

20 December 2016

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ORPHANS AND VULNERABLE CHILDREN TO HAVE A MERRY CHRISTMAS

This Christmas is going to be one with a difference for orphans and vulnerable children around Dipaleseng as Sibanye Gold together with Dipaleseng Local Municipality handed over Christmas hampers filled with food and goodies.

On Thursday, 15th December 2016, the Executive Mayor of Dipaleseng, Cllr. Mafunda Makhubu and his entourage, together with senior officials from the mine visited the drop-in centres in all three nodal points of the municipality.

Kutloano in Nthoroane was the first in line to be visited and a total of thirty five children received the hampers in the presence and appreciation of centre manager Mr. Moloi and his staff.

Thirty kids from the Tikano centre in Grootvlei were the next happy recipients of this humble gesture that could have meant the difference between a cold and empty Christmas and a jolly and real Christmas experience for them. The United Reformed Church in Siyathemba was the last drop-in centre were thirty five children also benefitted.

It is government's duty to provide developmental social welfare services that provides support to reduce poverty, vulnerability and the impact of HIV/AIDS through the implementation of sustainable development programmes in partnership with implementing agents such as state funded institutions, NOG's, CBO's and faith-based organisations.

To prove that Government is committed to eradicating inequality and poverty by providing social grants to vulnerable citizens, the percentage of individuals that benefited from social grants has increased from 12, 7% in 2003 to 30, 1% in 2015. It is also expected that nearly 17, 5 million South Africans would receive some form of social grant by 2018.

Actions such as these help us to come closer to realizing our mandate in real terms. In light of the fact that an estimated 14 million South Africans go hungry every day, this gesture that

might seem rather simple and insignificant to others, might possibly mean the world to these kids.

"Our greatest gratitude goes to Sibanye Gold for this heartfelt donation. We are continuously appreciative of organisations that are willing to extent a helping hand to our communities and we request that they remain cognizant of the humble lives our communities lead" said the Executive Mayor.

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