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**OUTCOME 8: SUSTAINABLE HUMAN SETTLEMENTS AND AN IMPROVED QUALITY OF HOUSEHOLD LIFE.**

**Handover of houses to families**

*By Jethro Grootboom: GCIS, Western Cape*



**Standard Bank representative Gerrit du Toit and the Executive Mayor of the Greater Oudtshoorn Councillor Colan Sylvester handing over a house.**



**Stakeholders and house beneficiaries.**

An 89-year-old pensioner, Elizabeth Coerecius, who has never owned a house in her entire life was overjoyed when she received her new home in Bongoletu township, Oudtshoorn on 5 July 2019. Coerecius is one of the two beneficiaries of Standard Bank's Corporate Social Investment initiative to build two houses in an attempt to make a difference to the Greater Oudtshoorn Local Municipality. Another beneficiary was Koos Blom, a 51-year-old man who often uses a wheelchair to move around, due to his disability. Both beneficiaries were in the Western Cape Housing Database.

Before moving into their new houses, both families were backyard dwellers and living in dire conditions in shacks. The handover of the two houses took place in the internationally celebrated Mandela Month, which is marked by a string of humanitarian work by the whole world in commemoration of Mandela Day.

The Greater Oudtshoorn Local Municipality identified the two beneficiaries according to the prescription by Standard Bank for a pensioner and a person living with disabilities. The houses consist of two bedrooms, a bathroom, a lounge and kitchen, the house boasts tile-flooring throughout, built-in kitchen cupboards, ceiling and roof tiles, aluminium windows, and one house is adapted for wheelchair friendliness with access ramp.



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The Executive Mayor of the Greater Oudtshoorn, Councillor Colan Sylvester said Standard Bank's gesture shows the bank's character in terms of Ubuntu. He also applauded the bank for recognising the plight and the needs of the poor and the homeless. The Executive Mayor pleaded with the two families to look after their new homes well, and assured the bank of the solid partnership it has built with the municipality. Standard Bank thanked the municipality for the opportunity, and they also thanked the contractor, Tusk Support Services, for a job well done.

"We trust the two families will have good times and memories in their new homes," said Gerrit du Toit, Standard Bank Account Executive. The two neighbours were warmly welcomed by their neighbour, Sindiswa Matika.



**Sindiswa Matika said:**

"I am happy that this space next to my house, which was for a very long time open and at times filled with dirt, has now been occupied by this beautiful house. I am looking forward to spend good neighbourly times with my new neighbours. We will surely look after each other as the Bible says: 'Love your neighbour, as you love yourself'."



**Executive Mayor Colan Sylvester said:**

"Your [Standard Bank] action demonstrates that good faith still works, it will definitely restore the faith of the people at large to businesses such as yours in Oudtshoorn; that there is still hope for humankind and that other people still care about the plight of others."



**Elizabeth Coerecius said:**

"I am extremely happy for this gift and would like to thank the municipality and Standard Bank for bringing light into my life."



**Pogisho Nyamane said:**

"I was inspired when I read an article in the *Vuk'uzenzele* about the 25 Years of Freedom. I established a wall banner and reading corner at Kanana Library."



**Kaelo said:**

"I love the library because it has many books that entertain and provide me with lot of information."



**Lethabo said:**

"Today I learnt about multiplication and division at the library."

**OUTCOME 12: AN EFFICIENT, EFFECTIVE AND DEVELOPMENT ORIENTED PUBLIC SERVICE AND AN EMPOWERED, FAIR AND INCLUSIVE CITIZENSHIP.**

**Reading initiative in full swing in Matlosana**

*By Xolani Mndaweni: GCIS, North West*



**Children reading and writing at Kanana Library.**



**The young people of Kanana receiving computer and maths lessons at Kanana Library.**

Since the pronouncement by President Cyril Ramaphosa encouraging elders to read for children and for children to read, the culture of reading and writing has been positively embraced in the Matlosana Municipality. On 27 June 2019, the reading and writing revolution continued at the Kanana Library, outside Orkney when the Government Communication and Information System (GCIS) and Matlosana Library Services implemented the National Reading Coalition activation.

Over 50 youths and community members visited their local library to enrich their minds with information. "Since the pronouncement by President

Ramaphosa we have experienced an increased number of community members and youths at the library, especially during weekends and school holidays," said one librarian.

The library in partnership with the GCIS and Department of Basic Education has initiated programmes that include free basic computer literacy, mathematics mentoring and adult learning, to empower the local community. Some of the graduates from the programmes have gained access to jobs and learnerships.



**Mirriam Moreki said:**

“Nelson Mandela fought hard for us to get freedom. I am very happy that I will be participating in the programme for Madiba.”



**Palesa Dube said:**

“I will gladly help clean the area of Khayelitsha for our great leader, Madiba.”



**Agnes Tshabalala said:**

“It is our duty to keep our country clean. I will also be visible for 67 minutes.”

## **OUTCOME 10: ENVIRONMENTAL ASSETS AND NATURAL RESOURCES THAT ARE WELL PROTECTED AND CONTINUALLY ENHANCED.**

### **Cleaning campaign for Mandela Day**

*By Selloane Mokoena: GCIS, Free State*



**A government official engaging community members during a door-to-door campaign.**



**Stakeholders on a cleaning drive at Khayelitsha location.**

The Government Communication and Information System together with Department of Water and Sanitation, Bloem Water, Coca Cola, South African National Defence Force, Department of Economic, Small Business Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs, Mangaung Metro, Letsema, WORMS4GOOD non-profit organisations and ward councillor engaged in the Good Green Deeds campaign for Mandela Day on 18 July 2019 at Khayelitsha location in Bloemfontein. The members of the community and other stakeholders also participated in the cleaning campaign.

Prior to this event, a pre-activation took place the previous day where stakeholders engaged community members in their homes to inform them about the initiative.

**OUTCOME 14: A DIVERSE, SOCIALLY COHESIVE SOCIETY WITH A COMMON NATIONAL IDENTITY.**

**GCIS commemorates Mandela Day in Qunu**  
*By Vuyokazi Dube, Zukiswa Mapete and Lwando Helesi: GCIS, Eastern Cape*



**GCIS Provincial Director Ndlentle Pinyana addressing the audience.**



**OR Tambo Mayoral Committee Member for Special Programmes speaking at the event**



**GCIS official Vuyokazi Dube interacting with Milton Mbekela High School learners while sharing information on government opportunities.**



**Some of the centre managers and stakeholders who attended the event.**

The world observed and commemorated the 10th Nelson Mandela International Day on 18 July 2019. This was part of celebrating the life and legacy of renowned struggle stalwart, former President Nelson Mandela.

Government Communication and Information System (GCIS) Eastern Cape Provincial Office commemorated Mandela Day through an information-sharing session at Milton Mbekela High School in Qunu on 16 July 2019. This is Mandela's hometown and the reason for facilitating this campaign at the school ties with how valued education. In one of his famous quotes, Madiba said: "Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world". As such, the activation involved the sharing of information material which exposed learners to opportunities offered by government that they can use to plan for their future and change their lives for the better.

GCIS Provincial Director Ndlentle Pinyana said the event was an important platform for learning and sharing best practices. "Through the engagements, we were able to share the latest updates on the Thusong Service Centre programme of government, capacity building and empowerment of Thusong Service Centre managers," he said.

The forum was held at the backdrop of the 20 years' anniversary of the Thusong Service Centre and Thusong Service Centre Awards. The anniversary and the awards celebrate the achievements of the Thusong Service Centre Programme.