



# G.J Crookes NEWS

December 2024



GJ Crookes Hospital proudly hosted its Service Excellence Awards on the 4 December 2024, with the theme “From Compliance to Performance” . The awards were graced by the presence of esteemed guests, including Head Office, Ugu District Director: Mrs L Dlamini and the district team. The programme was expertly directed by the duo, Mbali Ndlovu and Nonkanyiso Nzimande who kept the audience engaged and entertained throughout the event.



## Service Excellence Awards



Rev. S Shangase: Guest Speaker



GJ Crookes Hospital :Events Committee

The keynote address was delivered by Deputy Director: Wellness Team, Rev S Shangase, who delivered a thought provoking and inspiring keynote address to GJ Staff. He emphasized the difference between achievers and non achievers', highlighting that both are thinkers but their patterns of thinking differ significantly. Staff members from the hospital and clinics

were honoured with awards. The awards were based on outstanding performance in clinical and non-clinical categories and acknowledged staff dedication and commitment to

delivering exceptional patient care. The CEO's awards included a special accolade to Umdoni Health Sub District for achieving Zero Maternal Deaths in 2023/24, this achievement is a testament to the tireless efforts and commitment of the team and their dedication to providing quality maternal care to the clients and maintenance department for making a positive progress on Infrastructure development and Maintenance in 2024. The Human Resources Department also recognised and awarded staff for long service from 20,30 and 40 years.

The Hospital events committee deserves a special recognition for their tireless efforts in organising this prestigious event. Their dedication and attention to detail ensured a seamless and enjoyable experience for all attendees.

GJ Crookes Hospital would like to extend its sincere gratitude to the sponsors for their generous support of service excellence: AVBOB, OLD MUTUAL, METROPOLITAN, Ngoza Car Rentals, Bluff Meats, Nazareth Baptist Church (Thembezinhle), Dr. Mbhele ,Dr Khanyile, Samke Msomi & Sihle Londwa.

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## DISABILITY AWARENESS EVENT



**Mr Pasco from Spur receiving a gift from the Rehab Team**



**Daniella (dietician: in the middle) and the ladies from crocheted club**

On the 10 December 2024, GJ Crookes Rehab Team hosted a Disability Awareness. This special event was promoting and raising awareness about the rights of children born with disability. The theme for 2024 is "Creating Disability-Inclusive Society for a Better Quality of Life and Protection of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities". Parents and caregivers were motivated and encouraged for their tireless efforts in caring for their children despite the numerous challenges they face.

They also shared their experiences in raising children living with disability. One of the mothers appreciated the support group provided by the hospital, she mentioned the difficulties of raising a child living with disability in a society that does not accept a disabled child. Further stated that the GJ Crookes community assisted her in accepting her child.

She has seen her child progress, she now understands the importance of attending rehabilitation clinics. Ms B Fakude who is living with cerebral palsy shared her testimony. She completed her matric, wrote her exams using her feet. Her disability makes her understand and be patient with herself, and she encourages those with disability to be patient with themselves. Encourages others to stand up for themselves and be proud of who they are. Ms Fakude ended by highlighting how the positive words of family and friends has been impeccable on her journey.

GJ Crookes would like to extend a heartfelt gratitude to Atlanta Spur who generously provided meals for the children and parents in attendance and Avanal Todd who donated soft toys (crocheted teddies) which brought smiles to the faces of children.

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# World Trauma Day



**AMN NM Chule, OM: T Chetty, OM Sibethe and Dr Mkhize with staff from Accident & Emergency Unit**

GJ Crookes Hospital commemorated World Trauma Day on 17 October 2024. The guests included hospital staff, learners from St Francis Primary School, Scottburgh High School, SAPS, EMS, Compass Waste and Lifeline. Mrs Khathi (CEO) welcomed everyone present and stated that the aim of this commemoration was to raise awareness and give support to trauma victims. She mentioned that trauma does not only take place at home or work but it can happen anywhere and we all ought to give support to those that have been victims.

Topics like gender based violence and femicide, health and safety tips, waste management back injuries and eight commandments of lifting were addressed by various speakers from suitable departments.

The Accident and Emergency Unit gave a sterling performance and kept the guests entertained.

A victim of abuse: Ms N Mbatha shared an emotional experience and how she managed to overcome her trauma with the help from Lifeline social workers. Ms Mbatha enrolled for skills development programme and she now runs her own business.

Messages that were shared by speakers were evidence that trauma affects all and it is a social issue that must be nipped in the bud, starting with families where children are moulded.



## PATIENT SAFETY DAY

GJ Crookes Hospital joined the global healthcare community in observing World Patient Safety Day on 17 September 2024. This year's slogan, "Get it right, make it safe", emphasized the importance of prioritising patient safety. The awareness refreshed clinicians and healthcare staff about the crucial role they play in ensuring patient safety in the healthcare settings (starting from Primary Health Care to the hospital). The essential need to minimise medical errors that may result in medico-legal claims was highlighted. GJ Crookes staff reaffirmed its commitment to delivering high quality safe care to the community of Umdoni Sub District and its surroundings.



