



KWAZULU-NATAL PROVINCE
HEALTH
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

KWAMAGWAZA DISTRICT HOSPITAL

MTHINEMIDE

NEWS

Imithi yokuthamela izidaba zeMpilo zabahlali base Mthonjaneni

JULY - SEPT 2026

WELCOME REMARKS BY CEO

"The function of leadership is to produce more leaders, not more followers" - Ralph Nader



Dr. I.F. Masinga
Hospital Chief Executive Officer

It gives me great pleasure to present this edition of the KwaMagwaza District Hospital Newsletter, which proudly showcases the remarkable achievements, initiatives and milestones that continue to shape our institution.

This publication reflects the unwavering commitment of our employees to delivering quality, patient-centred healthcare while strengthening partnerships with the communities we serve. Each article highlights the dedication, professionalism and compassion demonstrated daily by our healthcare workers, support staff and stakeholders in advancing

the mission of the KwaZulu-Natal Department of Health.

Within these pages, you will read inspiring stories of community outreach, youth empowerment, employee wellness, professional excellence and staff recognition. From our successful Teenage Pregnancy Awareness Campaign and Youth Day commemorations to the celebration of International

Nurses Day and the outstanding achievement of one of our nursing leaders in completing the Comrades Marathon, these stories remind us that excellence extends beyond the walls of our hospital.

Our commitment to promoting preventative healthcare, empowering communities through education, recognising staff achievements and investing in employee wellbeing remains central to our vision of providing accessible, equitable and quality healthcare services. These initiatives demonstrate that healthcare is not only about treating illness but also about building healthier communities through collaboration, innovation and compassionate service.

I would like to express my sincere appreciation to every employee, partner organisation, community leader and stakeholder whose dedication and teamwork continue to make KwaMagwaza District Hospital a trusted healthcare institution. Your passion, resilience and commitment enable us to fulfil our mandate of improving the health and wellbeing of the people we serve.

I also wish to encourage every member of staff to actively contribute to future editions of this newsletter. Every outreach programme, quality improvement initiative, innovation, achievement and success story deserves to be documented and celebrated. By sharing our experiences, we preserve the legacy of our institution, inspire one another and strengthen our culture of excellence.



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Staff proudly celebrated international Nurses Day in recognition....
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Sport teamwork and wellness takes
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KwaZulu-Natal Department of Health



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Celebrating the dedication, compassion and invaluable contribution of Nurses to Quality Health Care



KwaMagwaza District Hospital proudly commemorated **International Nurses Day 2026** with a colourful and inspiring celebration that recognised the exceptional dedication, professionalism and compassion of its nursing staff. The event brought together healthcare workers, management, district representatives and invited guests to honour the vital role nurses play in delivering quality healthcare services and improving the wellbeing of communities.

The celebration commenced with a vibrant procession from the hospital entrance to a beautifully decorated marquee at the **KwaMagwaza Sports Ground**. Nurses proudly carried placards bearing inspirational messages that celebrated the nursing profession and promoted compassionate patient care. As they marched, participants sang uplifting songs that reflected their passion for nursing and acknowledged the sacrifices they make every day in serving patients with dignity and care.

Adding to the significance of the occasion, nurses were elegantly dressed in ceremonial attire. Female nurses wore graceful white dresses and skirts, while their male counterparts appeared in smart white suits. Others proudly wore their professional nursing uniforms, symbolising the pride, unity and professionalism that define the nursing profession.

The venue was tastefully decorated to create an elegant and welcoming atmosphere befitting the occasion. Guests and staff arrived in formal attire, while music and entertainment provided by the Master of Ceremonies and the event's DJ created a joyful atmosphere. The arrival of the nurses was met with applause, singing and dancing, and the pleasant weather added to the celebratory spirit of the day.

The official programme opened with a prayer led by **Pastor Ntshangase**, who offered words of gratitude for the dedication of nurses and prayed for their continued strength, wisdom, protection and guidance as they care for patients and communities.

