

Maria Matthews

Maria Matthews has been living in Flamingo Crescent since before it was an established settlement. This very hardworking woman serves as a leader in her community. She has a very large family, with seven children and numerous grandchildren.



A Little Bit More about Maria

Maria, or Auntie Marie as most people in the community call her, was born 62 years ago in Elsies River. She spent a large part of her life there until she moved to Cape Town. In the city, she lived first in Manenberg and then in Browns Farms. In 2005 she settled in Flamingo Crescent where she has been living ever since. Throughout all of the moving, Auntie Marie made sure to spend time with her family. She has raised seven children, all of whom are now

grown up and have brought to her numerous grandchildren that she loves. She has also had the opportunity to travel outside of South Africa, even as far as Switzerland where her sister lives.

Interests & Hobbies

Auntie Marie is currently self-employed. She walks out of the settlement early every morning to the train station, where she owns a spaza shop. However, she always leaves time for Flamingo, as she loves to do things for the community. She previously worked as a chef, and to this day she holds a passion for cooking.

Being a Community Leader

Visiting her sister motivated Auntie Marie to help improve the community. Since then, she has been putting great effort and work into the settlement. This effort was reflected in her election to help lead Flamingo Crescent through the reblocking process. Auntie Marie is responsible for many duties within the community and faces various challenges on a daily basis. She addresses all of these conflicts in a positive manner by talking to members of the community and seeking solutions. She hopes that Flamingo Crescent will flourish and change for the better, and she is willing to do everything in her power to make that a reality.



A Glimpse into the Future

Maria's main goal is for Flamingo Crescent to become a stronger, happier community, and for all of its residents to have a better life.

Skills

- Communication
- Engineering
- Leadership
- Entrepreneurial
- Cultural
- Caring
- Building
- Crafting
- Musical
- Cooking
- Teaching