

PRESS RELEASE ISSUED BY MEALS ON WHEELS SOUTH AFRICA

10 May 2011

Bhambayi Meals On Wheels Brims With Energy; Deserves Container (And Blankets)

Branch manager of Bhambayi Meals on Wheels, Inanda KZN Simangele Mlawu is bursting with energy and innovative yet practical ideas to uplift the community of a squatter area in Inanda.

Simangele is a trained social worker and if she just had a space, provided by a container, in which to house a dedicated office, she could put all her excellent ideas into practice.

“We are in crisis. We do not have an office space as we are using a creche to operate from,” says Simangele. “I would love to invite trainee professional social work students to come and help us but we need a private space to preserve confidentiality of our patients.”

“We serve a community of 114 people with many different social problems including needing counseling for HIV and this too requires confidentiality,” Simangele continues. “Some people come here without identity documents. I would love to invite Home Affairs officials to come here and help these people but I need a proper office to facilitate this.”

“I like to keep a proper register and make copies but have no space to store these. We cannot store material such as office equipment (computers) or filing cabinets on site because we cook and counsel and do everything in one room and the information and equipment is neither private nor safe. I use my own laptop and printer at home because of this.

“We are among shacks. We did look around for premises to rent but found nothing. A container would answer our prayers,” says Simangele. “I want to make a difference. I know what it is like to grow up poor.”

And this irrepressible lady even has the energy for fun. “You must come and visit when we have a party for beneficiaries,” she says. Besides a container, the branch would appreciate a fridge (the old one breaks from time to time and is costly to fix), office equipment and 114 blankets for winter.

Meals on Wheels is a charitable organization that provides meals for people too poor or infirm to fend for themselves. You can sponsor a hungry person via SMS – simply SMS the word ‘MEAL’ to 39055. Your SMS is billed at R15.00

You can also visit the following websites for more news and info:

- Meals on Wheels website: www.mowglobal.co.za

Social Pages :

- Facebook: <http://on.fb.me/eSkF9s>
- Twitter: <http://twitter.com/>