

The Zanemvula housing project launched in 2006. It is an informal settlement upgrading and human settlement project in Nelson Mandela Bay. The project is located in the Chatty, Joe Slovo West, Soweto-on-Sea and Veeplaas areas and involves the relocation of residents from the floodplains of the Chatty River, backyard dwellings and other stressed areas around Nelson Mandela Bay to decent human settlements. The project will deliver 13 500 houses.

Minister Sisulu at Wells Estate

All enjoyed a day of celebration and victory for human dignity as Minister Lindiwe Sisulu visited Port Elizabeth to hand over houses

A dull day of bad weather and rain did not dampen the spirits of over 8000 people gathered at the Wells Estate Show Grounds on 29 July 2016. The Minister of Human Settlements, Lindiwe Sisulu, together with the Department of Human Settlements and the HDA, visited Wells Estate to hand over title deeds to newly completed homes, and to listen to the complaints and troubles of the people.

In her speech she was particularly concerned about the issues concerning youth unemployment and youth empowerment. She urged parents to encourage their children to join the Human Settlements Youth Brigade as it empowers through mentoring, training, and skills development.

The Minister thereafter handed over title deeds to the residents of Wells Estate and gave tool kits to the youth brigade. The Minister touched on the importance of owning a house and how we need to take pride in the maintenance thereof. (See the DIY section for ideas on reusing old tyres.)



Human Settlements Minister, Lindiwe Sisulu, addressing the audience at Wells Estate

HDA hands over temporary structures to Walmer Q residents

At the beginning of August, the HDA visited Walmer Q and three residents were identified by Minister Sisulu as being in desperate need of housing.

One of the residents, 88 year old Makhulu Ginnet Khobongwane, has been living in a leaking shack for more than 30 years. She was relocated to a temporary structure while she awaits her house. She said she had been living in these conditions for a long time, and never thought getting her own house could happen to her. "I am grateful to this government and may God bless all of us", she said.

Makhulu is very happy that she will rest peacefully knowing that her son will have something to hold on to. Makhulu lives with her son and his wife who sell metal and recycling goods from the dump.

"Now I am feeling better knowing that I will have my own house one day," said Makhulu.



Mrs Khobongwane, her son and daughter-in-law

Minister visits fixed Walmer sewer pump station and Jantjies family



Mrs Jantjies dancing with the Minister

On 26 July the Minister of Human Settlements, Lindiwe Sisulu, visited Walmer residents to check on the sewer pump problem which she had noted last year.

Upon her arrival, her first stop was the sewer pump station and she was happy that the station had been fixed. She then visited the first BNG housing recipient in Walmer Q, 87 year old Tomy Jantjies and his 83 year old wife Tyhilele Maria Jantjies who were excited to see the Minister. The old couple boasted about how well they have been taking care of their house since the Minister handed it over to them the previous year.

The Minister also identified more people who were in desperate need of houses and she promised them temporary structures. They were also provided with furniture, such as beds etc. for their temporary houses. This was done with the help of HDA and the Department of Human Settlements.

Clean-up campaign at Joe Slovo with Deputy Mayor

Early on July 28, many residents of Uitenhage and surrounding townships gathered at the Methodist Church opposite the suburb of Joe Slovo. The reason for such an event was to a clean-up campaign to remove rubbish and promote a clean environment in our communities. The two day campaign was a result of the dangerous amount of garbage and plastics which block drains and cause sewerage problems in the area.

The campaign was spearheaded by the Department of Human Settlement and saw over 2000 people participate. Also, as part of Mandela Month celebrations, the campaign highlighted the importance of cleaning our rivers and dams.

The then Deputy Mayor of Nelson Mandela Bay, Bicks Ndoni highlighted the need for more of these campaigns. "It is our own responsibility to clean. Let us not allow our environment to be this messy. Please ask your neighbours to be more responsible. It starts with us", he said. He further emphasised that this campaign is just a start of many to come. The Deputy's words were echoed by Provincial member of Parliament, Xolile Nqatha who said, "We have to clean our environment and look after it so that it can look after us."

The audiences were entertained by music and dancing as the volunteers promised to wake each other for the next day of the cleaning campaign.



