

ArcelorMittal South Africa Solidarity Holidays 2014

A dream fulfilled!

Mmasabata Mofurutsi

Ma Ngcobo is a 79 year old grandmother who takes care of her eight grandchildren alone. Many of her children have passed away and she is currently the only family member available to take care of her grand kids. Living in a dilapidated mud house, life has proved to be an enormous challenge for the Ngcobo family.

“For many years I have been taking care of my grandchildren alone. Their parents have passed away and I am currently the only family member left to take care of all of them. I could not bear to see my grandchildren alone so I knew I had to do all I could to take them in. I am currently receiving a pensioner’s grant from the government and that is my only source of income which I use to support my family every month.



Ma Ngcobo, with her grand-daughter Hlobisile and Paloma de Aguiar Moreno from Brazil - one of our International Volunteers



The old house the Ngcobe Family used to live in

there is no money to fix the house.

“I am forever grateful to ArcelorMittal South Africa for this wonderful gift that you have given to me and my family. The past few years have been a great struggle for us. I really appreciate this new house that you have built for me. We can now go to bed knowing that we have a secure roof over our heads. I have always dreamed of owning my own home and thanks to ArcelorMittal South Africa that dream has now become a reality.”

“Being a single parent comes with many challenges, and most of my grandchildren are still at school. I have been living in this house for many years. The walls are crumbling, the roof is falling apart. I was afraid for my family’s safety every time the storm clouds gathered. When it rains the roof leaks and we have to use buckets to gather the water. During heavy winds I lie awake at night praying that our roof does not get blown away. We have neither proper sanitation nor electricity, and my grandchildren have to use candles to do their homework and study at night. Candles are not always safe to use, I always feared that one of the children might drop a candle and it would set the house on fire. The floors are cracking and



Solidarity Holidays Volunteers building Ma Ngcobo's new home.



A new Protea house under construction