

**KEYNOTE ADDRESS BY THE EXECUTIVE MAYOR OF
VHEMBE DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY CLLR LERULE-
RAMAKHANYA MAVHUNGU DURING THE HOUSING
HANDING OVER CEREMONY AT TSHITAVHA-TSHA
SAMBANDOU ON THE 02ND FEBRUARY 2019 AT GOD IS
HARVEST CHURCH AT 11H00.**

Program Director

Thovhele Vho-Gole Mphaphuli na Musanda Vho-Mundalamo FJ

Mayor of Thulamela Municipality Cllr Tshifhango A

Speaker of our District Municipality Mme Frida Nkondo

Members of Mayoral Committee from the District and its locals

All councilors present

Mr Mathoho Mpho and his entourages

Invited Business Fraternity

Branch leadership of ANC lead by Mulovhedzi Ntodeni

Pastors and Community Members

Media houses

Comrades and Friends

It is a singular and deeply humbling honor to be here in celebrating the achievement made by business person Mr Mathobo Mpho and his team as part of contributing back to the community. We are here to examine His achievement in community development and ask ourselves what is it that we need to do to build on the foundation already build for the betterment of our district.

As we reflect on this contribution we must heed the words spoken by Cicero in Shakespeare's Julius Caesar, where he says:

"Men may construe things after their fashion, clean from the purpose of the things themselves". In recognizing this sterling contribution and those who laid down their lives, the preamble of the Constitution of the Republic states in part "That we adopt this constitution as the supreme law of the republic so as to heal the divisions of the past and establish a society based on democratic values, social justice and fundamental human rights"

It goes on to say to "improve the quality of life of all citizens and free the potential of each person". By delivering and handing these houses to the five beneficiaries by Mr Mathoho is a living testimony up to the letter and spirit of the constitution. It is playing an imperative role as a corporate citizen to uplift and to improve the lives of our people. It is healing the scars impoverish contributed by apartheid legacy.

In doing so, we obscure the complexity and nuance that must necessarily form part of so rich and profound a life. We should therefore proceed with caution, ever mindful of our responsibility to remember business leaders who not necessarily accumulate for themselves.

Morality provided a touchstone by which one could measure one's actions and guide one's decisions. If we are to build on Mathobo's footsteps, we need both to continue the work that he began and hold true to the moral posture that he adopted. We should seek to pursue at all times that which is right and true, no matter how inconvenient, how unpopular or how difficult. Mr Mathobo responded to a clause from the Freedom Charter that says "There shall be houses, security and comfort"

Comrades and friends, our country today is a better place thanks to the contribution of Nelson Mandela and many of his generation. It is thanks to them that today we can celebrate 25 years of freedom in peace and unity. It is thanks to them that all our people have equal rights, that's millions more of our people have houses, water and electricity. Importantly, it is thanks to them that we have dignity and pride, confidence and hope.

Program Director, it was through their endless tireless and courageous efforts and commitments that today every South African can live in a free and fair South Africa. In Nelson Mandela last speech as President of South Africa said "I have reached that part of the long walk when the opportunity is granted, as it should be to all men and women, to retire to some rest and tranquility in the village of my birth.

Our Municipality should therefore draw inspiration from business community own commanding voices in deepening an understanding of the values of democracy, good governance and human rights, which have essentially been identified as shared values which would facilitate

Africa's integration and development. It only takes one person to sow an idea of change in the minds of a group of individuals. It only takes small efforts of a group of people to start a revolution. It takes a nation to change the world.

Given the circumstance of the majority of our people that as we know arise from the legacy of apartheid. It would be a crime to deny them the opportunity to have secure and decent homes. For this would mean that not only will the legacy of our past be made indelible in the landscapes of our rural spaces but also that the past itself continues under new conditions.

The realization of his dream will require the participation of everyone, both as government and private sector. Similarly, individuals are called to take responsibility for changing our district into a better place by contributing the little they have to the needy community like our friend Mr Mathobo did. Am glad that Mr Mathoho took these necessary decisions and actions with us as government when we called, affirming that the legacy of imposed poverty must firmly be eradicated and speedily so. I am in position to commend him for the steps taken thus far

To other business people, let us nurture a culture of helping one another. There are millions of people in the world who need a helping hand. Show you care and do whatever you can to make a positive change in someone's life. Thus the reason today we stand tall in this village of Tshitavha-Tsha Sambandou as District Municipality to officially handing over these five houses to the identified needy families. Lastly

Program Director, let me take this opportunity to thank all the business people who partake in ensuring that we make a difference to these families. And to the beneficiaries, may I congratulate you all and thank you for your perseverance and understanding.

I thank you all.