



INTERNET ARTICLE

DWS Mpumalanga donates furniture and IT assets to Lesedi Blind Association in Bushbuckridge Local Municipality

08 December 2025

The Department of Water and Sanitation, Mpumalanga Provincial Operations has donated furniture and IT assets to Lesedi Blind Association in Casteel, Bushbuckridge Local Municipality on 05 December 2025 as part of Disability Rights Awareness Month celebrations. The initiative formed part of ongoing efforts to strengthen support structures for persons living with disabilities, while also improving access to essential resources that enable equal participation in society.

The event marked a significant milestone in recognising the rights, talents, and contributions of people with disabilities in South Africa. As the nation continues to commemorate Disability Rights Awareness Month, the handover amplified the message that inclusion must not only be spoken about, but it must be practically implemented. The provision of office furniture and technological equipment is expected to assist the association in advancing its organisational operations, improving service delivery to its beneficiaries, and creating a more conducive working environment for both staff and members.

Delivering the purpose of the event, Ms Khensani Munisi highlighted that the gathering was not only about handing over furniture and IT assets, but also about celebrating and recognising the resilience of people living with disabilities. She stressed the importance of ensuring that disability-focused organisations are equipped with functional tools to operate effectively.

In her handover address, the Provincial Head, Ms Dudu Sifunda expressed appreciation for the association's continuous efforts in empowering people with disabilities in Bushbuckridge. She emphasised that commemorating this day reminds us that persons with disabilities must be afforded equal opportunities, resources, and support to live dignified and independent lives.

She further urged beneficiaries to value the equipment received and use it to strengthen their daily operations. "These assets are not just donations; they are tools that will enable the association to operate more efficiently and expand its services. We believe that the equipment will play a significant role in improving the work of the centre and accommodating more people living with disabilities, because the vision of this organisation is meaningful and impactful to the community. We trust that the resources will be handled responsibly and used to advance the important mission you are carrying out here," she said.

The Transversal Manager at Bushbuckridge Local Municipality, Mr Steve Maunye welcomed the initiative and acknowledged the critical role organisations like Lesedi Blind Association play within communities. He committed to prioritising disability programmes in municipal planning.

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Representing the association and centre, Centre Manager, Mr Isaac Mashile extended his gratitude towards the Department, stating that the donation would greatly assist their administrative and outreach work. He expressed appreciation for being recognised and reaffirmed the organisation's commitment to serving its members and supporting those navigating life with visual impairments. "We are deeply grateful for these assets, because they will allow our centre to function better and serve more people who rely on our support. This handover gives us hope, and it strengthens our ability to continue changing lives within our community," he said.

The donation demonstrated the Department's commitment to ensuring that vulnerable groups receive the necessary support to function effectively in their communities. By prioritising disability inclusion, the Department contributes to building a society where every citizen, regardless of physical condition, has access to the tools and resources required to thrive.

With partnerships between local government structures, civil organisations, and national departments, sustainable empowerment becomes attainable. The Lesedi Blind Association remains a beacon of hope for many visually impaired persons in Bushbuckridge, and the support received on this important occasion has reaffirmed the value of working collectively towards a more inclusive and compassionate South Africa.

Themba Khoza

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