

Department of Economic Development and Tourism  
**Mpumalanga Provincial Government**

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## **MEDIA STATEMENT**

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**Date: 29 July 2014**

**Attention: Editors, Executive Producers and Journalists**

### **KHOLWANE DONATES FURNISHED HOUSES TO TWO (2) DESTITUTE MBOMBELA FAMILIES**

**Mbombela** – Two (2) destitute families in Clau Clau outside Mbombela are the beneficiaries of fully furnished houses donated by the MEC for Finance, Economic Development and Tourism, Mr Sikhumbuzo Eric Kholwane on Monday, 28 July 2014, as part of celebrating the Mandela Month.

Speaking during the hand-over of the houses to the Lukhele and Mthethwa families, MEC Kholwane indicated that “the donation is done to pay homage to *Tat'u*Nelson Mandela who spent in entire life fighting for humanity. He has encouraged us to make an imprint in the lives of those less fortunate. Today we have now brought back the dignity of the Lukhele and Mthethwa families. The fully furnished houses we are handing over today are a sign that the ANC-led government continues to care about the plight of its people”.

The houses were constructed and furniture supplied through the partnership with the two (2) Public Entities of the Department of Economic Development and Tourism, namely, MEGA (Mpumalanga Economic Growth Agency) and MGB (Mpumalanga Gambling Board).

“I am very excited about what the caring ANC government represented by the Honourable Kholwane has done for me and my family. I do not have many words to express my excitement. All I can say is to wish the ANC government all of the best in their quest to better the lives of the people. This is exactly what Madiba had wished for”, exclaimed a jubilant unemployed Ms Trudy Lukhele who stays with three (3) children.

Ms Lukhele and her family were living in a dilapidated and unsafe wooden house with her three (3) children.

The second beneficiary of the furnished house, Ms Leah Mthethwa, who is also unemployed and staying with seven (7) grand-children, could also not hide her excitement when she was handed the keys by Ms Mpumalanga 2014, Natasha Do Santos, in the presence of MEC Kholwane and CEOs of MEGA and MGB, Advocate Boyce Mkhize and Mr Bheki Mlambo, respectively.

“The ANC government has made me a person today. They have restored my dignity and I am very excited about the donation of this house. They bought us beds, sofas, a fridge, a television, duvets and other house items. Thank you very much Honourable Kholwane for touching our lives. God bless you and the ANC government”, said Ms Mthethwa.



Meanwhile earlier in the day, MEC Kholwane and his team took some time to re-paint eleven (11) class rooms at the local Mhwayi Primary School as part of spending 67 minutes in recognition of the selfless contribution made by former President, the late Dr Nelson Mandela.

“Education is the best gift you can ever give to a child hence it must be done in a conducive environment. Our appreciation goes to the CEO of the MTPA, Mr Jacques Modipane, who has ensured that the paint is available for this exercise, and we believe that this will go a long way in contributing towards creating an environment conducive to learning. ***Together we move South Africa and Mpumalanga forward!***” added Mr Kholwane.

Speaking after the 11 class rooms at the 46-year-old school were re-painted, the school’s Principal, Ms Merriam Zulu who has been with the school since 1974 expressed her appreciation for the contribution made by the MEC and the Department.

“I believe that the learners will now perform better given the refreshed environment they will be learning under. Thank you very much Honourable MEC for listening to our plea. Today our school looks much better and refreshing”, said Ms Zulu.

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***Issued by the Communication Directorate  
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