A campaign of joy and upliftment for smelter staff

Lydenburg Smelter, a Glencore Merana Venture, spent their 67 minutes with various organisations in and around town as part of its contribution towards Mandela Day.

Nelson Mandela International Day (or Mandela Day) is an international day in his honour celebrated each year on July 18, Mandela’s birthday. The day was officially declared by the United Nations in November 2009, with the first UN Mandela Day held on July 18, 2010.

Mandela Day is about giving back and making an impact. We all have the power to make a difference, no matter how small.

Employees and management cleaned and tidied up the garden, repaired plumbing leaks and serviced the backup water system at the Mashishing Clinic.

The clinic’s acting manager, Faith Mokwenya, thanked the smelters on behalf of the department for being recognised when commemorating Madiba Day. “We are very excited that the smelter and everybody present helped each other moving forward and continuing where Tata Madiba left, as it reminds us that we need to help each other,” she said.

Other organisations that were visited during this special day included Cotlands Early Childhood Development Centre in Badfontein, Speekboom and Shikila day care centres, Soil Deo Gloria Care Centre and Enjabuleni Old Age Home.

Cotlands’ Julia Shokwane thanked the smelter on behalf of the department. “We are very excited. This is a big surprise for us as we never expected such things to happen. Thank you for the table and chairs that we were in need of the most. Let it not happen only to us, but to others as well.”

Various donations were handed out in the form of food, maintenance tools, stationary, furniture, educational toys and treats.

A part of Glencore, Lydenburg Smelter’s aim is to bring about economic benefits to the communities wherein its works. Their operations can bring socio-economic benefits to its host communities not only on Mandela Day, but every day in operation.

They work in partnership with stakeholders to deliver initiatives that support long-term self-sufficiency and they are committed to building and maintaining constructive, long-standing relationships with stakeholders, including their host communities.

In particular, Glencore seeks to understand the needs of vulnerable groups in communities, including indigenous people, women, children, disabled and elderly people, and victims of conflict.

The smelter thanks Hannas Mica for their much-appreciated contribution towards this special campaign.