



Helen Botes, Lindiwe Mahlangu-Kwele and Pat Telela

Hope for abused women

SURVIVORS of domestic violence could soon find themselves in the property business, if the partnership between the Johannesburg Property Company (JPC) and People Opposing Woman Abuse (Powa) delivers on its intentions.

JPC announced it was adopting the women's rights group as its legacy project at a women in business breakfast held at Sandton's Balalaika Hotel on 12 August.

Chief executive officer Helen Botes said JPC's portfolio totalled R8.6 billion and she wanted more women to partake in its projects. "I want to sign more contracts where women are co-signatures," she said.

Botes said women had always been at the helm during JPC's 10 years in existence and it targeted women as

beneficiaries of its opportunities and training programmes. "Now is the right time to extend a hand to those less empowered. We cannot continue to shut out our neighbours' painful cries. We have to reach out and help."

Botes said women needed to create networks that would empower and enrich each other's lives.

Chief executive officer of Powa Nhlahla Mokwena said discussions on how the partnership would work were still ongoing but hoped Powa's clients would gain sustainable skills and employment from the project.

Master of ceremony Uyanda Mbuli kept the attendants entertained with her anecdotal quips. Board member Dr Dorothy Sekhukhune presented a talk on claiming one's place in the world.



Jeanette Sera with Nhlahla Mokwena.

