

HARRY GWALA DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY "Together We Deliver and Grow" OFFICE OF THE MUNICIPAL MANAGER 40 Main Street, Private Bag X501, IXOPO 3276 Tel: (039) 834 8707 Fax: (039) 834 1701 Email: mbonaz@harrygwaladm.gov.za

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A call to local business to assist needy families.

Harry Gwala District Municipality Speaker Cllr. Sbongiseni Mdunge has called on local business to assist needy families following his visit to some of the families in uMzimkhulu, Nazaretha area in ward 7.

Speaker had been introduced to the family he visited during election time, one family has 14 children living in a two room house and the other family is child headed home of 5 children.

Speaker Mdunge together with uHarry Gwala District Disaster and uMzimkhulu Disaster brought food and supplies to the family to assist them in the meantime.

Mdunge said his dream is that the first family is assisted to build a house for them and called on business people in the area to assist.

"Seeing their condition during the elections we as the District Municipality and UMzimkhulu Local Municipality decided to visit this family so that they can be profiled. Our dream is that this family is assisted in building them a house. Profiling them we have found out that there are 14 Children in this family living in a two room house and no one is working. There are kids both males and females. They rely on social grant for food. It not a conducive environment for children to grow up in, especially some of them are grown up and it boys and girls under one roof. They need a proper shelter. I call on business people in the area to assist with building material or offer to support the family with building a house for them," said Speaker Mdunge.

During the visit the head of the family, a 45-year-old was brought to tears, saying that morning her kids had to go to school without any food and thanked the municipality for bringing them food.

"We use social grants to get food. Others are over age and are now not getting the social grant. I am not working and my sisters are also unemployed. We only use these two rooms for shelter, it not enough because there are too many of us. With the recently floods we couldn't even sleep because the house is not strong, water was leaking. We would like assistance with a house and a jobs for us so we can provide for the family," she said.

This family has adult females who is 45, 41, 39, 33. Their children and grandchildren most of them are still in school, their ages are: 23, 21, 18, two are 14, two are 16, 13,11, 9,7, two are 2, and 1.

In this family together there are 14 children and 4 female adult, all staying in this 2 room house.

The child headed home has 5 children, ages 23, 20, 19, 10, and 6 years.

Those who wish to assist are encouraged to contact the Speakers Office: 039 834 8700.

ISSUED BY HARRY GWALA DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY COMMUNICATIONS UNIT.