**Dr. Mbhele, Sister L. Cele and Dr. Moiden**

## AVBOB LENDS A HELPING HAND



**Dr. B Shange (cutting the ribbon) & Dr. F Mqadi receiving the library trolley from Digby**

The hospital had embarked on a project of having a reading corner in the paediatric ward which will promote literacy AND provides distraction during prolonged hospital stays further enriches the vocabulary of the children. AVBOB Insurance was generous in assisting with realization of this dream and donated a trolley library to GJ Crookes. The library has more than 500 books in different languages and it is accessible to all appropriately aged children that are admitted in the paediatric ward.



# DISASTER DRILL

Mr Ngcamu Health and Safety Officer & Medical Manager: Dr Kgabo lead the mock disaster drill for GJ Crookes Hospital on the 11 October 2024. The drill assist staff in ensuring emergency preparedness and response. SAPS , Forensics, Umdoni Traffic and EMS were part of the stakeholders that joined GJ Crookes in conducting the drill. The exercise simulated an overturned taxi with multiple injuries along the R102 at 9:00 am. The accident was reported by an eye witness who contacted SAPS followed by EMS who then brought patients to GJ Crookes Hospital. The casualties included 4 red codes, 8 yellow codes and 4 green codes. Amongst the casualties there was a baby and pregnant mother.

The disaster drill was a success with staff demonstrating an excellent ability in managing various emergency cases. The exercise identified a few minor areas that required attention and will be addressed in through quality improvement plan.



# PHARMACY MONTH



**GJ Crookes Hospital Pharmaceutical Team**

Pharmacy month is an annual health awareness campaign held every September, focusing on the rational use of medicines. The theme for 2024 was 'Lets talk about Vaccines'. This initiative aims to promote informed discussions and education about vaccines, their importance and their role in preventing diseases.

GJ Crookes Pharmaceutical team officially launched pharmacy month on 2 September 2024 by setting up various displays within the hospital premises to promote the event. On Tuesday, September the 3<sup>rd</sup>, the team presented a radio slot on UGU Youth Radio empowering listeners with knowledge on the role of pharmacists and healthcare. The importance of vaccines and immunization, adherence and compliance to medication, potential side effects, correct storage and discarding of medication, expiry check and returning of unused medication. Were discussed.

One of our school health promotions: Sihle High School was visited on the 04 September 2024. Learners received valuable insight on dangers of substance abuse and how to make informed choices. They were counseled contraceptives and reproductive health and career paths in science and pharmacy for interested students. Engaging with younger generation, the pharmaceutical team hoped to inspire and shape the minds of tomorrow's leaders in healthcare.

A schedule of activities were planned throughout the month of September, this includes health talks in Out Patient Departments, Old Age Home visits, Outreach Programs and a fun party in Paediatric Ward. Remember. "Numerous diseases can be prevented safely and effectively with vaccinations. Ask your pharmacist about the immunizations that are recommended for you and your family" .



# MANDELA DAY

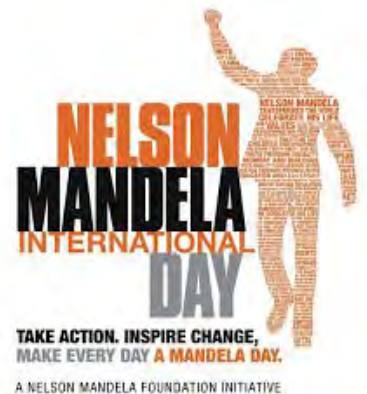
On the occasion of 67 Minutes for Mandela Day, GJ Crookes Hospital organized a memorable event. The various departments engaged with the clients and shared love and care. Fruits were generously distributed to OPD patients, nutritious meals were served to female and male inpatients. The hospital management added a splash of color to the children's play area at the crisis center by painting the pot plants. This thoughtful initiative truly captured the spirit of giving and making a positive impact on the lives of the people they serve.

The celebration was heartwarming. The children's ward was filled with joy as grade one's from Umdoni Christian Academy brought homemade cookies and cheerful painting for the inpatients.

The kindness of Scottburgh Ackerman's added an extra special touch to the infants and toddlers by donating clothes to the children admitted in Paediatric Ward. Staff and patients of GJ Crookes Hospital were no doubt appreciative of the efforts made by everyone to honor Mandelas Legacy and extended kindness on this special day.



**GJ Crookes Senior Management Team decorating the pot plants in crisis center**





# NURSES DAY CELEBRATION



**Deputy Manager Nursing: Ms. PT Mkhize with Assistant Manager Nursing: JPN Muthwa and Mrs. ZM Sobantu (Monitoring & Evaluation Manager) with the nurses of GJ Crookes**

International Nurses Day is observed on May 12 each year. In 2024 it coincided with Mother's Day, and celebrates the contribution of nurses worldwide. GJ Crookes Hospital commemorated this day on the 15<sup>th</sup> May 2024 under the theme "our nurses, our future, the economic power of care", dedicating a day to reflect and honour nurses for their tireless efforts towards patient care .