Guests were treated to refreshments as the programme continued with messages of appreciation from representatives of the District Office, the **Democratic Nursing Organisation of South Africa (DENOSA)** and **Mr Zungu**. Speakers commended nurses for their unwavering commitment to

patient care, describing nursing as both a profession and a calling that demands compassion, resilience and selfless service.

The hospital's **Chief Executive Officer** congratulated the nursing staff on their outstanding contribution to healthcare delivery and praised the elegance and professionalism displayed throughout the celebration. She expressed sincere appreciation for their dedication and commended the organising committee for hosting a successful and memorable event.

The **Nursing Manager** reflected on the significance of International Nurses Day, acknowledging the invaluable role nurses play in strengthening the healthcare system. She thanked the organising committee and nursing staff for their teamwork and encouraged continued collaboration in delivering safe, compassionate and patient-centred care.

Adding a personal touch to the programme, several nurses shared heartfelt reflections on their professional journeys. They spoke candidly about the challenges of the profession while expressing pride in their ability to make a meaningful difference in the lives of patients and their families.

A particularly moving highlight of the celebration was the **candle-lighting ceremony**, during which nurses held illuminated candles and solemnly recited the **Nurses' Pledge**. The symbolic ceremony reaffirmed their commitment to upholding the highest standards of nursing practice and providing care with dignity, respect, integrity and compassion. The emotional moment served as a powerful reminder of the enduring values that continue to guide the nursing profession.

The programme concluded with a heartfelt vote of thanks delivered by **Matron Mthembu**, who expressed appreciation to hospital management, organisers, guest speakers, partners and all attendees whose contributions ensured the success of the celebration. **Pastor Ntshangase** closed the event with a prayer, asking for continued protection and guidance for nurses as they carry out their vital responsibilities.

The day concluded with a celebratory luncheon, providing staff and guests with an opportunity to fellowship and reflect on the achievements of the nursing profession. Participants left the event feeling appreciated, inspired and motivated to continue delivering quality healthcare services with compassion and excellence.

The 2026 International Nurses Day celebration reaffirmed KwaMagwaza District Hospital's commitment to recognising the invaluable contribution of nurses and fostering a culture of appreciation, teamwork and professional excellence. By honouring those who dedicate their lives to caring for others, the hospital continues to strengthen its commitment to compassionate, patient-centred healthcare and the wellbeing of the communities it serves.

Above Pictures : Nurses from KwaMagwaza District Hospital participate in the International Nurses Day procession and candle-lighting ceremony, celebrating the values of compassion, professionalism and excellence in patient care.

Melmoth Clinic leads Youth Month Campaign to combat Teenage Pregnancy

“Empowering young people through education, dialogue and community partnerships”

As part of the 2026 Youth Month programme, **Melmoth Clinic**, in collaboration with the **Department of Social Development (Melmoth Office)**, hosted a teenage pregnancy awareness campaign at **Lindinkosi High School** on **19 June 2026**. The initiative formed part of ongoing efforts to educate and empower young people while addressing one of South Africa's most significant public health and social challenges.



The awareness campaign brought together officials from the Department of Social Development (DSD), healthcare professionals, educators and learners to promote informed decision-making and encourage responsible sexual and reproductive health practices among adolescents.

Teenage pregnancy continues to have far-reaching health, educational and socio-economic consequences for young mothers, their children and communities. Through this campaign, learners were provided with factual information, practical guidance and a safe platform to discuss issues affecting young people during adolescence.

Mr Mncube from the Department of Social Development facilitated an interactive discussion on the challenges faced by adolescents, highlighting how gender inequality and harmful social norms contribute to the vulnerability of young girls. Drawing from his personal experiences as a parent, he encouraged learners to make responsible choices and emphasised the importance of mutual respect, accountability and gender equality.

Professional Nurse **Ms N.P. Hlekwayo** delivered an informative presentation on adolescent development and the realities of teenage pregnancy. She explained the physical, emotional and social challenges associated with early pregnancy and highlighted its long-term impact on education, employment opportunities and economic independence.

