

# Bell and OVL partnership builds strong foundations

**The Govan Mbeki Local Municipality has praised Bell Equipment Sales South Africa Ltd (BESSA) and the Overlooked Group (OVL) for collaborating to build four houses for indigent families in the Municipality's eMzinoni area, thereby reducing the housing backlog.**

BESSA, the South African dealer for Bell Equipment's mining and construction equipment, contributed over R1 million during 2022 towards the project. This complemented BESSA's commitment to socio-economic advancement, given its customer base, which includes mining houses, emerging contractors, and various government spheres. OVL, a 100% black-owned company renowned for its expertise in housing projects, facilitated and provided project management expertise.

The official handover of the houses took place in November 2023 when Councillor Thandi Mtsweni, a Member of the Municipality's Mayoral Committee for Planning and Development, thanked OVL and BESSA for their commitment to socio-economic development. Tiaan Swanepoel of OVL highlighted the holistic community approach, engaging local contractors, subcontractors, labourers, and suppliers, to amplify the project's impact on the ground.

Gary Bell, Chairman of Bell Equipment Limited, emphasised the company's commitment to South Africa. With a team of 4 000 employees, Bell is deeply rooted in local production, fostering a network of about 1 250 local suppliers, and generating approximately 30 000 jobs through the multiplier effect of their supply chain.

Importantly, this partnership extends beyond housing, highlighting Bell Equipment and OVL's role in nation-building and socio-economic empowerment. Together they embody the spirit of unity and progress.

"Bell Equipment appreciates the opportunity to work together with the Overlooked Group and the Govan Mbeki Local Municipality to create change for the betterment of people in South Africa. This type of project fits in well with what we do around the country. We work in hundreds of different regions and have many such projects," said Mr Bell.



**The happy moment when the ribbon at the front gate to Gogo Nana Aslina Kuhlase Mthimunye's own house was cut.**