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Community Newsletter • November 2016

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

# HDA scoops award for Walmer Gqebera 189 in Durban

The housing project at Walmer Gqebera 189 received high praise and an award at the recently held Govan Mbeki Awards in Durban.

The Govan Mbeki Awards, named after the political stalwart Govan Mbeki, is an initiative by the Department of Human Settlements to celebrate excellence in housing programmes. The purpose of the awards is to help foster a culture of service delivery excellence to restore the dignity of the people of South Africa.

Walmer Gqebera 189 won the award for Best Integrated Residential project at the provincial Govan Mbeki Awards. The project, which began in 2014 by purchasing land to expand Walmer Township, proved to be viable project in helping people work close to home. The beautiful homes and high quality workmanship of the houses also



contributed to the project winning the award. The project is still in its first phase and is set to expand towards the airport area.

This award has reinforced and highlighted the great work HDA is doing in making sure the people of the Metro get decent housing.

# Playground earmarked for Walmer Q

The completed 192 houses in Walmer Q project has brought much joy and happiness to many families . Who can forget the tears of Mama uJantjies who was handed her house by the Minister of Human Settlements, Honourable Lindiwe Sisulu. The Housing Development Agency and its partner the Nelson Mandela Metropolitan Municipality are going a step further to ensure that the surrounding area is conducive to a lifestyle that seeks to uplift its communities.

Site 8218 which is a designated public space in Walmer has been earmarked for a playground for children. The contractor has already levelled the top soil and procurement processes are being followed for equipment.



"It is a very important project because a playground is part of housing development," says Irvan Steneveldt, HDA Project Manager at Walmer O.

Trees and flowers will be planted to complete the park, so families can enjoy a day out with their loved ones.

# Sean Mentoor talks about planting vegetables and trees in his yard



43 year old Sean Mentoor has a garden full of healthy vegetables which he says are important not just to him but to his wife too. He says, "My wife has a heart problem so my garden has to have fresh vegetables so as to help with her health and that of our family".

Sean lives in Chatty with his wife and three daughters, two in Grade 11 and one in Grade 4. He says that eating fresh veggies and fruit from your own garden is how he was brought up by his father. Eating healthy fresh fruit and vegetables is important for one's health and he wants to continue his father's legacy

"Homegrown veggies have not gone through the harmful processes of store bought produce. Like radiation: it might extend the shelf life of the fruit, but it also removes a lot of the nutritents." You can find peach and guava trees in his garden, as well as vegetables like green pepper, beetroot and sunflowers.

Mentoor says it is easy to have a great looking garden because the bush is close by and that is where he gets most of his plants. "I get most of these beautiful plants from the dirt people throw away and I show them the beauty they call waste and that with the right skills it can be pretty. My veggies, though, are bought and grown from seed," laughs Mentoor.

Mentoor shares his gardening tips with his neighbour Bernard Higgins who plants small trees and grass to make his yard look good. Mentoor said, "I told Bernard that our houses are on the main road so our gardens need to look good so the people who drive in our community can get inspired by these beautiful gardens and then go and plant their own."

For Sean, the best part of having his own home is that he gets to make it look the way he wants and provide for his family. He says, "I want to thank HDA and the Department of Human Settlements for giving me and my family dignity, and my manhood back. My pride is evident with my garden".

Thank you Mr Mentoor, you are indeed an inspiration.

## **Retification working well**

Over a thousand families have had their houses built anew at Soweto-on Sea. The four-room structures boast a strong exterior and interior cement plastering with painting, front verandas, ceilings, roofing, and a bathroom with fitted pipes.

Thembeka Kapa (45) and her family of six expressed their happiness at receiving a more secured and well-built house they could safely call a home.

"These houses are much different from the previous houses we had. The doors and windows were falling off and water used to get through the floor, roof, doors and windows and into the house. Those houses had no ceilings and the zinc roofing was making noise whenever it got windy. I am now satisfied and happy with these houses, there's a big difference," says Thembeka.