She further stressed the importance of ensuring that pregnant and parenting adolescents have access to quality, youth-friendly healthcare services and ongoing support to improve both maternal and child health outcomes.

A key message throughout the programme was the need for open and honest communication between parents, guardians and their children regarding sexuality, relationships and reproductive health. Participants acknowledged that creating supportive family environments can help reduce misinformation, risky behaviours and unintended pregnancies among adolescents.

“Adolescent pregnancy is a global phenomenon with clearly known causes and serious health, social and economic consequences. Empowering young people with knowledge is key to preventing unintended pregnancies and improving their future opportunities.”

— Ms N.P. Hlekwayo, Professional Nurse

The event demonstrated the value of strong partnerships between the health sector, education and social development in addressing complex community challenges. By working together, stakeholders continue to strengthen efforts aimed at promoting healthy lifestyles, protecting the wellbeing of young people and creating opportunities for them to achieve their full potential.



Melmoth Clinic remains committed to delivering health promotion initiatives that empower communities through education, prevention and collaboration. The clinic will continue to work with community partners to ensure that young people are equipped with the knowledge and support needed to make informed life choices.

Above Pictures : Learners from Lindinkosi High School, together with officials from Melmoth Clinic, participate in a Youth Month teenage pregnancy awareness campaign aimed at promoting healthy lifestyles, informed decision-making and preventing adolescent pregnancy.

Hospital community unites in faith, hope and compassion during Easter Observance

"The Easter Service reminded us that hope, forgiveness and compassion remain at the heart of both our faith and our commitment to caring for others."

KwaMagwaza Hospital brought together staff members and visitors in a spirit of faith, unity and reflection during its annual Easter Service held on **Wednesday, 01 April 2026**. Hosted in the hospital chapel, the service provided an opportunity for the hospital community to pause from their daily responsibilities and reflect on the true meaning of Easter while strengthening their spiritual wellbeing.



The chapel provided a warm and welcoming environment, with staff and visitors dressed in formal and modest attire that reflected the dignity and significance of the occasion. The atmosphere of reverence and togetherness set the tone for a meaningful programme centred on hope, compassion and renewal.

The service focused on the **Seven Last Words of Jesus Christ on the Cross**, encouraging attendees to reflect on the values of forgiveness, perseverance, sacrifice and unconditional love. These messages served as a reminder of the importance of compassion and resilience, particularly within the healthcare profession where caring for others remains a daily calling.

The programme featured inspiring messages from distinguished guest speakers, including **Prophet E. S. Dludla, Pastor M. Mhlongo, Pastor S. I. Nkwanyana, and Pastor B. Shongwe**. Each speaker shared words of encouragement, faith and spiritual guidance, inspiring staff and visitors to remain steadfast in serving their communities with dedication and empathy.

Inspirational gospel music and heartfelt prayers formed an integral part of the programme, creating a reflective atmosphere that offered comfort, healing and renewed hope to all who attended. Participants expressed appreciation for the opportunity to worship together, noting that the service reinforced the values of unity,

respect and mutual support both within the workplace and in their personal lives.

Hospital management extended sincere appreciation to the organising committee, guest speakers and everyone who contributed to the success of the Easter Service. Their commitment ensured that the event was both meaningful and memorable, leaving a lasting positive impact on the hospital community.



Beyond commemorating the Easter season, the service reaffirmed KwaMagwaza Hospital's commitment to fostering a caring and supportive workplace where the emotional, spiritual and professional wellbeing of employees is valued. By promoting initiatives that nurture holistic wellness, the hospital continues to strengthen a culture of compassion, resilience and teamwork in delivering quality healthcare services.

As staff returned to their respective departments, they carried with them renewed inspiration, strengthened faith and a shared commitment to providing compassionate, patient-centred care in service of the communities they serve.

Above Pictures : Staff members, hospital management, guest speakers and visitors gather in the KwaMagwaza Hospital Chapel during the 2026 Easter Service, celebrating faith, unity and spiritual renewal through prayer, worship and inspirational messages.

