

MEDIA RELEASE

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Orphans getting love from families in the surrounding townships

KZN Health MEC, Dr Sibongiseni Dhlomo has full praise for Amajuba District parents who continue to offer assistance to the St Antony's Children Home in the area.

MEC Dhlomo took time off during the weekend's Voter Registration campaign to visit the orphanage, bringing goodies and food to the children that are housed there.

He explains his association with the home that is situated in Blaaubosch near Osizweni Township:

The first time I got to know about this place was during my tenure as the Mayor of Newcastle in 1996. Having understood that it was set up by a childless Dr Khoza and his wife to house 5 children whose dying mother had asked the couple to take care of them; I also decided to get involved.

I then initiated a Bursary fund for the children of the Home and in my visit in 2010 I was very elated when I met Mandla Khoza who was once an orphan at the home and now a qualified teacher because of the Bursary scheme we had set-up.

The MEC says the Home has produced and nurtured a host of determined and strong willed men and women who are making a positive contribution to the development of this country.

During his 2010 visit; he appealed to parents in the neighbouring townships to at least once a weekend to 'adopt' a child to their homesteads and give that child love and affection the same that they accord to their children.

During the past weekend lunch visit the MEC learnt that, children are indeed being taken out to be pampered:

'It is heart-warming to get a report that members of the community continue to visit and take children to their own homes as far as Ladysmith and Bergville. It is indeed this love that we show which is the love that God commands us all to give to one another. President Nelson Mandela extolled on all of us to act saying 'There can be no keener revelation of a society's soul than the way it treats its children.'

Dhlomo enjoyed lunch with the children and promised them to return soon as he serves as a Political Champion for the Provincial Government Operation Sukuma Sakhe in Amajuba District.



MEC is with the children and the goodies he brought them.

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