

GET TO KNOW: DENZEL BLAAUW, PROJECT ADMINISTRATOR



Denzel Blaauw joined the HDA as a Project Administrator in August 2009. He previously worked as a Site Supervisor for Thubelisha Homes.

Denzel's job involves project reporting, administration and the coordination of projects and relocations.

"I love my job because no two days are ever the same. I'm always presented with new challenges - this allows me to stay focused."

"I feel like I really am making a difference in the Joe Slovo community. I'm part of a meaningful project that facilitates the process of securing a roof over people's heads."

Residents who need assistance on project and or relocation matters can contact Denzel on 021 481 2900.

N2 GATEWAY

Community Newsletter



PROJECT UPDATES

Joe Slovo

- 789 houses handed over to date.
- 66 of the 144 houses under construction in Phase 3A achieved practical completion and 134 in Phase 3 C achieved practical completion. 51 of the 134 have been occupied to date.
- 144 in Phase 3A to be occupied by end of November. The remaining 83 of the 134 houses in Phase 3C to be occupied by end November.
- The eviction process in Phase 3A is still on going.

Boystown

- 1046 houses will be built at Boystown; 407 at Phase 2, 482 at Phase 3 and 157 at the Triangle site.
- To date 503 houses have been completed and handed over.

UHLAZIYO LWEEPROJEKTHI

IJoe Slovo

- Izindlu ezingama-789 sezanikezelwa kubaninizo ukuza kutsho ngoku.
- Kwezindlu ezili-144 ama- 66 kwebesizakhiwa kwiSigaba sika- 3A ziye zagqitywa yaye kwiSigaba sika-3Czili-134 izindlu ezithe zafumana ukugqitywa. Ama-51 kwezingama-134 sezihlala abantu.
- Izindlu ezili-144 ezikwiSigaba sika-3A ziza kungena abantu ekupheleni kukaNovemba. Intsalela yezindlu ezingama- 83 kwezili-134 nezikwiSigaba sika- 3C ziza kuhlaliswa abantu ekupheleni kukaNovemba.
- Inkqubo yokukhutshelwa ngaphandle kwabantu ezindlwini kwiSigaba sika-3A isaqhubeka.

IBoystown

- I-1046 lezindlu liza kwakhiwa eBoystown; ama-407 kwiSigaba sesi-2, ama-482 kwiSigaba sika-3 yaye i-157 lakhiwe kwiSiza esinguNxantathu (Triangle site).
- Ukuza kutsho ngoku izindlu ezingama-503 sezagqitywa zaze zanikezelwa kubanikazi bazo.

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NEW HOMES IN TIME FOR THE HOLIDAYS

"I can take long baths now because I have the privilege of my own bathroom and a bath that I never had before. And, I no longer need to live out of a suitcase, because I have space for a wardrobe."



Noceba Nkize, 75-year-old and Marcosandile Sigit, 54-year-old, took ownership of their new homes.

So says Noceba Nkize who, with a number of other approved beneficiaries, took ownership of their homes in Delft Precinct 3 & 5 during September. The 75-year-old who used to live as a backyarder in Langa says her new house is very different and definitely an "upgrade".

"I lived with my daughter and grandchildren and there was no space to move or cook."

"We were so dependent on the people whose property we were living on; we had to pay them rent so that we could have access to electricity and water."

The double-storey units at Delft 3 & 5 are built with Alternative Building Technologies (ABT). Nkize says she understands that these materials have their benefits.

"When I walk outside in the sun, I know that when I get home it will feel much cooler than outside. At the moment I am living alone. I am enjoying the space, the peace and the quiet before my children and grandchildren visit during the holidays."

Marcosandile Sigit is also very grateful to have a bathroom in the house. The 54-year-old adds that he is overjoyed that he, his wife and his mother-in-law – who previously lived in Tsunami for four years - are settled in and comfortable.

"I have no words to express my gratitude."

"We are so happy. Most importantly we are comfortable; the fact that the house is so beautiful and spacious doesn't hurt either."

Marcosandile works as a taxi driver. He says knowing that his family has a roof over their heads set his mind at ease.

"We have already experienced that it is cooler inside the house on a hot day. This is thanks to the ABT materials the house is built with. We are very grateful to have bedrooms and a bathroom of our own, and we cannot wait to celebrate our first Christmas in our new house!"

USEFUL CONTACT NUMBERS

Emergencies:

| | |
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| When a life or property is threatened: | 021 480 7700 (cell phone) OR 107 from a (landline) |
| Fire Department (General information): | 021 590 1900 |
| The Housing Development Agency Helpdesk: | 021 481 2900 |
| City of Cape Town matters: | 0860 103 089 |
| Eskom Customer Care: | 0860 037 566 |
| Western Cape (WC) Government (general enquiries): | 0860 142 142 |
| WC Social Development Hotline: | 0800 22 0250 |
| Department of Social Development Disability Programme: | 021 483 4015 |
| Master of the High Court (for deceased estates): | 021 410 8300 |
| Childline: | 0800 55 555 or 021 762 8198 |
| Stop Woman Abuse Hotline: | 0800 150 150 |
| Rental Housing Tribunal: | 0860 106 166 |
| Waiting list database: | 021 444 0333 |



MAKE PERSONAL SAFETY A PRIORITY

As the holidays approach, we tend to relax and let our guard down – making us vulnerable and easy targets for criminals. We must remain aware of our personal safety at all times. The first step is to be aware of your surroundings and of the people around you.

Anoyolo Ntlantsol lives in Joe Slovo Phase 3C with her four children. She says she feels much safer now that she has moved from Zone 31 because the police station and hospital are nearby.

