



**KWAZULU-NATAL PROVINCE**  
HEALTH  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

# McCORD PROVINCIAL EYE HOSPITAL

## SAWUBONA “EYE SEE YOU”

NEWS/INDABA

MPEH CELEBRATED HERITAGE DAY WITH A TWIST

SEPTEMBER 2024



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 KwaZulu-Natal Department of Health

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# MPEH CELEBRATES HERTIAGE DAY, with a twist



MATRON PILLAY AND HR MANAGER MS. NMM SITHOLE

This year MPEH Heritage celebration took a unique approach. Our innovative organizers introduced a fresh concept, each department promoting rich culture diversity, education and mutual appreciation.

The staff showed remarkable enthusiasm displaying exceptional teamwork and spirit, and having a fantastic time. Each department showcased their groups cultural heritage, featuring traditional food, clothing, dance, and music filled the air. Judges went around all departments, sampling all different cultural cuisines, even including a high tea. Our Management team, led by Dr. S. R. Naidoo, our acting CEO, served as judges for the cultural showcase. Management represented Tswana culture with traditional attires. Participating in the Heritage celebration proved to be an enriching experience for several staff members, who gained a deeper understanding and appreciation of various cultural traditions. Dr. Naidoo recommended that future Heritage celebration include participation from all staff members, including the doctors to ensure everyone has a chance to celebrate. Acting CEO Dr. Naidoo thanked all departments for their enthusiastic participation in the Heritage celebration.



WARD A4 REPRESENTING THE BATSONGA CULTURE



# PHOTO GALLERY



**PHARMACY STUDENTS REPRESENTING INDIAN CULTURE**



**MEHNDI DESIGNS APPLIED TO HANDS**



**PRAYER TABLE**



**ZULU CUISINE FROM WARD A3 STAFF**



**M&E DEPARTMENT REPRESENTING NDEBELE CULTURE**



**HR, SOCIAL WORK & DIETITIAN DEPARTMENTS REPRESENTING XHOSA CULTURE**

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# Celebrating Diversity



**SECURITY DEPARTMENT REPRESENTED THE SWATI CULTURE**



**X-RAY CELEBRATED WITH HIGH TEA**



**SCM STAFF MEMBERS LOOKING BEAUTIFUL**



**THEATRE REPRESENTED THE COLOURED COMMUNITY**



**WARD A1 & WARD A2 REPRESENTED THE AFRIKAANS CULTURE**



**WARD A3 REPRESENTED THE AMA ZULU CULTURE**



# HERITAGE CELEBRATION WINNERS



## OUTPATIENT DEPARTMENT TOOK THE FIRST POSITION



## WARD A3 DEPARTMENT TOOK THE SECOND POSITION



## SECURITY DEPARTMENT TOOK THE THIRD POSITION

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# EMBRANCING DIVERSITY



JULIE PERKS (OUR DIETITIAN) AND NCAMISLE MBELE (AN ADMIN CLERK) WITH ACTING CEO DR. NAIDOO AND HR MANANGER, MS. NMM SITHOLE.



OUR STAFF MEMBERS WAITING PATIENTLY FOR THE AWARDS CEREMONY TO BEGIN.

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# Oct 2024: CATARACT CAMP



MPEH hosted a successful cataract camp from the 07 to 11 October 2024 in celebration of World Eyesight Week, providing eye care services to the community, where 246 patients benefited. Patients underwent cataract surgeries performed by expert Ophthalmologists. Dedicated volunteers and nurses worked tirelessly to ensure seamless delivery of service, restoring vision and transforming lives in our community.

McCord Hospital conducts Cataract Camps every year to help people in the community see better. We do it annually because it helps us plan and organize better. By holding regular camps, MPEH maintains community trust and engagement. This strategic approach enables better planning, resource allocation, and funding, ultimately addressing the community's eye health needs effectively. Our case manager's office works very hard to book patients for their cataract surgery. They make sure everything is organized and ready, for the cataract camp week. The cataract camp is a team effort.

We thank the Filing room staff for preparing patients files and our admin clerks for registering patients. Thank you to all the staff members who made the cataract camp a success. We thank our sponsors: Islamic Medical Association, Gift of the Givers, Sathya Sai Global Council of SA, Al Imdaad Foundation and The Sultan Bahu Centre for their generous support of our cataract camp. Their contributions have helped restore vision and transform lives in our community, and we look forward to continuing our partnership to make a lasting impact.



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# WORLD EYE CARE WEEK

World Eye Care Week was observed at MPEH on 17 October 2024 to promote eye health awareness to our patients, in collaboration with local Blind Society.

The program was directed by Mr. P. Mkhwanazi and it was executed with precision and success. The program commenced with a warm welcome and introduction by our Acting CEO Dr. S. R. Naidoo, who articulated the purpose and goals of the World Eye Care Week awareness. Patients benefited from interactive sessions with pharmacy staff, who stressed the crucial role of medication compliance and provided guidance on proper usage, storage, and disposal practices. Dr Moodley (Head Clinical Unit) shared expert insights on trauma-related eye injuries, emphasizing prevention, treatment, and care strategies.

The program featured insightful talks, including (Operational Manager ) Sr. P. Bhengu's presentation on common eye challenges in children, stressing the need for parental awareness and medical attention. Mr Nyaka from the Blind Society's Orientation and Mobility Services department led an interactive session, demonstrating white cane techniques and introducing patients to gadgets for daily living, such as liquid level indicators, assistive kitchen devices for safe food preparation and warming, and specialized currency identifiers. Mr Naki inspired the audience with his remarkable story of resilience and determination. Despite losing his sight in matric, he refused to let blindness hold him back. Mr Naki's testimony served as a powerful reminder that visual impairment cannot limit one's potential.

World Eye Care Week was successfully organized by our dedicated Social Worker, Mrs. N Sosibo.



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# DISABILITY SENSITISATION TRAINING



Jayshree Naidoo (Optometry Manager) organized a special training for Mc Cord Hospital Staff to learn about helping people with disabilities. The training was led by KwaZulu-Natal Blind and Deaf Society (KZNBDS). Mr. Govender, Provincial Orientation and Mobility Coordinator commenced the training with instructing staff to work in pairs, where one at a time, each was blind folded and assisted by the other to walk up the stairs in the hospital to show staff how difficult it can be for people with disabilities to move around but also to teach staff the correct technique when assisting a person with visual impairment.

Staff also learned about:

- **Common mistakes people make about disabilities.**
- **How to treat people with disabilities with respect.**
- **Laws that protect people with disabilities.**

The social worker from (KZNBDS) Mrs. Mkhwanazi delivered a powerful presentation on living with blindness, offering an insight into the daily lives of individuals with visual impairments.

The training helped McCord staff learn how to better care for patients with disabilities.

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# Disability Sensitisation Training Photos



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# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

## EDITORIAL TEAM / DETAILS

**STHEMBILE BLOSE (PRO TRAINEE & PHOTOGRAPHER)**

**DR S.R. NAIDOO (ACTING CEO)**

**Mrs J PERKS (DIETITIAN)**

For complaints, suggestions or compliments please contact the Public Relations Officer :

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## **MPEH Visiting Hours**

### **Monday to Friday**

13h00-14h00 and 18h00-19h00

### **Weekends and Public Holidays**

14h00 -16h00

