## BRANDSTORIES

## IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF LIFE, HUMAN DIGNITY AND HARMONY OF PEOPLE LIVING IN COMMUNITY RESIDENTIAL UNITS



## R121 MILLION PROJECT TO BENEFIT 336 NHLALAKAHLE HOUSEHOLDS

An artist's impression of the Nhlalakahle community residential units, expected to be completed by 22 March 2023 and catering for 336 households. The total cost of this project in Ward 07 in uMvoti Local Municipality is R121 295 035. KwaZulu-Natal Premier, Sihle Zikalala and MEC for Human Settlements and Public Works, Peggy Nkonyeni will officially launch the project on Friday, 5 March 2021.

THE KwaZulu-Natal Department of Human Settlements is upgrading government-owned communal rental accommodation, otherwise known as hostels, into family units. The Department's community residential units (CRUs) programme aims to facilitate the provision of secure, stable rental tenure for lower-income people/households

earning between R800 and R3 500 a month.

On 10 May 2019, the Department approved a 20-year strategy for the upgrading and refurbishment of hostels into CRUs, which will guide the upgrading of all hostels across the province.

Currently, there are projects being implemented within the Greater Koks-

tad, uBuhlebezwe, Msunduzi, Newcastle and uMvoti local municipalities. The Department, in collaboration with various local municipalities, is also focusing on the redevelopment and refurbishment of old hostels into CRUs. The Department plans to complete a total of 3 299 units in the next five years, including 400 units in 2021/22.



The refurbishment of 48 units in the uMlazi T Community Residential Units project, located in eThekwini Metro, has been completed within the allocated budget of R19 178 535.25. This will address the critical rental needs in eThekwini Metro. It aims to improve the lives of residents by providing them with proper rental accommodation, which is affordable and restores their dignity.



Left, 300 RENTAL UNITS FOR KOKSTAD

The Kokstad Community Residential Unit project, located within the Greater Kokstad Local Municipality, will provide rental accommodation of 300 units. An amount of R123 802 171.73 is budgeted for the construction of this project, with R13.2 million spent to date.

Right, SECURITY AND COMFORT LOOMING AT JIKA JOE

In a bid to improve the living conditions of residents of Ward 33 in uMsunduzi Local Municipality, 1 164 two-bedroom rental units are being constructed, with 404 units at finishing stage. Members of the community are receiving job opportunities during the construction of this estimated R445 million project, including general workers, artisans and security officers. This project is an affordable rental housing project targeting low income earners in line with Community Residential Units qualification criteria. The Msunduzi Local Municipality will own and manage the stock post-construction.





Left, AFFORDABLE RENTAL HOUSING FOR UBUHLEBETHU RESIDENTS

To date, R10.3 million of the total allocation of R73 059 615.99 has been spent in the construction of the uBuhlebethu Community Residential Unit project in uBuhlebezwe Local Municipality. The project will provide rental accommodation of 150 units.





HUMAN SETTLEMENTS
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