PHOTO GALLERY



Above Pictures : The memorable moments of the National Nurses Day celebration, showcasing the march, speeches, recognition of nurses, entertainment and fellowship as staff came together to honour the dedication and commitment of nursing profession. The event also provide an opportunity to celebrate teamwork and acknowledge outstanding service



Above Picture: The Teenage Pregnant Awareness campaign at Ndundulu reflect the collective efforts of the Department of Health, school and community stakeholders in empowering young people with knowledge and life skills. The department provide learners and community members with valuable information on sexual and reproductive health, career guidance, and other essential services. The event highlighted the importance of collaboration in preventing teenage pregnancy and supporting the wellbeing of young people.

Integrated awareness campaign empower young people through education, healthcare services and multi-sectoral partnerships

KwaMagwaza District Hospital, under the KwaZulu-Natal Department of Health, successfully hosted a **Teenage Pregnancy Awareness Campaign** on **24 June 2026** at **Ndundulu Tribal Hall**, reaffirming its commitment to empowering young people through health education, prevention programmes and accessible healthcare services.



The campaign brought together healthcare professionals, government departments, community leaders, learners, parents, caregivers and community members in a collaborative effort to address the growing challenge of teenage pregnancy and promote healthier futures for young people.

The venue was professionally prepared to accommodate the large number of participants, creating a welcoming environment that encouraged learning, dialogue and community engagement. Careful planning by the organising committee ensured that the event ran smoothly and was characterised by enthusiastic participation and overwhelming community support.

The campaign aimed to educate adolescents about the prevention of teenage pregnancy, encourage responsible decision-making, promote healthy lifestyles and improve access to essential healthcare services. It also highlighted the critical role that parents, caregivers and community leaders play in guiding and supporting young people to make informed life choices.

Activities commenced with the registration of community members and the establishment of integrated healthcare service stations. Community Health Workers (CHWs) assisted attendees in accessing healthcare services based on their individual needs, ensuring that health promotion was complemented by direct service delivery.

A total of **371 community members** benefited from the integrated healthcare services offered during the outreach. Services included **tuberculosis (TB) screening and testing, treatment of minor ailments, medical consultations, physiotherapy, HIV Testing Services (HTS), cervical cancer screening through Pap smears, dietetic consultations**, and a range of other primary healthcare services. The integrated approach ensured that community members received comprehensive care while participating in educational activities.

The formal programme commenced with an opening prayer, followed by welcoming remarks from **Mr Madonsela**, who warmly welcomed representatives from government departments, partner organisations, traditional leadership, educators, learners and community members. Entertainment provided by the Master of

Ceremonies and the event's DJ created a vibrant atmosphere that encouraged participation throughout the day.

The campaign was supported by several strategic partners, including **SAPPI**, the **Department of Social Development (DSD)**, the **South African Police Service (SAPS)**, the local municipality, traditional leadership, social workers and the **Independent Electoral Commission (IEC)**. Their participation reflected a shared commitment to addressing the social and health challenges facing young people through coordinated community action.

Guest speakers delivered informative presentations on the causes, consequences and prevention of teenage pregnancy. Learners were encouraged to recognise their self-worth, make responsible decisions, prioritise their education and remain focused on achieving their personal and career aspirations.

Matron Mthethwa outlined the objectives of the campaign, reaffirming the Department of Health's commitment to equipping young people with accurate health information, practical life skills and access to quality healthcare services that support informed decision-making and healthier lifestyles.

Adding a vibrant cultural dimension to the programme, **Amatshitshi** captivated the audience with traditional songs and dances that reinforced messages of self-respect, confidence, discipline and cultural pride. Their performances complemented the educational presentations and encouraged positive values among young people.

To reinforce the day's key messages, representatives from **SAPPI** facilitated an interactive question-and-answer session, during which learners and community members enthusiastically participated. Correct responses were rewarded with tokens of appreciation, making learning both enjoyable and memorable.

The programme concluded with a vote of thanks delivered by **Mr Mbatha**, who expressed sincere appreciation to the Department of Health, partner organisations, traditional leaders, healthcare workers, volunteers and community members for their collective contribution to the success of the campaign. He encouraged young people to remain committed to their education, make responsible life choices and work towards achieving their dreams.

