



INTERNET ARTICLE

Department of Water and Sanitation reach out to QwaQwa senior citizens amid Covid-19 pandemic

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In an effort to combat the spread of the corona virus, the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) provided buckets filled with sanitizers to the elderly of QwaQwa on Thursday, 07 May 2020.

Following the announcement of the country's lockdown by President Cyril Ramaphosa, the Minister of Human Settlements, Water and Sanitation, Ms Lindiwe Sisulu made a call that there be urgent interventions to ensure every South African has access to water and proper sanitation services.

World Health Organisation has declared that wearing a mask, washing of hands regularly with soap and using sanitisers are some of the best methods to prevent the spread of the Covid-19 Pandemic.

To this end, the Department identified the most vulnerable communities such as informal settlements and rural areas as areas of prioritization as they are facing acute water and sanitation challenges.

The Department of Water and Sanitation together with Thabo Mofutsanyana District Municipality targeted SASSA pay points in QwaQwa where the elderly receive their grants. Grant recipients at Madiboho Primary School in Bolato Village and Boiketlong Primary Schools were ecstatic when they received their buckets filled with goods.

The buckets comprised of one litre bottle of a hand sanitizer, two bleaches, four hand soaps, two set of rubber gloves and a face mask. These will go a long way in taking care of their personal hygiene as well as keep their immediate surface areas clear of germs and viruses.

The Department has also been providing water tanks in QwaQwa and other areas in Free State as part of its efforts to reduce the spread of the virus. Thus far, DWS has provided 1623 water tank in informal settlements and rural area in Free State. Water restricted communities were also provided with 134 water tankers (trucks) which provide the much needed water to wash hands.

DWS will soon roll out 87 water tanks to schools in Gariep and Thabo Mofutsanyana Districts in the Free State.

Larry Crisp