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PROVINCIAL STAKEHOLDER'S ENGAGEMENT HELD IN THABA PHATSOA

THABA PHATSOA: The Office of the Premier and the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development recently hosted a Provincial Stakeholder's Engagement in Thaba Phatsoa, Mantsopa, under the Thabo Mofutsanyana District. The event was attended by Free State Premier MaQueen Letsoha-Mathae and MEC Elzabe Rockman. During the

engagement, the Premier and MEC handed out groceries, educational toys, and blankets to children at the Thaba Phatswa Early Childhood Development (ECD) center. The ECD teacher, Magdalena Van Wyk, expressed gratitude to the provincial government for the support. At the Thaba Phatsoa Community Hall, Ward Councillor Cllr. Abraham welcomed

the Premier and MEC, saying, "It is Thaba Phatsoa's time to shine." MEC Rockman encouraged the community to start small vegetable gardens in their backyards to ensure food security. The department introduced an Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP) in Thaba Phatsoa, employing 15 participants in a 3-month town cleaning program.

This initiative aims to promote a clean environment and create short-term employment opportunities. Premier Letsoha-Mathae pledged to address the Weliswhe Bridge issue and housing challenges. She also committed to starting a food garden at the ECD and supplying the community with garden tools to encourage backyard gardening.