Refreshments were provided to all stakeholders, while meals were served to community members, particularly the youth, ensuring participants remained comfortable and engaged throughout the day's activities.

The Teenage Pregnancy Awareness Campaign was widely regarded as a resounding success. By combining health education with integrated healthcare service delivery, KwaMagwaza District Hospital strengthened partnerships between healthcare providers, government departments and the community while reinforcing the Department of Health's commitment to empowering young people and building healthier, more resilient communities.

Above Picture : Healthcare professionals, partner organisations, traditional leaders, learners and community members gather at Ndundulu Tribal Hall during KwaMagwaza District Hospital's Teenage Pregnancy Awareness Campaign, where integrated healthcare services and educational activities empowered young people to make informed and responsible life choices.

Sport, teamwork and wellness takes centre stage as staff celebrates Youth Day

"Youth Day reminds us that a healthy workforce is built through teamwork, wellness and meaningful connections both inside and outside the workplace."



Cheers, songs and applause echoed across the sports ground as colleagues celebrated an exciting and memorable victory.

Beyond the sporting activities, the event committee successfully hosted a fundraising initiative through the sale of **wors rolls and cold drinks**, which proved popular among participants and spectators. The refreshments added to the festive atmosphere while demonstrating the enthusiasm and support of staff members for hospital initiatives.

The "Work and Play" event was more than a sporting competition, it formed part of KwaMagwaza District Hospital's ongoing commitment to promoting employee wellness, teamwork and work-life balance. By creating opportunities for staff to interact outside the clinical environment, the hospital continues to foster stronger professional relationships, improve staff morale and encourage healthy lifestyles.

Hospital management commended the organising committee, participating departments and supporters for contributing to the success of the Youth Day celebration. Their enthusiasm and teamwork reflected the values of unity, mutual respect and collaboration that underpin quality healthcare service delivery.

The event concluded on a high note, leaving participants with lasting memories of friendship, healthy competition and shared achievement. Through initiatives such as the "Work and Play" Wellness Event, KwaMagwaza District Hospital continues to invest in the wellbeing of its workforce while promoting a positive organisational culture that ultimately benefits both employees and the communities they serve.

KwaMagwaza District Hospital commemorated **Youth Day** with an exciting **"Work and Play" Wellness Event**, bringing together staff members, supporters and hospital management for an afternoon of sport, recreation and team building. Held after working hours at the **Melmoth Sports Ground**, the event promoted employee wellness while strengthening relationships across departments through friendly competition and shared celebration.

The sporting activities attracted enthusiastic participation from hospital staff, with supporters turning out in large numbers to cheer on their colleagues. The lively atmosphere, filled with music, laughter and spirited encouragement, reflected the hospital's commitment to fostering a positive and supportive working environment.

The programme opened with an entertaining **netball match** between the **Administration** and **Medical** departments. Both teams displayed exceptional determination, sportsmanship and teamwork throughout the match, keeping supporters engaged from the opening whistle. After a closely contested game, the **Medical Department** claimed victory through an impressive display of coordination and skill.

Excitement continued with a much-anticipated **soccer match** between the same departments. The match was fiercely contested, with both teams demonstrating disciplined defence and attacking flair. Administration took an early lead before the Medical Department responded with a well-deserved equaliser, setting the stage for an intense battle.

As the game progressed, both sides created numerous scoring opportunities while maintaining high levels of energy and determination. In the closing stages of the match, the **Administration Department** scored the decisive winning goal, prompting jubilant celebrations from players and supporters alike.



Above Pictures : Staff members from the Administration and Medical departments participate in friendly netball and soccer matches during KwaMagwaza District Hospital's Youth Day "Work and Play" Wellness Event at Melmoth Sports Ground, promoting teamwork, wellness and staff unity.

