pray that this is the first of many happier days to come. May your new home bring you comfort, security and peace,” Mayor concluded.

A few days later, Mayor Matsemela who was accompanied by councillors and members of the community switched on over ten highmast lights in Jakkalskuil village, Ward 9. Mayor Matsemela stood by her promise she made during the Mayoral IDP Budget Roadshows that the highmast lights would be working in a short space of time.

Community members could not hide their excitement and expressed relief as they believe the lights will curb crime in the area.