## JTGD Municipality fulfils two families' dreams

It was an emotional and joyous day for the Olyn and Olifant families when they received houses from the John Taolo Gaetsewe District Municipality as part of the International Mandela Day. The families were identified as beneficiaries for Mandela Day event. The two events were held on the 17<sup>th</sup> July 2015 in Seoding and Olifantshoek respectively.

The Seoding event was a sod turning for construction of a house for the Olifant family. The house will be built with assistance from Premier Sylvia Lucas on behalf of the Provincial AIDS Council. Ward Councillor. Tebogo Tlholenyane thanked the Premier's office for the house and encouraged other Councillors to do the same for their community. Ms. Olifant thanked the Ward Councillor and the municipality for what they have done for her family. The family also received food parcels from the district municipality.



Councillor T. Tlholenyane, Me K. Olifant with her children, Kgosi Setlhodi and Mr. M. Molusi from JTG Municipality handing food parcels to the family.

Speaking at the main event in Olifantshioek, the Executive Mayor Councillor Sofia Mosikatsi, flanked by members of the Mayoral Committee said that the day signified what Nelson Mandela strived for during the struggle for freedom and equality for all. The Executive Mayor further said that providing shelter to the needy is in line with the principles of the Freedom Charter which says that there shall be decent housing, comfort and security for all. She further expressed her gratitude to Councillor Hantise for identifying the Olyn family. She said that the need for housing is still very high and there has to be greater effort in making sure that those who are in need are catered for.

In her response, Mrs Olyn and her family could not contain their joy when they saw the house they were about to occupy. Mrs Olyn thanked the Council as well as staff members for restoring her

dignity and faith in government by providing her with something that she has wished for her whole life. She also encouraged government to continue to do the same for those in need. The municipality also donated food parcels to the family.

Councillors and staff also painted parts of the house because it is not yet completed. The house will be occupied as soon as it is completed.

International Mandela Day is celebrated the World over every year on the 18<sup>th</sup> of July and the John Taolo Gaetsewe municipality's contribution is to provide housing to the identified beneficiaries.

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At the back, Executive Mayor Sofia Mosikatsi, front, Councillor Omphemetse Mogodi and Councillor Meyers and Hantise at the back painting the house in Olifantshoek



Members of the Olyn Family with Executive Mayor, Councillors O. Hantise, O. Mogodi, M. Mocwari