The youngest member of the Kapa family is two year old daughter Lathitha is mentally disabled. She is surrounded by a warm and loving family, along with her physio-therapist, who visits her regularly at home. Thembeka, her partner Bongani, their older children Bonga, Abongile and Lihlelethu are grateful that Lathitha is taken special care of under a more secured roof.

"At least now I can safely say that we stay at a home that we all can be proud of," declares Thembeka. I will never sell my home. It belongs to our family.

Olwethu Ngesi is a 25 year old young man who lives alone in Sowetho-on-Sea, ward 25 and is unemployed. The house he has



makes him happy, because he is the new owner of the house, after his mother passed away. He plans to rent some of the rooms out in order to generate income for himself.

"Even though I have no parents and I do not work, knowing that I have a house that belongs to me gives me hope. I made a promise to my late mother that I would never sell the house no matter what and I am planning on keeping that promise," said Ngesi.

The young man was full of joy and couldn't stop talking about what the HDA and Department of Human Settlements has done for him.

## **Vox Pox**

The 16 Days of Activism For No Violence Against Women and Children campaign of 2016 marks its 25th anniversary since its inception. The main purpose of this campaign is to fight any form of discrimination: homophobia, xenophobia, racism, but specifically domestic violence and abuse. The residents of Soweto-on-Sea believe in these values as well. We spoke to the residents to understand how do they feel about this campaign and what insights they can contribute.

### Xolelwa Mene (28) Soweto-on-Sea



Ndiyavuya kakhulu mna kuba noko ndiziva ndikhuselekile kwezintsuku ingakumbi apha kwi-16 Days of Activism kuba nabanqevu bayoyika ukuphula umthetho.

# Mzwabantu Eric Zamani (47) Soweto-on-Sea



Human abuse is tragic. I wish this campaign could be through out the year. To fight against this problem we need to ban alcohol as it is always the source of the problem

### Thandeka Mooi (70) Soweto-on-Sea



Ndiyazithanda ezi zinto kuba zifundisa abantwana ukuba baphathane kakuhle ingakumbi abantu abasini sohlukeneyo , umazi umama uphathwa njani.

## **Project Updates:**

#### Soweto-on-Sea Rectification

2039 of 2500 houses have been rectified.

#### Soweto-on-Sea/Veeplaas 500 Unbuilt Sites

2 Established and 4 SMME contractors appointed

## **Chatty 491 Military Veterans**

- CBO appointed
- Construction commenced
- Houses are 50m2 in size

#### Chatty 1060

7 Established and 16 SMME contractors appointed

#### Joe Slovo West 2000

12 Established and 27 SMME contractors appointed

#### Sisulu Hlalani 18

1 SMME contractor appointed

#### Walmer Q 189

1 Established and 4 SMME contractors appointed

#### **Chatty MPCC**

Contract terminated and HDA now procuring new contractor to complete the works

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PROJECT	FOUNDATION	WALLPLATE	ROOF	FINISHES	COMPLETED
Soweto-on-			4		10
Sea 500					
Unfinished	209	209	209	198	184
sites	V - 2400 500	- 100 NOT	A 5039/000	155 667 558	
Chatty 491	52	38	38	209	1
Chatty 1060	988	977	965	901	649
Joe Slovo	164 ;	- 10			
West 2000	104 )	1278	1278	786	523
Sisulu Hlalani	N/A	18	18	18	18
Walmer Q 189	192	192	192	192	192
TOTAL	1920	1490	1348	1020	648

## 10 Recommendations for Preventing Cancer

Cancer used to be known as the disease of the rich. Not anymore. One in six South African men and one in seven South African women will get cancer during their lives. It knows no boundaries of class, race and gender, sex or age. It can strike anyone at any time.

- Eat Well
- Exercise
- · Stop smoking
- · Reduce Alcohol intake
- · Maintain a healthy weight
- · Avoid processed foods and meats
- · Eat less salt
- Breast Feed your baby
- · Dont use supplements
- · Visit your clinic regularly for screening



#### **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