Volunteers carrying bags full of rubbish collected during the clean-up campaign

Minister Sisulu provides blankets to the elderly



Inkonde yakwaXhamela, ooTyopho oonoKwindla esithiwa wambu ngebhayi yintombi yakwaXhamela uMphathiswa uLindiwe Sisulu

Minister of Human Settlements, Honourable Lindiwe Sisulu together with HDA provided over 100 blankets to the Missionvale residents on 1 August, fulfilling a promise which she had made during her last visit. During her last visit the Minister handed over title deeds to Missionvale residents, and promised to provide blankets for the elderly.

The young and old braced the cold weather to welcome the Minister in their community. The occasion kicked off with a clean-up campaign after which the Minister gave away the blankets. "It is important to take care of one another. We come from a very dark history of oppression. It is our duty as government to fight poverty," she said. There was ululating and joy as the residents received the warm blankets.

"We came here in numbers because we want to thank the Minister for her contribution to our community. Most of us have houses now," said local resident Nokuphumla Jolingingozi.

Chatty women - united against crime

The residents of Chatty are sick and tired of crime. A homely and safe atmosphere is very important for this community. Sonnia James, a community leader and founder of the local Community Police Forum, is adamant that prevention is better than cure. "We live in a community here - our children need to play free. So it is important for us to be very vigilant. We want to make sure our community is safe, we have our eyes and ears on the ground all the time" James says.

The community of Chatty have adopted a simple, yet very effective deterrent to crime fighting. "We are using a whistle to fight any form of crime. We encourage beneficiaries, especially women, to have a whistle in their homes so that if at any moment when someone is in danger they can call for help."

The use of the whistle is so effective that the community knows it as the sound of distress. "Once, we were able to deter gangsters and they now know never to come here," says James. The whistle brings the community together in fighting crime. James calls upon the business community to help sponsor more whistles, "We will be grateful if anyone can help us with whistles", says James.



Chatty residents united against crime for a safe environment for children.



8 tips to make you feel safe at home

- Get to know your neighbours.
- Always lock the door when you leave home, at night or when you feel unsafe.
- Turn on exterior lights and close the curtains at night.
- Don't leave a spare key outside.
- Take a self-defense class.
- Join Community Police Forum.
- Always report crime to the Police (see below for contact details).
- Use a dog for security.



Do-It-Yourself: Recycling rubber tyres

Each and every year thousands of rubber tyres are thrown away. Many are scattered everywhere, even in our backyard making our homes look untidy and harming the environment. Here are some interesting ways to turn those old tyres into features that will beautify our homes, and maybe even make you some money!



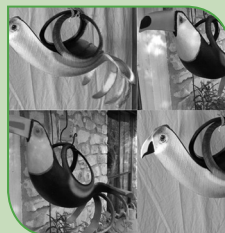
Sofas and Furniture



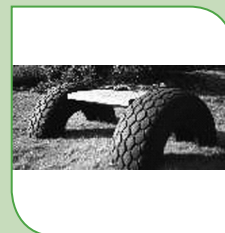
Pot Planters



Swing for Kids



Decorations



Garden benches

Many of these materials to make these interesting items could probably be found in our back yards and could easily be the start of a new business. It just takes a bit of creativity and common sense. Have you got what it takes?

Useful contact numbers

The Housing Development Agency: 041 393 2600

Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality:

Customer Care (All hours): 041 506 5555

Service Delivery Centre (All hours for water, sanitation and all other services): 0800 205 050

Human Settlements Eastern Cape: 043 711 9500

Emergencies: (From cell phone): 112

Childline: 08000 55 555

Eskom Customer Care: 0860 037 566

Land Invasion:

Macdonald: 082 410 5066

Hlela: 079 490 0531

Fire: 041 585 2311 / 041 508 5505

Water leaks, Power outages etc.: 0800 205 050

General Emergencies: 041 506 2735

Clinics

Chatty Clinic in Dullisear Street: 041 506 3070

Veeplaas Clinic in Kani Street: 041 506 1183

Zwide Clinic in Johnson Street: 041 506 7410

Soweto-on-Sea Clinic in Mbanga Street:

041 506 1191

Booysens Park Clinic 2 in Booysens Park Drive:

041 483 1590

Police Stations

Bethelsdorp Police Station:

041 404 3000/4/5

071 475 1938

Kwazakele Police Station:

041 408 7720

Zwide Police Station:

041 459 0213

KwaDwezi Police Station:

041 405 4712



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