

## ELDERLY DELIGHTED AS HOME GETS FACE-LIFT

Oct 10 2011 10:22AM

### ***Lehlohonolo Mokoena***

The Thekolohelong Old Age Welfare Centre has undergone a much needed facelift.

Centre manager Granny Plaatjie said the building which housed the old-age pensioners was in a very bad condition and was practically unliveable. The centre, established in 1976, is located at Phuthaditjhaba in the QwaQwa area.

“We had leaking roofs, the toilets were in a bad condition and our elderly residents had to walk about 5m to a bathroom from their rooms,” said Plaatjie.

She said the centre had undergone a total makeover.

The walls had been painted and new toilets installed in each room. A new rehabilitation and community centre had also been built.

Plaatjie told The New Age the main purpose of the renovations was to develop a healthier and more comfortable environment for all senior citizens.

She said prisoners had been used by the department of correctional services to do all the renovation work at the centre.

Social development MEC Sisi Ntombela, who officially opened the newly renovated centre last week, said it was very disappointing when visiting such homes to find elderly people being neglected or living in squalid rooms.

Resident Aletta Tsosane, 73 , was very excited.

“I am speechless about all the good things we now have in our home. We really feel like we are now being taken care of,” she said.

[Source: [www.thenewage.co.za](http://www.thenewage.co.za)]