School uniformed celebration honours the legacy of 1976 while strengthening teamwork and staff wellness

"The legacy of the youth of 1976 continues to inspire us to invest in young people, foster unity, and build a brighter future through education, service and collaboration."



KwaMagwaza District Hospital commemorated **Youth Day** on **17 June 2026** with a vibrant and meaningful celebration that united staff members in honouring the courage and resilience of the young people who participated in the **Soweto Uprising of 16 June 1976**. The event combined remembrance with celebration, reinforcing the importance of youth empowerment, teamwork and organisational unity.

The celebration served as a tribute to the sacrifices made by the youth of 1976, whose determination in the fight against an unequal education system became a defining moment in South Africa's history. Staff reflected on the enduring values of courage, equality and opportunity, recognising the continued importance of empowering young people to become leaders and agents of positive change.

Adding a creative touch to the occasion, employees from all departments embraced a nostalgic **school uniform theme**, arriving at work dressed in replicas of their former school uniforms. From primary school attire to high school blazers, shirts and ties, the colourful display transformed the hospital into a lively celebration of youth, making it difficult to distinguish between nurses, administrative personnel, support staff and management.

The themed celebration was accompanied by a successful fundraising initiative, with staff members dressed in school uniforms contributing **R10**, while those who chose not to participate in the theme contributed **R20**. The initiative received overwhelming support, reflecting the generosity, enthusiasm and strong sense of teamwork that characterise the hospital workforce.

Throughout the day, the hospital was filled with laughter, excitement and camaraderie as colleagues shared stories from their school days, admired one another's creative outfits and captured memorable moments through

photographs. The celebration created valuable opportunities for staff from different departments to interact outside their normal working routines, strengthening professional relationships and promoting a positive workplace culture.

The event demonstrated that despite the diverse roles and responsibilities within the hospital, staff remain united by a shared commitment to serving patients and supporting one another. For the day, job titles and positions gave way to friendship and fellowship, highlighting teamwork as one of KwaMagwaza District Hospital's greatest strengths.

Beyond the festivities, the Youth Day celebration encouraged reflection on the ongoing responsibility of society to invest in young people through education, mentorship and opportunities for growth. It reinforced the values of unity, mutual respect and collective responsibility, which remain central to both nation-building and quality healthcare service delivery.

Hospital management commended employees for embracing the celebration with enthusiasm while continuing to provide uninterrupted, patient-centred healthcare services. Events such as these contribute to employee wellness, strengthen organisational culture and foster a sense of belonging among staff.

The Youth Day celebration concluded as a memorable occasion that successfully balanced remembrance with celebration. Staff left inspired by the legacy of the youth of 1976 and motivated to continue working together in delivering compassionate healthcare while creating a supportive and inclusive workplace for all.

KwaMagwaza District Hospital remains committed to commemorating significant national days that promote reflection, unity and employee wellbeing, recognising that a motivated and connected workforce is essential to delivering quality healthcare services to the communities it serves.

Above Pictures : Staff members of KwaMagwaza District Hospital proudly dressed in school uniforms during the Youth Day celebration, honouring the legacy of the 1976 generation while promoting teamwork, staff wellness and organisational unity.

PHOTO GALLERY



Above Pictures : The Youth Day sport tournament comes to life, showcasing the excitement and teamwork displayed by the participants through out the event . Staff participated to encourage healthy life , strengthening relationship and promote unity . The tournament serves as a reminder that physical activity, teamwork, collaboration are essential in building healthy life .



Above Pictures : The hand wash hygiene awareness campaign highlighted the importance of proper hand washing in preventing the spread of infection. Staff actively participated in the hand hygiene competition, demonstrating the importance of proper hand washing in preventing infection and promoting patient safety. The event encourage teamwork and celebrate excellence, with the systems Department emerging as the winner team

KwaMagwaza Hospital celebrates Comrades Marathon Achievement

"It always seems impossible until it's done." – Dr Nelson Mandela



KwaMagwaza District Hospital proudly congratulates **Mr B.R. Ngobeni, Assistant Manager: Nursing**, on his outstanding achievement of successfully completing the **2026 Comrades Marathon**, held on **14 June 2026** in Durban. His remarkable accomplishment is a testament to perseverance, determination and the importance of maintaining a healthy lifestyle.

