

The Zanemvula housing project launched in 2007. It is an informal settlement upgrading and human settlement project in Nelson Mandela Bay. The project is located in the Chatty, Joe Slovo West, Soweto-on-Sea and Veeplaas areas and involves the relocation of residents from the floodplains of the Chatty River, backyard dwellings and other stressed areas around Nelson Mandela Bay to decent human settlements. The project will deliver 22 700 houses.

Human right to dignity restored

MOTHER of two Abasha Williams felt her dignity had been restored when she received a new home in Chatty after having lived in harsh squatter-like conditions for more than a decade in Saltlake.

Abasha said the "hok" where she lived was a terrible place for her and her husband, Eldrige, to raise their young sons. But since moving into her new home she feels that as parents they have at last been able to provide a family home.

"My family means everything to me. My husband and I would never have been able to give our sons a home like

" My children are warm, healthy and able to go to school. I have a lot to be thankful for and there's more to come... like a vegetable garden "

Abasha Williams

this. I am so thankful to have a home that I can leave to my children if something happens to Eldrige or me," she said.

Abasha is thrilled to be able to celebrate Human Right's Day this year in a proper

home, "I have running water, electricity, a home that doesn't blow away or leak when it rains. My children are warm, healthy and able to go to school. I have a lot to be thankful for and there's more to come...like a vegetable garden."

They were often concerned about their son's health due to the poor conditions they were forced to live under.

"When we lived in the wood and iron shack it was more than just uncomfortable and inconvenient. I remember when my eldest son Joshua was born he had barely been home for two weeks before his first doctor's visit. It was the first of many," she said.

Joshua, now six years old, used to be constantly sick. The shack they had



HEART AND HOME: Abasha Williams enjoys the summer breeze outside her new home with her youngest son Benito.

lived in did not protect them from the elements. Abasha recalls her entire house being flooded when it rained and caused Joshua to become chronically ill in his early childhood, "now that we have our new home, he is happier and healthier."

"There is even a school close-by for Joshua. The teachers pay special attention to each child and he enjoys learning. In the past he didn't want to go

to school," said Abasha. She is delighted with the Alfonso Arries Primary, a school built for the community in 2011.

The Williams's look forward to sending their younger son, 18-month-old Benito, to the school when the time comes.

"We even rent a room after hours in the school to have church on Sundays. My husband is a pastor in the old apostolic faith. A group of us started the services and we are hoping to eventually have a piece of land donated to us to build a church for the community."

Abasha said the little classroom fills up with over 90 community members, young and old, "that is another right I am so thankful for, my right to choose my religion," she said joyfully.

Abasha is especially thankful for the sense of community they have experienced in Chatty, "We are truly 'ubuntu' as they say. Everyone is family around here and we look after one another. Whether it's looking after one another's homes when nobody's home, or keeping an eye on the kids playing outside. No matter what your culture or background, we are all here to build a community that has been given to us by our government."



RAKING RIGHTS: Zwelinzima Kelemani has been an avid gardener his whole life and finds freedom in the joy of gardening in his own yard.

Looking at human rights

THIS month we celebrate Human Rights' Day on 21 March. The Bill of Rights is the cornerstone of democracy in South Africa. It protects the rights of all people in our country and establishes the democratic values of human dignity, equality and freedom.

Every South African has rights and it is important to know what your basic human rights are and to respect those of others. Some important rights are highlighted below:

Section 10 – Human dignity

Everyone has inherent dignity and the right to have their dignity respected and protected.

Section 20 – Citizenship

No citizen may be deprived of citizenship.

Section 26 – Housing

1. Everyone has the right to have access to adequate housing.
2. The state must take reasonable legislative and other measures, within its available resources, to achieve this right.
3. No one may be evicted from their home, or have their home demolished, without an order of court made after considering all the relevant circumstances.

Section 27 – Health care, food, water and social security

1. Everyone has the right to have access to
 - a. health care services, including reproductive health care;
 - b. sufficient food and water; and
 - c. social security, including, if they are unable to support themselves and their dependents, appropriate social assistance.
2. The state must take reasonable legislative and other measures, within its available resources, to achieve the progressive realisation of each of these rights.
3. No one may be refused emergency medical treatment.

Section 28 - Children

1. Every child has the right to
 - a. a name and a nationality from birth;
 - b. family care or parental care, or to appropriate alternative care when removed from the family

environment;

- c. basic nutrition, shelter, basic health care services and social services;
- d. protection from maltreatment, neglect, abuse or degradation; and
- e. protection from exploitative labour practices.

Section 29 – Education

1. Everyone has the right to
 - a. a basic education, including adult basic education; and
 - b. further education, which the state, through reasonable measures, must make progressively available and accessible.

