



Address by the Sedibeng District Municipality Executive Mayor, Cllr. Mahole Simon Mofokeng on the occasion of the Hand-over of House to the Orphans in Lakeside, in Midvaal, Sedibeng on the 07th February 2011, in Sedibeng

Programme Director

MEC for Local Government and Housing, Mr Humphrey Mmemezi

Acting Executive Mayor of Midvaal Local Municipality: Cllr. Patricia Hutcheson;

Executive Mayor of Emfuleni Local Municipality: Cllr. SA Mshudulu;

Members of Mayoral Committees present;

Ward Councillor, Cllr Edna Madubedube

Community of Lakeside

Our Distinguished Guests

Members of the Press Corps

Setjhaba Sa Sedibeng

I take this opportunity to bring you greetings from the Sedibeng District Municipality. The adage goes, "It takes a couple to bring a child in this world, but it takes the whole village to raise a child". It is for that reason that we are here today. Ka Sesotho re ye rere: "Motse ho tjha e mabapi"

This matter comes into sharp focus as we look at the purpose of today's event. Last year on the 18th of July last year, we woke up to the sad news of a shack which had burned down in Sicelo Shiceka in Meyerton. In that fire, three adults, and two children lost their lives.

By the time the Emergency Services arrived, the entire family was declared dead save for the two children.

I committed that Sedibeng District will assist with housing to the two orphans who lost both parents when that shack burned down. Subsequently, Gauteng Department of Local Government and Housing, made house this house here in 1816 Lakeside Estates available for those kids. I know that the community of Lakeside will raise them as their own. For indeed we are that village which is responsible for raising its children

Progress

This is a four roomed house, consisting of an open plan kitchen and lounge, 2 bedrooms and a bathroom with tub, basin and toilet. Procurement processes are underway for ceramic tiles on the bathroom walls up to ceiling and the floor as well as painting the interior walls.

The curtains and rails for windows in the lounge kitchen, toilet and one bedroom are needed, which forms part of the specification of the work to be done to this house.

Furniture as well as utensils for use to cook are also needed. We hope that the community and some of our partners will come to the party to show that we do indeed care and the children belong here in Sedibeng. Fencing around the house together with a gate will be erected and the yard will be paved as well.

It is after we engaged with the aunts and the extended family that I made a commitment to ensure that we will assist the surviving children. It is after we engaged with the Provincial Department Local Government of Housing. It is through the caring and vigilance of the Department that we are here today.

The department then moved the mountain to ensure that the children are now proud and happy recipients of this beautiful house. The purpose of our event today, is to see to it that the house is handed over to the children who have lost so much.

With all the effort which went into what we are witnessing today, I wish take this opportunity and time to acknowledge and applaud the department which made it all possible.

I have the pleasure and joy to introduce to you, the community of Sedibeng, the MEC for Local Government and Housing in Gauteng, Mr Humphrey Mmemezi, who is both our esteemed guest today. Give him a big warm Sedibeng applause and welcome him into our midst.

I Thank You