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Get to know your Support Services Manager – Malusi Zwane



Malusi Zwane has been the Support Services Manager at the HDA's Port Elizabeth office since December 2013.

Malusi's main duties include community facilitation and development, engaging with beneficiaries, relocations and consumer education.

"A typical day for me starts at 08h00. I meet with my team and we set goals for ourselves that relate to the work we do with beneficiaries who are our main focus."

"We attend to their phone calls and assist beneficiaries who visit our office. My team also attends several meetings with stakeholders - such as the provincial Department of Human Settlements and the Metro – who we partner with to build sustainable human settlements."

Malusi adds that the most enjoyable part of his job is seeing the change that is made to the life of a beneficiary who moves into their own home that is provided free by Government with the help of the HDA.

Saving energy in the home

Different appliances that we use around the house everyday consume different amounts of electricity.

There are a number of ways that electricity can be saved around the house:

- Switch off lights in rooms that are not being used.
- On a sunny day, open the curtains to let the sunlight in. Close them earlier to trap the warmth in your home.
- Boil water in an electric kettle, not on

the stove or in the microwave. Only boil as much water as you need.

- When preparing beans, lentils or samp, soak them in cold water overnight to reduce the cooking time.
- When your cell phone battery is fully-charged, switch off the plug and remove the charger from the wall socket.
- Cook in a pot that's base is the same size as the stove plate.



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Happy in his re-allocated house!



Luxolo Mzamo has lived happily in his re-allocated house for the past year.

43-year-old Luxolo Mzamo, his girlfriend and younger brother have lived in Chatty 1380 for about a year now. He used to live in Kwa-Noxolo and first applied for a house in 1998.

"I'd lived there for around 25 years. In 2010 I heard I was an approved beneficiary. Two years later I was informed that a house in Chatty was available for me."

This was great news for Luxolo; but he says living there was difficult in the beginning. The home he was given was a re-allocation - it was originally meant for someone else whose shack had already been moved to the serviced site. However, by the time the house was completed they were not yet approved on the National Housing Subsidy System.

Luxolo says: "The re-allocation process was easy for me to follow but the community didn't understand. The lady who was living here in her shack was upset because she believed the house was for her."

Re-allocation happens if a house has been built and is ready to be handed over but the applicant is not yet an approved beneficiary or the beneficiary cannot be found by the HDA or the contractor. If this is the case, the HDA

looks for another approved beneficiary to occupy the house. They sign a new Sales Agreement that goes to the Metro and is then sent to the provincial Department of Human Settlements so that they can update its database.

Just because an original beneficiary cannot be traced does not mean that they will be withdrawn from the database immediately. There is a process that must be followed for de-registration so that the HDA is able to register a new beneficiary.

Luxolo says eventually the woman – who his house was initially meant for - became an approved beneficiary and received a home of her own.

"My advice to any applicants or approved beneficiaries is to stay in touch with the HDA so that when your house is ready they can find you quickly and you won't lose your home."

The HDA also encourages anyone who has been relocated to a serviced site not to move from it. If however they do not have any other option – such as if they are forced to relocate for work purposes – they must notify the HDA and give them their most up-to-date contact details and let them know where they are moving to.

For more information about re-allocations or to update your details, contact the HDA office at 041 393 2600.



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
Public Transport Information: 0800 656 463
Land Invasion:
Macdonald 082 410 5066
Hlela 079 490 0531
Fire: 041 585 2311
Water leaks, Power outages etc. 0800 205 050
General Emergencies: 041 506 2735

Clinics

Chatty Clinic in Dullisear Street: 041 481 2111
Veeplaas Clinic in Kani Street: 041 464 1529
Zwide Clinic in Johnson Street: 041 464 1732
Soweto-on-Sea Clinic in Mbanga Street: 041 464 6021
Booyens Park Clinic in Auburn Road: 041 506 2700
Booyens Park Clinic 2 in Booyens Park Drive: 041 483 1590

Police Stations

Booyens Park Police Station: 041 404 3000
071 475 1938
Kwazakele Police Station: 041 408 7743
Zwide Police Station: 041 405 4712



A councillor and her dream

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Ward 36 councillor Nomonde Mhlobiso wants to be an asset to her community.

Nomonde Julia Mhlobiso (59) has been the local councillor for Ward 36 for the past two years.

Why did you decide to become a councillor?

"When I finished my junior certificate (standard eight) I got a job as a domestic worker in Walmer. My employer encouraged me to continue studying. I've worked at the Livingstone Hospital and while working at the Dora Nginza Hospital, in

1981, I became involved with the National Education Health and Allied Workers' Union (NEHAWU).

