

Councillor and EPWP trainees to the rescue

ZINTLE BOBELO

Trainees of the Expanded Public Works Programme brought considerable relief to a family in Newvale whose belongings were destroyed in a fire recently.

The Rep reported (Family left with nothing after fire, July 5) that Boyce Mrwebi's home was engulfed in flames when his wife was preparing food with a paraffin stove.

His wife had gone to buy items at a nearby shop and discovered that the house was on fire upon her return.

Nonzukiso Ngenase, who is responsible for facilitating the training, said ward 13 councillor, Ongama Adonis, had informed her team about the family's plight.

"We normally hold our training sessions at the Ashley Wyngaard Hall in Victoria Park.

"This is a public works programme that works on reducing unemployment by equipping the youth with skills. We specialise in

carpentry, bricklaying, plumbing and painting and we have 35 students registered in the two-month training programme.

"The councillor told us about a house that had caught fire and suggested that we use the premises as part of our training which would obviously also benefit the family in need," Ngenase said.

Speaking to The Rep, councillor Adonis made a plea to anyone who could assist the family.

"Our challenge is that we are short of building material.

"The students have assisted with the roof and ceiling and we are hoping to get a doorframe and cement for plastering."

Mrwebi said he and his family were extremely grateful for what the EPWP team and Adonis had done for them.

"We still do not have any furniture.

"I also received a call from a church congregation after the article appeared in The Rep. I have hope that more help will come," he said.



HARD AT WORK: Expanded Public Works Programme trainees lend a helping hand at a home that recently caught fire, giving new hope to the family who were left with nothing
Picture: ZINTLE BOBELO