Human rights are also called natural rights. People are entitled to these rights regardless of where they live in the world or their position in society. It doesn't matter what a person's race, sex, age, belief, class, race, culture or religion is, everyone is entitled to equal rights.

Human rights express the values for which the new South Africa stands and the goals for which we strive. It actively promotes the equality of all South Africans and prohibits unfair discrimination of any kind. Join South Africa in celebrating these rights on 21 March.



WASHING WEATHER: New home-owner Thembisa Nene soaks up the last of the summer sun while hanging her clothes.

Project Update: March 2013

THE Zanemvula mega-housing project in Chatty, Joe Slovo West, Soweto-on-Sea and Veeplaas is divided into four programmes and will deliver about 22 700 houses:

- the construction of 13 327 new houses in Chatty extensions 3, 4, 5, 12, 13 and 15, Joe Slovo West and Kwadwesi Extension.
- the informal settlement upgrade of about 1 565 houses.
- the rectification of about 7 500 houses in Soweto-on-Sea.
- the erection of some 323 rental houses.

Chatty 1347

- The project is now complete.
- The total number of contractor handovers is 1 339 houses.
- All sites are fully serviced, but 8 could not be built on as they were too steep.

Chatty 1380

- 1 380 houses to be built.
- 40% of beneficiaries have been identified and the municipality will identify the remaining beneficiaries.
- 128 houses have been completed and handed over to beneficiaries to date.
- 299 foundations, 282 wallplates and 233 roofs completed.

- 718 relocations have been completed to date.

Chatty 496 Services

- 95% of sewers have been installed.
- 50% of connections laid.
- Clearing of roadways has commenced.

Chatty Multi-Purpose Centre

- Contractors have been approved and funds for the building have been applied for.

Soweto-on-Sea rectifications

- 2 500 houses to be rectified.
- 1633 units have been rectified to date.
- 45 rectifications were completed in February 2013.

Soweto-On-Sea Multi-Purpose Community Centre

- The R22-million project was completed last year and handed over to the Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality. Requests to use the centre are to be made to the NMBM Facilities Manager on **041 506 2911**.

Joe Slovo West 4000

- 4 000 sites to be serviced.
- Contracts with contractors have been signed.
- Both contractors have established site and one has commenced servicing

BHODLA SAY IT ALL

Thoughts on human rights



Mvuzo Ndayi

Human rights for me is when you feel you have access to basic need like water, electricity and a roof over your head. I have this now, no one is mistreating me and I have a place I can call home. I am happy and proud to be a South African.



Alenis Silumani Koba

The most important human rights are those for children. Every child has the right to education and in my belief a home and family. Here they have that. They are our future, so I will celebrate their rights.



Themba Rhalane

Amalungelo eluntwini benza abantu bazingce ngelizwe labo, beyazi ukuba baxabisekile kwaye benegalelo. Eyona nto ibalulekileyo kum kuba zilingane singabantu noba ulolu phi uhlanga.



NozukileMzinzi

Ukuhlala endlini yam entsha kundenza ndonwabe. Ndiziva ndibalulekile ukuba ndihlale kwindawo abantu abaxabaniseneyo khona. Amanzi sinawo nombane ukhona kwayenegumbi langasese lingaphakathi endlini ngoku.



Elton Smith

Ek voel volwaardig mens vandat ek in hierdie huis ingetrek het. Mense regte gaan vir my daaroor. Ek het die reg tot water en elektrisiteit, dinge wat ek nooit gehad het nie. Om hier te woon het dit my lewens omstandighede verbeter.

Your "how to" for social grants

YOU might qualify for social assistance from the government by means of a social grant. These grants are given by the government to provide social assistance to its people. The South African Social Security Agency (SASSA) is the appointed body that assists the government in ensuring applications and grants are administrated.

Social grants refer to a number of grants available such as a disability grant; a grant for older persons; a war veteran's grant; foster child grant; care dependency grant; child support grant; and a grant-in-aid.

See the qualifying requirements for social grants in the boxes.

Applicants who do not have a 13-digit bar-coded identity book, or birth certificate for children involved in the application can still apply for a grant. Obtain information from your nearest SASSA office about the documents which are accepted for grant application.

For further information or assistance with applying for your grant, you can phone **041 404 9723** or the toll free number **0800 6010 11**. The local SASSA office is located in the Trust Bank Building on 575 Govan Mbeki Road, North End and is open from 8am to 4:30pm.

PLEASE NOTE: If you have a grant and receive your social grant from a pay point or from a bank, you must re-register on the new payment system. Visit them or phone the toll-free number above. To re-register you will need your original 13-digit green bar coded identity document, original birth certificate of child/children or letter of award from SASSA.

