

Patricia de Lille and Stormers participate in FoodBank's Mandela Day initiative

Hunger relief charity FoodBank South Africa received much-needed assistance from Cape Town's executive mayor, Patricia de Lille, the Stormers rugby team, and a number of companies and organisations this Mandela Day, as they packed food hampers to distribute to the under-privileged.



Bryan Habana and Patricia de Lille

This Mandela Day, the organisation celebrates four years of providing food to over 1000 community-based organisations across South Africa. Since its formation in 2009, food to the equivalent of over 50 million meals has been distributed into impoverished communities via the FoodBank's partner non profit organisations. The mayor handed over food hampers she and her staff had packed, to Foodbank SA's patron and SA rugby player, Bryan Habana at the Cape Town Civic Centre.

Inspiring positive action

With the overarching objective of Mandela Day being to inspire individuals to take action to help change the world for the better, and in doing so, to build a global movement for good, FoodBank SA's patron, Bryan Habana, encouraged people to donate their time to fighting hunger and malnutrition on Mandela Day: "A shocking and tragic 11 million South Africans are food insecure and what better day than Mandela Day for South Africans and South African corporates to get involved in helping the poor."

FoodBank SA runs corporate hamper-packing events throughout the year, offering teams the opportunity to purchase groceries from shopping lists supplied by FoodBank SA and to then pack food hampers for the poor. FoodBank SA supplies food to crèches, homes, hospices, care facilities and schools in impoverished areas.

SA produces enough food to feed its entire population, yet around a third of food produced each year ends up in landfills. Much of the food distributed by FoodBank SA is donated by major food producers and retailers just before it reaches expiry date. FoodBank collects this food, ensuring that as much as possible is rescued and does not end up on rubbish dumps. It then gets distributed to organisations working directly with the poor.

SMS the word "FoodBank" to 40421 to make a R20 donation, which will enable FoodBank to provide food with which to feed 12 hungry people.

For more information, go to www.foodbank.org.za.

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