



## CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS AND ICT

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### Media Statement

**12 September 2022**

#### **Title Deeds handover in Madikwe**

The Department of Human Settlements together with its agency, the North West Housing Corporation, handed over about 157 title deeds to the residents of Madikwe in the Moses Kotane local Municipality. The title deeds are for the old four roomed houses build during the Bophuthatswana regime and the official handover was a way by government to ensure ownership of the houses they have been staying in for many decades.

The gesture is part of the government's title deed restoration programme, which is aimed at restoring the dignity and also guaranteeing ownership among communities that lived in those houses from the then Bophuthatswana regime. The title deed programme further aims at eradicating the current backlog in the transfer of Pre-1994 properties into the names of the beneficiaries.

Handing over the title deeds MEC for Human Settlements Lenah Miga said programme is part of the department's efforts to accelerate service delivery and that includes issuing title deeds across the province. "We giving people the opportunity to own homes and it improves the prospects not only for those who are given title deeds, but also the generation to come," said the MEC.

"The department is responding to the call the people made in the Freedom Charter years ago that, all people shall have the right to live where they choose, and to bring up families in comfort and security," said Miga.

Among beneficiaries was the 69 year old Julia Lebeko, who couldn't hold her tears when receiving her late sister's title deed. Lebeko's sister passed on leaving a child in

in her care. She said she is very proud because her niece has a home and now the child has security.

Another beneficiary was the 79 years old man, Thapelo Sithole, a father of three children who has been staying in Madikwe for over twenty years. He was very happy to receive his title deed. "This feels like a dream, I was almost robbed of my house because there was no guarantee that I owned the house. Now I can easily produce this legal document that clearly shows that I'm a proud owner," said Sithole.

MEC Miga, together with the interim chairperson of the board of North West Housing Corporation Adv Okgabile Dibetso-Bodibe, and the Moses Kotane local municipality mayor Nketu Nkotswe donated school shoes and sanitary towels to a needy special school, Rorisang Special School, situated in the village of Madikwe.

END

**Issued by the Department of Human Settlements (North West)**

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