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Page: 11



City of uMhlathuze, Cllr Silondile Mkhize, house beneficiary Phiyose Biyela, MEC for Public Works Peggy Nkonyeni and MEC for Social Development Nonhlanhla Khoza at the handover of Phiyose Biyela's house at Luwamba near Ntambanana

## MECs hand over houses

## Jetro Mshengu

KZN Provincial Government's flagship intervention programme Operation Sukuma Sakhe (OSS) came under the spotlight again last Tuesday.

This as KZN Social Development MEC, Nonhlanhla Khoza and her Human Settlement and Public Works counterpart, MEC Peggy Nkonyeni handed over two houses to deserving beneficiaries in Ntambanana area.

Both MECs accompanied by City of uMhlathuze leadership headed by Speaker Silondile Mkhize also jointly officiated at the handing over of title deeds to ten identified beneficiaries within uMhlathuze Municipality.

They furthermore launched phase one of the Empangeni Mega Catalytic Intergrated Residential Development

Programme.

MEC Khoza promised to hand over Social Relief of Distress (SRD) grants to a selectly identified 20 families.

The MECs and city speaker jointly officiated at the handing over of the two houses, following a plea to MEC Nkonyeni to assist the 89-year-old gogo, Khakho Nxumalo.

Gogo Nxumalo's dire plight of living in a makeshift, derelict mud house in Bhuchanana reserve in ward 33, was circulated widely on social media and went viral, catching the attention of MEC Nkonyeni two months ago, hardly a week after she assumed office.

They also handed over an OSS house to Phiyose Biyela, who is a local community development activist living with disability.