

More job opportunities for Madadeni Community and better access to rehabilitation facilities

writes Sane Khumalo

The KwaZulu-Natal Department of Public Works has spent approximately R35million on the Madadeni Rehabilitation Centre infrastructure project which has created a total number of sixty six (66) job opportunities around Amajuba District Municipality including Newcastle, Charlestown, Madadeni, Osizweni, Kilbarchan and Ingagane areas.

The project construction has also resulted in the transfer of skills to local communities and contributed to initiatives to reduce the level of poverty at Madadeni. This emerged during the recent oversight visit to the area by the Public Works Porfolio Committee members under the stewardship of its Chairperson, Ms Mbali Fraser who expressed her appreciation on behalf of the committee - “we are very much happy and impressed about the progress of this project”, she said as other members were nodding in agreement with what they had observed during the tour in the area.



Madadeni Rehabilitation Centre (left) and the picture (right) Ms Mbali Fraser franked by Porfolio Committee members.

The Social Development facility will assist the community with social services and also be used as a centre for rehabilitation on depression, substance abuse. The centre will also provide advice on many issues affecting the community.



Ms Gugu Mpungose: Safety Officer and Mr Jabulani Mdlalose: Carpenter- with his tool box

The two beneficiaries in terms of employment are Ms Gugu Mpungose who lives at Madadeni Section 5 Ward 21 and Mr Jabulani Mdlalose. Ms Mpungopse was hired as a

general labourer but through her commitment and hard work she was promoted to a position as a Safety Officer – “the salary I get here helps me to manage my financial needs, I am now able to pay for my child’s school fees and also support my family as the bread winner”. Meanwhile, Jabulani Mdlalose, an orphan who started working in this project in January 2014 as a carpenter to do roofing, ceiling, and doors, everything related to carpentry says he has learnt a lot of skills and gained experience. “I am the older one at home and I can support my siblings through my involvement with the project”, he said joyously.

The project scope include administration block, education block 1 (computer room, needle work and library), educational block 2 (workshop), dining hall, a kitchen, laundry and boiler room, as well toilet facilities for males and females. The project which is currently at 59% advanced status and is expected to be completed by June 2015.