

## MAYOR THAMAGA EXTENDS HEARTFELT GRATITUDE TO VENETIA MINE FOR CELEBRATING CHRISTMAS WITH THE ELDERLY

Christmas came early for the older persons in Blouberg Local Municipality , thanks to De Beers Venetia Mine. Today, December 20, 2024, the mine, represented by Senior General Manager, Mr Ntokozo Ngema together with Mayor Maria Thamaga handed over Christmas hampers to the elderly at an event held at Capricorn TVET College in Senwabarwana. Mayor Thamaga has also been calling does who have enough this Christmas to share the little they have with the needy.

" Monamolomo o na le kgaetšedi ya gagwe.

Re re rile re kopane le ba Venetia mine ra kgopela gore ba direle batšofe ba Blouberg le Musina Christmas party?

Ba re re le kwele re tla e lebelela

Lehono seo re se kgopetšego se a phethagala. Thank you, Venetia , for responding positively to our request.

This is a good gesture on your part.

The government alone can not do everything. We need partnerships with business to do more for our communities. "

Mayor indicated that the municipality and the government in general cares for the elderly hence the existence of the Special Focus Division in the municipality that deals with elderly amongst other special groups to ensure that their needs are catered. She further called on communities to take care of the older persons as they are their heritage.

"We are a government that cares for our elderly and senior citizens, that is why they get social grants, free health care, and many more services. When they are on a queue, they must be assisted first or a dedicate queue be made available for the elderly.

In our Municipality, we have the special focus unit that coordinates the programmes of the elderly and we have a budget for their programmes. They are our heritage.

Re ikgantšha ka bona.

Even the scripture says that we must respect our fathers and mothers so that our days may be longer.

As we celebrate Christmas with the elderly today, our message is clear. Let us respect and take care of the elderly in our communities. "