"I continued to study through the Lilitha College of Nursing and qualified as a professional nurse in 2001. I served as NEHAWU's acting regional secretary for three years. I was also very involved with COSATU, the SACP, the local ANC and the ANC Women's League.

"I was approached by members of my community who suggested that I become a councillor because of how active I already was.

"I wanted to be an asset to KwaDwesi."

What do you enjoy most about your job?

"I enjoy interacting with the people and helping them to solve their problems. I also find joy in helping local residents get jobs on projects that are underway in KwaDwesi."

What are some of the challenges you face?

"I think the biggest challenge I face, because it affects my community, is the poor condition of the houses in KwaDwesi. There are so many that need to be rectified.

"Ward 36 is made up of three "urban" areas and two where there are RDP houses and an informal settlement. The RDP houses in KwaDwesi are falling apart and need to be fixed. In Westville, the informal settlement, there are no houses. Both of these areas also need more infrastructure like roads and toilets.

"Unemployment is also a big problem. These communities need debt relief."

What is your hope for your ward?

"My wish for residents in KwaDwesi Extension is that their houses will be rectified and that there can be development at Westville."

Stay warm without spending more this winter

Winter is here. The weather has cooled down and now there are fewer hours of daylight and more of darkness.

Here are some practical tips to keep you, your household and your home warm this winter:

- Wear a beanie in the house. It may sound silly but will keep your body from losing heat.
- Keep moving to stay warm. Clean out your cupboards or tidy the house to stay active.
- Fill a sock halfway with rice, dried corn or dried beans, knot it and heat it in the microwave for a minute to keep your hands, feet or bed warm.
- Sleep between two blankets or a blanket and duvet instead of underneath both.
- Put down a carpet to stop heat from escaping through the floor. It also makes the surface warmer to walk on.
- Use a rolled up towel or mat to prevent drafts coming in under doors.



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Mandela Day 2014

Mandela Day was started to inspire people to take action to help change the world for the better, and build a global movement for good. "Take Action; Inspire Change; Make Every Day a Mandela Day." The initiative also calls on people to spend 67 minutes on 18 July, the birthday of our late former president Nelson Mandela, doing something to help someone else.

Mandeladay.com suggests 67 ways to change the world. Here are some of them:

Think of others

- Make a new friend. Get to know someone from a different cultural background.
- Read to someone who can't. Visit a local home for the blind and open up a new world for someone else.

Help out for good health

- Get tested for HIV and encourage your partner to do so too.

Become an educator

- Donate your old textbooks, or any other good books, to a school library.

Help those living in poverty

- Volunteer at your local soup kitchen.

Care for the youth

- Organise a friendly game of soccer.
- Mentor someone. Make time to listen to what the kids have to say and give them good advice.

Treasure the elderly

- Learn the story of someone older than you. Too often people forget that the elderly have a wealth of experience and wisdom and, more often than not, an interesting story to tell.

Look after your environment

- Collect old newspapers from a school/community centre/hospital and take them to a recycling centre.

(www.mandeladay.com)

Project Updates:

Soweto on Sea Rectification

- Five rectifications were completed in May 2014.
- To-date, 2012 have been fixed.
- In total, 2500 houses must be rectified.

Chatty 1380

- 1128 houses have been completed in this project so far for which the NHBRC has issued Final Unit Reports.
- Thus far, the keys to 1056 houses have been received by approved beneficiaries who have signed Client Handovers.
- To-date 1345 foundations, 1345 wallplates and 1345 roofs have been completed.
- A total of 1380 houses are due to be built.

Joe Slovo West 4040 (Services)

- 4040 sites are due to be serviced.
- The contract is 99% complete with 4026 sites serviced.

Chatty 1060 / Chatty 491 / JSW 4000 (Top Structures) and 500 unbuilt sites at Soweto on Sea/Veeplaas

- All four projects are still in the procurement stage.
- A public tender advert was placed in June for the appointment of Principal Agents / Structural Engineers. The services required include the design, contract administration and close-out processes for the construction of around 6051 houses.
- Relocations at Chatty 1060, Chatty 491 and Joe Slovo West 4000 are due to begin soon.

Waste Management By-Law: Littering and Dumping

Part 6 of the Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality's Waste Management By-Law looks at Littering and Dumping.

Littering: (Section 23)

The by-law says no-one can leave waste on land owned by the municipality, or in any public space, unless it's placed in a bin that the Metro has provided. Items in these bins should not be disturbed or removed.

Dumping: (Section 24)

No dumping is allowed on any public or private road or space without the proper permission. If dumping happens, the municipality can write to whoever is responsible to inform them that they must remove the waste within a particular period. It is a crime to break either of these rules.