Despite feeling safer, Anoyolo says she still fears for their safety at times because anything can happen.

“I try to make sure that as a family we’re always safe. I know all the emergency numbers, I encourage my children not to walk around late at night by themselves and that they must always be aware of their surroundings.”

ADT Security Western Cape has the following advice that you can share with family and friends:

- Save emergency numbers (like that of the South African Police Service, fire and ambulance services) on your cell phone.
- Always trust your instincts. If someone or something makes you uneasy, avoid the person or leave the area immediately.
- If you plan to go out, tell someone you trust where you are going and when you expect to return; this way no time will be wasted in raising the alarm if you are not back as scheduled.



Anoyolo Ntlantsol feels much safer now that she has moved

PROTECTING OUR WOMEN AND CHILDREN

Every year more than 63 000 sexual offences are reported across South Africa; 8000 of them in the Western Cape.



According to the Rape Crisis Cape Town Trust (RCCTT), rape happens in all communities, to all races and is perpetrated by different types of people.

25 November until 10 December marks the 16 Days of Activism to End Violence Against Women and Children. The campaign began in 1991 in the United States.

“Abuse is a problem that affects us all,” says 74-year-old Ntombembehele Mpotulo of Delft Precinct 3 & 5.

“In my lifetime I have seen and heard so many tragic stories that involve the abuse of women and children. People still continue to do bad things even to the elderly, and my heart breaks for both the young and older generations.”

“As a community we should work hard to create a safe environment for our families everyday – not just at this time of the year.”

According to Rape Crisis, some of the reasons that so many incidents of rape go unreported to the police include:

- fear of retaliation or intimidation by the perpetrator
- survivors’ lack of access to services
- the humiliation of being exposed as a victim of rape in a community
- the extreme suffering that goes hand in hand with rape as a psychological trauma



Ntombembehele Mpotulo says abuse affects us all.

- reluctance to cause pain to loved ones

Mpotulo goes on to say that more can be done to ensure the safety of women and children. “I support campaigns like these as they encourage and provide a platform for women who don’t feel strong enough to speak about their abusive environments.”

Rape Crisis has offices in Athlone, Khayelitsha and Observatory. Their services include:

- free, confidential counselling to rape survivors and their families
- A 24 hour advice and support helpline to speak with survivors in English, Afrikaans or Xhosa over the telephone
- Court support at five regional courts in Cape Town and pre-trial consultations.

“The 16 Days of Activism is a call to all of us to come together and make a change in our communities,” says Rape Crisis spokesperson, Sarah Strydom. “Every individual has a part to play in changing our culture of violence and building communities in which women can live their lives free from violence.”

HOW TO CONTACT RAPE CRISIS:

Observatory office and 24-hour helpline: (021) 447 9762



BE A SMART-SPENDER THESE HOLIDAYS

For many, the festive season is a tough time financially as there may or may not be a thirteenth cheque or bonus – meaning that December’s pay-packet will have to last until January.

Some households may already be feeling the pressure of making sure that there will be food on the table, activities to keep the children occupied, money for school fees, uniforms and stationery and other necessities.

According to the South African Savings Institute, during the “silly season” retailers do tend to make goods and services appear to be cheaper. Or, we are given the option to “take now and pay in February”. They say this hurts the consumer who only realises the pinch early in the new year. By then we are not able to pay for the goods we bought in December and that’s when the borrowing starts.

The Institute’s CEO Elizabeth Lwanga-Nanziri says it is important to work wisely with your money throughout the holidays.

“Set priorities – make a list of what and how much your expenses will be in January and set aside that money immediately.”

“Not everything on SALE is for you; only buy sale goods if they are on your priority list.”

“If you do receive a bonus, use it to pay off debt and save some of the money – it will come in handy in January.”

NOVEMBER IS DIABETES AWARENESS MONTH

According to Diabetes South Africa (DSA), approximately six million South Africans are living with diabetes and two million do not even know that they have the condition. An individual with diabetes has high blood sugar levels because their body does not produce enough insulin or it doesn’t work properly.

There are two main types of diabetes:

Type 1 is usually diagnosed during childhood and occurs when the body’s immune system attacks the cells in the pancreas that produce insulin leaving the body unable to regulate blood sugar levels.

Type 2 or adult-onset diabetes is caused when the body’s cells become resistant to insulin.

Common symptoms of diabetes include:

- Constant thirst and tiredness

- Frequent urination
- Unexplained weight loss
- Itching
- Blurred vision
- Slow healing cuts or bruises
- Numbness of the hands and feet

DSA Nurse Educator, Razana Allie says it’s important that diabetics, and those who are at risk, make the choice to maintain a healthy lifestyle.

“If you do have a risk factor – if you are overweight, have a history of diabetes in your family or other cardiovascular conditions like Hypertension – you must test regularly for high blood glucose.”



BY-LAW BOX: FIREWORKS

While the festivals of Guy Fawkes and Diwali may have passed, many people like to ring in the holidays and the New Year with fireworks.

Did you know: under the City’s Informal Trading By-law informal traders cannot sell fireworks without a permit. And, the discharge of fireworks is only allowed in areas that the City has earmarked for this purpose.

Fireworks must only be bought from authorised dealers and shops that display the relevant permits from the South African Police Service.

Safety with fireworks:

- It is illegal to let off fireworks anywhere other than a designated area

- Children younger than 16 cannot buy or let off fireworks without adult supervision
- Never discharge fireworks indoors
- Fireworks are very stressful for animals. Ensure that your pets are safely indoors to keep them from running away when the noise frightens them. If you do plan to be away from home make sure your pets are left in safe, familiar surroundings
- Do not let off fireworks if you are under the influence of alcohol or drugs