The Comrades Marathon, internationally recognised as one of the world's most prestigious and demanding ultramarathons, attracts thousands of elite and recreational runners from across South Africa and around the globe each year. By successfully completing this iconic race, Mr Ngobeni not only achieved a significant personal milestone but also proudly represented KwaMagwaza District Hospital on a national and international stage.

Mr Ngobeni's journey to success is an inspiring example of resilience. Having participated in the **2025 Comrades Marathon** without reaching the finish line, he returned in **2026** with renewed determination, rigorous preparation and an unwavering commitment to achieving his goal. His success demonstrates that setbacks can become steppingstones to greater achievements when met with perseverance and dedication.

His achievement echoes the timeless words of the late **Nelson**

Mandela:

"It always seems impossible until it's done."

These words aptly reflect Mr Ngobeni's determination to overcome previous challenges and inspire others to pursue their goals with courage and resilience.

Hospital management and staff members commended Mr Ngobeni for his dedication and for serving as an excellent ambassador for KwaMagwaza District Hospital. His participation in one of South Africa's most celebrated sporting events has brought pride to the institution and highlighted the hospital's commitment to promoting employee wellness and healthy living.

The Department of Health recognises that employee wellness is fundamental to delivering quality healthcare services. Regular physical activity contributes to improved physical and mental wellbeing, increased resilience and enhanced workplace performance. Initiatives that encourage healthy lifestyles among healthcare workers ultimately contribute to stronger health systems and improved patient care.

Hospital management encourages more staff members to participate in sporting and wellness activities, including road races and community fitness events across KwaZulu-Natal. Such participation not only promotes healthy living but also strengthens teamwork, resilience and organisational pride while showcasing the talents and achievements of Department of Health employees beyond the workplace.

KwaMagwaza District Hospital congratulates Mr Ngobeni on this outstanding accomplishment and wishes him continued success in future races. His achievement serves as an inspiration to colleagues, young people and the wider community, proving that determination, discipline and perseverance can turn ambitious goals into remarkable achievements.

Above Pictures : Mr B.R. Ngobeni, Assistant Manager: Nursing at KwaMagwaza District Hospital, proudly celebrates after successfully completing the 2026 Comrades Marathon, inspiring colleagues and the community through his resilience, determination and commitment to a healthy lifestyle.

Global Hand Hygiene Day Inspires a Strong Culture



KwaMagwaza District Hospital reaffirmed its commitment to infection prevention and patient safety by successfully hosting a **Global Hand Hygiene Awareness Day** on **Wednesday, 20 May 2026**. The event brought together hospital staff, stakeholders and partners in a dynamic programme designed to promote proper hand hygiene practices and strengthen the culture of quality healthcare.

The awareness campaign was coordinated by the **Quality Assurance Team** under the leadership of **Mr T. B. Mahaye (IPC Coordinator)**, whose commitment ensured a well-organised and impactful programme that reinforced the importance of hand hygiene in preventing healthcare-associated infections.

Continues on the next page (Page 10)

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The day's activities commenced with a vibrant awareness march led by Mr Mahaye. Starting from the hospital chapel, participants moved through various departments, engaging staff and sharing key messages on the importance of regular and effective handwashing. The march served as a visible reminder that proper hand hygiene remains one of the most effective measures for preventing the spread of infections within healthcare facilities.

A practical handwashing demonstration was later conducted at the Outpatient Department (OPD), where healthcare professionals demonstrated the correct techniques for hand hygiene using both alcohol-based hand sanitiser and soap with running water. The session highlighted the appropriate use of hand hygiene products and reinforced the critical role healthcare workers play in protecting patients, colleagues and visitors from preventable infections.

The programme continued in the hospital chapel, where departments participated in an interactive hand hygiene competition. Teams showcased innovative and educational presentations through posters, songs, drama and dance performances, successfully combining health education with creativity and entertainment. The competition encouraged staff participation while reinforcing key infection prevention messages in an engaging and memorable way.

