

# ELUNDINI MUNICIPALITY HEEDS THUMA MINA CALL

*Contributed by Elunidni Municipality*

Elundini Local Municipality rounded off its Centenary Celebration of Heroes and Thuma Mina campaign for the month of July by handing over 26 completed RDP houses that form part of the Sinxako 486 Housing Project. The community at large came in big numbers to witness this day that brought joy to the faces of

the elderly people when they received their keys to their new homes. The municipality is responding to the clarion call by President Cyril Ramaphosa to help build South Africa and with the year 2018 conterminously marking the centenary of the life of the heroine Albertina Sisulu and Tata Nelson Mandela to mark the

occasion.

The first leg started on 23 July when the Mayor of Elundini Local Municipality, Nonkongozelo Ruth Lengs, donated supporting tools to Maclear Methodist Primary School, which included office chairs, computers and a filing cabinet. This follows Mayor's support in the same school last year when she provided 30 chairs for Grade 3 learners, 8 white boards and one drawer unit. This was part of the Mayor's Bridge of Hope program (BoH). BoH is a relief program initiated and led by the Mayor to respond to some of household and individual cases that require rapid response.

On 24 July Thuma Mina Clean-up Awareness campaign, which encompassed a walk through the streets of Maclear was conducted to highlight service delivery. That event also marked the Awarding of Environmental Champions (those who collected most litter) and exhibitors also showcased their wares that came from recycling material. ELM were the winners of the Eastern Cape Greenest Municipality for the two consecutive years (2016 and 2017). Winning both accolades came with handsome rewards with each award mounting to

R500 000 with the two totalling R1 million. The prize money has already been utilised through a business plan that includes employment of 42 Extended Public Works Programme workers.

The last leg for the month of July was the handing over of RDP houses at Sinxako village in Ward 6. The area was identified in 2007 as one of the areas that are poverty stricken with the rate of unemployment very high as there are no job opportunities. Sinxako 486 Housing Project came about through a need identified by the Elundini Local Municipality. Most of the existing structures were found to be dilapidated and damp which posed a health risk to its inhabitants. Dwellings were being occupied predominately by elderly citizens of the state, most of whom are mainly depending on the social grant as a source of income to support themselves and their extended families.

The mayor said they were handing-over the houses incrementally with this first batch. She explained: "The reason for the incremental approach is that if houses remain empty for too long, they can be vandalized. Part of conducting this handover, is to ensure that beneficiaries receive title deeds to promote the security of tenure and promote their dignity and to realise promises and commitment of government of the day".



*Elundini Local Municipality Mayor, Nonkongozelo Ruth Lengs, handing a RDP house over to beneficiary Nomawili Enverah Konana. Present is Ward Councillor Simphiwe Mdoda, Speaker Vangiwe Hokwana and traditional leader Mthandeni Mabandla.*



*Elundini Local Municipality Mayor, Nonkongozelo Ruth Lengs, during Clean-up Awareness Campaign in Maclear on 24 July.*



*Excited teachers and pupils at Maclear Methodist Primary School*