Grant for older persons

The applicant:

- must be a South African citizen/permanent resident
- must be resident in South Africa
- must be 60 years and older
- spouse must comply with the means test. This test verifies your suitability for a grant according to your income bracket and assets
- must not be maintained or cared for in a state institution
- must not be in receipt of another social grant
- must submit a 13-digit bar coded identity document

Disability grant

The applicant:

- must be a South African citizen/permanent resident or refugee
- must be resident in South Africa
- must be 18 to 59 years of age
- must submit a medical/assessment report confirming disability (medical assessment must not be older than three months at date of application)
- spouse must meet the requirements of the means test. This test verifies your suitability for a grant according to your income bracket and assets
- must not be maintained or cared for in a state institution
- must not be in receipt of another social grant

Social relief of distress

Social relief of distress is a temporary provision of assistance intended for persons in dire need – a person who is unable to meet their or their families' most basic needs. Social Relief of Distress is paid to South African citizens or permanent residents who have insufficient means and meet one or more of the following criteria:

- the applicant is awaiting payment of an approved social grant
- the applicant has been found medically unfit to undertake remunerative work for a period of less than six months
- no maintenance is received from a parent, child or spouse obliged in law to pay maintenance, and proof is furnished that efforts made to obtain maintenance have been unsuccessful
- the bread winner is deceased and application is made within three months of the date of death
- the bread winner of that person's family has been admitted to an institution funded by the state (prison, psychiatric hospital, state home for older persons, treatment centre for substance abuse or child and youth care centre)
- the applicant has been affected by a disaster as defined in the Disaster Management Act or the Fund Raising Act, 1978
- the person is not receiving assistance from any other organisation, or
- refusal of the application for social relief of distress will cause undue hardships

Getting to know you **Yebo Yandiswa!**

4

EVERY month Zanemvula introduces you to one of the Housing Development Agency's (HDA) employees. Everyone plays an important role and makes sure there is delivery and that new homes are built.

In last month's issue of Zanemvula we spoke to project manager Eddie Potberg. This month we get to know friendly receptionist, Yandiswa Gubula.



YOUR YANDISWA: She is happy to be the friendly voice over the phone and in person, greeting you at the HDA office.

Where did you grow up?

I was born in a small town called Kirkwood and grew up in Motherwell, Port Elizabeth.

What is your fondest memory as a child?

Growing up I was a bit of a tomboy.

My best memories are those where I played soccer, cricket and basketball with the boys.

What was your favourite toy or hobby growing up?

As I grew older I developed a love for modelling, so I started entering beauty pageants, but still enjoyed playing sports.

What did you want to be when you grew up?

Funny as it sounds, growing up I wanted to become Miss South Africa. I never came that far, but ended up as a finalist in Miss Teen South Africa. That was enough for me. I've also always dreamt of having my own company one day.

Are you married, how many kids do you have, if any?

I am blessed with a beautiful boy child.

What was your first job?

Being a ramp model for one of the most popular retail fashion stores and doing promotions for different products, brands and companies.

Why do you enjoy being a HDA receptionist and what does it mean to you?

I enjoy helping people and making a difference in other people's lives. It feels good to be part of the HDA family – a group of people determined to make a difference in the community and changing lives by putting smiles on the faces of new home-owners.

What challenges do you face in your work within the project?

Beneficiaries come into the office with wrong information. I assist by correcting and giving them the right information. This helps them better understand the process.

Who is your role model and why?

Anyone who sets their mind on making sure they achieve their goals and who is devoted to doing the best they can in everything they do.

What is your favourite type food?

I cannot get enough of seafood.

How would you describe yourself?

Honest, patient and funny.

What is your favourite colour?

It's too difficult only to choose one, but black and purple tie for the top-spot.

What is your life motto?

I live by the motto – 'Patience is a virtue'

What are you most grateful for in life?

My greatest joy in life is when I put a smile on my son's face. I have many things to be grateful for, like being surrounded by positive people and being part of a wonderful family.

Do you want to share a message with the Zanemvula readers?

Always give your all in everything you do and remember to respect the dignity of another human being, because without doing so, we cannot respect ourselves.

Useful contact numbers

The Housing Development Agency: 041 393 2600

Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality:

Customer Care (all hours): 041 506 5555

Service Delivery Centre (all hours) – for water, sanitation and all other services: 0800 205 050

Human Settlements Eastern Cape: 043 711 9500

Emergencies: Call from cell phone: 112

Childline: (help when a child is in danger) 08000 55 555

Eskom customer care: 0860 037 566

Public transport information: 0800 656 463

Land Invasion: Macdonald 082 4105 066 /
Hlela 079 4900 531

Fire: 041 585 2311

Water Leaks, Power outage etc: 0800 205050

General Emergencies: 041 506 2735



human settlements

Department:
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