

Nomusa Mbatha feeds one of the disabled kids she looks after at Ngwelezane.
Photo by Lucky Morajane



NOMUSA TAKES AFTER HER NAME!

She left a good job to care for disabled kids

By YANGA SOJI

FEW people would sacrifice a stable income to care for vulnerable people.

But this is exactly what Nomusa Mbatha did.

Four years ago Nomusa, Zulu for "the kind one", resigned from her job as a clerk at Home Affairs to open the Nkosi Sihawukele Disabled Care Centre at Ngwelezane on the KZN north coast.

Her NGO takes in disabled kids from rural areas who have been abandoned by their parents.

The kids sleep in her double garage, which she has turned into a bedroom.

Nomusa said that seeing the disabled being locked indoors upset her, and she felt she had to do something to help them.

At a Christmas party held for the kids, she said: "Some of the kids have been abused, but in most cases their parents are just

too poor to care for them."

The centre cares for 15 kids between the ages of three and 18.

The kids suffer from various conditions including cerebral palsy, which affects the brain and nervous system.

She said caring for the kids is hard work, and she has a team of eight volunteers who help her wash and feed the kids.

"I pay them very little, but they have stayed with me. Their loyalty is amazing," she said.

Later this month the centre will be moving to a new building sponsored by a construction company.

Nomusa said although she faces many challenges in running the centre, what keeps her going is seeing the kids improve.

"They have disabilities, but they react to love and care like any other person," she said.

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF A BASIC ASSESSMENT PROCESS FOR THE PROPOSED CROSSROADS MALL RETAIL FACILITY, SPRINGS

GDARD EIA Ref No: GAUT: 002/13-14/E0216

Notice is hereby given that Dijalo Property Development (Pty) Ltd proposes to develop a new retail facility, the Crossroads Mall, in Springs. The proposed Crossroads Mall will provide residents living in Kwa-Thema and Selcourt with amenities in addition to employment opportunities that will be created.

The application is done in terms of activities listed in GN 544 of 2010, published in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) as amended (NEMA). To ensure compliance with the NEMA, a Basic Assessment process is required, as described in the NEMA Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations in GN 543 of 2010. The application forms have been submitted to the Gauteng Department of Agriculture and Rural Development.

Applicant: Dijalo Property Development (Pty) Ltd
Independent Environmental Consultant: AECOM SA
Environmental Authority: Gauteng Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (GDARD)

LOCATION: The proposed Crossroads Mall will be located on a part of the Remaining Extent of Portion 81 of the Farm Rietfontein No. 128, Registration Division IR, in Province of Gauteng. The project site is located south of the N17, West of Tonk Meter Road and East of Kwa-Thema in the southern part of Springs.

REGISTRATION OF INTERESTED AND AFFECTED PARTIES: In order to ensure that you are registered as an interested and affected party, please submit your name, contact information and interest in the matter to the contact person indicated below. You are welcome to contact AECOM for further information, or to submit your comments on the application or the proposed activity.

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