Private companies operating within the hospital also participated in the event, sharing valuable knowledge and practical experiences that complemented the hospital's infection prevention initiatives and

demonstrated the importance of collaborative partnerships in promoting quality healthcare.

An informative presentation by Mr Mahaye highlighted the hospital's hand hygiene compliance statistics and national monitoring indicators. The presentation provided valuable insight into infection prevention performance and emphasised the importance of continuous monitoring, compliance and quality improvement to reduce the risk of healthcare-associated infections.

The event concluded with the announcement of the competition winners. The **Systems Department** successfully defended its 2025 title, earning first place through exceptional creativity, informative displays and outstanding teamwork. The **Human Resources Department** secured second place, while the **Nursing Department** received third place. Judging focused on creativity, presentation and the effectiveness of communicating key hand hygiene messages.

The annual Global Hand Hygiene Day celebration continues to serve as an important platform for educating healthcare workers, strengthening infection prevention and control practices, and fostering a culture of patient safety. The success of the 2026 event reflects KwaMagwaza Hospital's ongoing commitment to excellence in healthcare service delivery and its dedication to protecting the health and wellbeing of every patient, employees and visitors.

MTHINEMIDE NEWS: Call for Story Contributions



Mr Andile S.S Ngcobo
Public Relations Officer

KwaMagwaza District Hospital, we believe that every staff member has a story worth sharing. Every successful outreach programme, quality improvement initiative, staff achievement, community engagement activity and act of compassion contributes to the remarkable work taking place across our hospital and Primary Health Care clinics.

Our **Hospital Newsletter** is more than just a publication, it is a platform that celebrates our people, showcases our achievements and preserves the stories that reflect our commitment to quality healthcare. It belongs to every employee and serves as a voice for our institution, highlighting the dedication, innovation and teamwork that define KwaMagwaza District Hospital.

We warmly invite all staff members to contribute articles, photographs and story ideas about activities taking place within their departments, clinics and service areas. Whether it is a health awareness campaign, community outreach, staff recognition, training programme, wellness initiative or an inspiring act of service, your contribution helps ensure that the excellent work taking place across our institution is recognised and celebrated.

Many colleagues hesitate to submit stories because they believe they are not good writers. However, great stories do not begin as perfect manuscripts. Every published article, magazine and book goes through several rounds of editing before publication. Writing is a collaborative process, and our role is to help shape your ideas into professional, engaging articles. What matters most is not perfect grammar or polished language, it is the value of your experience and the impact of the story you wish to share.

If you witness an inspiring moment, a successful event or an outstanding achievement, do not let it go unnoticed. Capture the story and share it. Your contribution may inspire colleagues, strengthen teamwork and showcase the outstanding work being done throughout our hospital and clinics.

All submissions should relate to activities, achievements and developments within **KwaMagwaza District Hospital** and its **Primary Health Care Clinics**. Staff members are encouraged to submit articles, photographs and story ideas directly to the **Public Relations Officer (PRO), Mr Andile Ngcobo**. Departments are also encouraged to notify the PRO in advance of upcoming events so that important occasions can be documented and shared with the wider hospital community.

Our patients and community members also have inspiring stories of resilience, hope and recovery. While many may be reluctant to tell their stories themselves, we have the opportunity and the responsibility to capture these experiences with dignity and share them appropriately. These stories remind us why we serve and demonstrate the positive impact of compassionate, patient-centred healthcare.

Selected stories may also be featured on **KwaMagwaza District Hospital's official Facebook page**, allowing the wider community to celebrate our achievements and witness the dedication, professionalism and compassion demonstrated by our staff every day.

Together, we can build a lasting record of excellence that reflects who we are as an institution, one committed to service, compassion, innovation and continuous improvement. Every story, no matter how small it may seem, contributes to the legacy of KwaMagwaza District Hospital.

Your story matters. Your contribution matters. Together, let's tell the story of KwaMagwaza District Hospital, one achievement at a time.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS



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