Mrs. MS Khathi, the CEO welcomed the nurses to their beautiful celebration, assuring them that she would remain a nurse despite being the CEO, and this was attested by her continuous membership in the nursing council.

The guest speaker, Pastor Jali gave a

motivational speech reminding the nurses of the invaluable contribution they make to the health care system on a daily basis. He also emphasized that every time they do anything for humanity, God records it he is the one who rewards them.

"Professionalism is one of the fundamental aspects of Nursing Care, and this goes hand-in-hand with treating the community with respect and courtesy at all times".

This was a reminder to the nurses and they were further reminded to continue upholding the image of GJ Crookes by treating clients with positive attitude. In the end, the nurses recited the Nurses Pledge led by DMN: PT Mkhize.

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## BRINGING HEALTH CARE TO DISADVANTAGED COMMUNITIES

GJ Crookes Hospital embarked on Isibhedlela Kubantu, a KZN MEC's for Health initiative aimed at taking healthcare services to disadvantaged communities with limited access to hospitals. The OTL's were tasked to identify grey areas around Umdoni Health Sub District. An annual schedule was developed for Isibhedlela Kubantu. All eight clinics under Umdoni Sub-District successfully hosted the event in their

respective wards. The initiative received an overwhelming support from clinical and non-clinical staff who worked tirelessly to provide comprehensive healthcare services to the communities. These services included:

- Eye Care services, with over 60 patients seen at each visit
- Dental services, Physiotherapy
- Minor ailments
- Medical doctor consultations
- Children's immunization
- Pap smears, family planning
- Men's health services,
- HIV testing, Radiology
- Pharmacy services, Security services
- Patient Admin Services, Social Work Services



**Inkosi M Cele during his visit at Isibhedlela Kubantu Event in Mistake Farm**

Isibhedlela Kubantu gained significant support from sister departments and traditional leadership, who joined the GJ Crookes team in visiting different areas. The communities were deeply appreciative of the event with many attending in large numbers to access essential healthcare services. Management of GJ Crookes Hospital and PHC would like to extend their sincere gratitude to all sponsors who contributed to the success of Isibhedlela Kubantu. Their generosity which included sponsoring marquees, food and other essentials was invaluable in making these events a success .



**Umzinto SAPS team attended Isibhedlela Kubantu at Malangeni Area**



## GJ CROOKES PARTNERS WITH UMDONI TRADITIONAL HEALTH PRACTITIONERS



Assistant Manager PHC: Ms N Tibe with PHC OM's, Mr Dlamini (Chairperson of Umdoni THP's) and Umdoni THP's



District Director: Mrs. L Dlamini

Umdoni Health Sub-District held a successful meeting with Umdoni Traditional Health Practitioners on 21 May, 2024, with the aim of fostering better working relationships. It was great that partners like Match & Isibani were also present to support and share best practices with DOH & THP's. Mrs L. Dlamini: District Director welcomed the THP's and expressed her enthusiasm for the realization of this day, as it has been a long-standing objective, distinguishing Ugu District from other districts that have already established working relationships with the THP's.

Mrs. Dlamini further stated that the DOH does not want to act as masters of everything, as some

of the illnesses require traditional healing methods.

Collaborating with THPs is a common practice in several international countries, where traditional healers co-operate within the health sector. This collaboration is an aspiration for South Africa to achieve as well"

During the meeting THP's expressed their hopes for the newly formed relationship with the DOH, including the ability to refer patient, receive training on IPC processes, the management of TB & HIV and improve their pre-counselling skills. They also mentioned the desire to be acknowledged when they bring patients to health care facilities and requested for better

attitudes from healthcare workers towards THP's.

Mr. Z Dlamini: Chairperson of Umdoni THP's great suggestion of creating a database for Ugu THP's. This database could help in addressing the various challenges that THP's face in their work. By compiling a comprehensive list of THP's in the region, it could be easier for DOH to provide support, resources and training opportunities.

It would also facilitate better communication and collaboration between the DOH & THP's ultimately leading to improved healthcare services for the communities.

# PHOTO GALLERY

## 2024 SERVICE EXCELLENCE AWARDS



# Service Excellence Awards



# Service Excellence Awards



# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

## EDITORIAL TEAM / DETAILS



Mrs . SJ Tenza  
Public Relations Officer  
Photographer & Writer



Dr. VT Kgabo  
Medical Manager  
Editor

If you have any questions, complaints, suggestions or compliments regarding GJ Crookes Hospital, please contact the Public Relations Officer, Mrs Sineziwe Tenza.

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 **Sineziwe Tenza**  
Public Relations Officer  
**GJ CROOKES DISTRICT HOSPITAL**

 1 Hospital Road, Scottburgh, 4180  
 039 978 7215  
 039 978 1295  
 [Sineziwe.Tenza@kznhealth.gov.za](mailto:Sineziwe.Tenza@kznhealth.gov.za)

