



*Overwhelmed with joy, Relebogile Kgitsane of Welkom gets comforted by Premier Sisi Ntombela who responded to her plea for a better life, one that is different from what Kgitsane said was eight years of a shame that left her family without a roof over their heads.* PHOTO DUMELANGMEDIA

# Lifeline for child headed family

## "We were then thrown out on the streets"

THE Kgitsane family, a child-headed household from Thabong in Welkom, has been handed a temporary shack which has now also been furnished. This joyous moment which highlights the plight of many, took place yesterday during the Free State provincial government’s Operation Hlasela service delivery campaign in the area. The premier, accompanied by members of a provincial cabinet such as Oupa Khoabane (Cogta), Tate Makgoe (Education), Dorah Kotzee (Public Works) including the ruling party’s NEC member David Mahlobo. Premier Sisi Ntombela official dignified the lives of three young women, aged between 14 and 21, by handing

them a temporary shack and furniture. Overwhelmed with joy, Relebogile Kgitsane, the older sister in the family, told Ntombela that the shame her family has been living in for the past eight years is now over. “I always knew that God will never abandon us and one day our lives will change and be restored with dignity. Life has been very difficult for me and my siblings since our grandmother died in 2010. We were then thrown out on the streets by our relatives and had nowhere to stay. We really want to thank the premier for responding to our calls when we requested help from her,” Kgitsane said with tears rolling down her

cheeks. Ntombela further made a promise to the family that they will soon be relocated to a site where their new house will be built. “It was really painful when I first received a phone call from Relebogile detailing their condition and I thought of what might happen to my children when I die. I then decided to visit them and help them whichever way I can. The site has already been identified in Odendaalsrus where a house will be built for them and enable them to live a normal family life,” said Ntombela. More than 300 blankets were further donated by the premier and her executive to the elderly people in the area