



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

# Newcastle Regional Hospital

## NEWCASTLE PLATFORM

## NEWS

July – September 2025

Marching on together.....

### Celebrating unity in diversity on Heritage Day....



Newcastle Regional Hospital management posing with staff for a group photo on Heritage day. Hospital CEO in red dress Mrs. T.T. Vilakazi was also in attendance.

**H**eritage day in South Africa recognizes and celebrates the cultural wealth of our nation.

South Africans celebrate the day by remembering the cultural heritage of the many cultures that make up the population of South Africa. Various events

are staged throughout the country to commemorate this day. Newcastle Regional Hospital staff... *Continued on P3*

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# Newcastle Regional Hospital welcoming new CEO

The CEO was introduced to the Newcastle Regional Hospital Heads of sections, Organized labour representatives, EXCO as well as Hospital Board which was represented by Mr. Qiniso Zwane, District Director Mrs. T. Sakyi who was also representing Mrs. Thamela Dube.

Mrs. Vilakazi was born in Nkandla, in a place called Matshenezimpisi under Inkosi Biyela. She did all her schooling (Primary, Secondary and High School) in Nkandla. She then did her 4 year Nursing Diploma at Ngwelezane hospital and her 1st post basic diploma in Primary Health Care also in Ngwelezane. She further persuaded other courses at Potchefstroom University and UNISA which includes Diploma in Occupational Health, Degree in Nursing (majoring with Nursing Education and Health Service Management and a number of other short courses. She first worked as a Professional Nurse in Nkandla hospital, Stanger Hospital, Ceza Hospital as Assistant Nurs-

ing Manager –nighty duty.

Mrs. Vilakazi was once employed at Dundee Forensic Pathology Services as a Facility Manager, Waterval Correctional Centre as a Chief Professional Nurse. This is a lady that is very experienced in PHC services and has worked as a PHC Supervisor in Nkandla Hospital, CJM Hospital. In 2013 she was employed as a Deputy Manager Nursing at Church of Scotland Hospital and in 2018 was appointed as the CEO for Dundee District Hospital. She then commenced duties as the CEO of Newcastle Regional Hospital on the 1st September 2025. Her vision about Newcastle Hospital is to see all employees of the hospital working as a team, striving to achieve same goal and putting Newcastle on the map. She aims to ensure the functionality of all relevant committees which includes Hospital Board, ILMC, Clinical and Non-Clinical committees which will then improve quality of care rendered to the community.



**Mrs. T.T. Vilakazi**

## **New CEO of Newcastle Regional Hospital**

Mrs. Vilakazi is finally happy to be at home since she also resides in Amajuba District. She hopes to instill the culture of excellence in service delivery and a feeling of belonging to all Newcastle Regional Hospital staff. Finally she believes that the hospital has a dedicated, highly committed staff with right skills and knowledge which then will assist with improvement of clinical governance and reduction of medico legal litigations thus saving the budget of the hospital.



Marked their day by dressing in their traditional attires. Addressing the attendees of the event the new CEO of the hospital Mrs. T.T. Vilakazi said it is important for the people of this country to remember where they are coming from, in order for them to know where they are going. "I feel honored to be part of this vibrant institution, the institution that recognizes and embrace the issue of heritage, since our hospital is made up of different races" she said.

This year's hospital "Theme" was all about the Indian wedding where the Indian community was showing the staff what is really done during their wedding. Mr. Maharaj from X-Ray department was at the forefront explaining all the nitty gritty of the Indian wedding.

In the year 2024 it was the Nguni people that were showcasing the wedding of the Zulu nation. In closing the CEO of the hospital encouraged staff members to attend events of the hospital since they are all in the KZN Health Awareness days calendar.



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# Heritage day gallery.....



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# Prioritise breastfeeding, create sustainable support system



**T**he 2025 theme for the World Breastfeeding Week “Prioritise: create sustainable support system” highlights the importance of building the long-term, supportive environments for breastfeeding mothers and connects it with reducing the environmental impact artificial feeding.

The goal is to ensure consistence, multi-level support for breastfeeding from health systems to community environment, recognizing breastfeeding as both a natural, healthy practice and a sustainable solution for planet.

As a Mother and Child hospital Newcastle Regional Hospital commemorated this year’s world breastfeeding week by staging a breastfeeding play in the hospital foyer where nurses and dieticians were educating young mothers about the importance of breastfeeding. Students from Madadeni Nursing College actively participated in the play and assisted in ensuring that the week is successfully celebrated.



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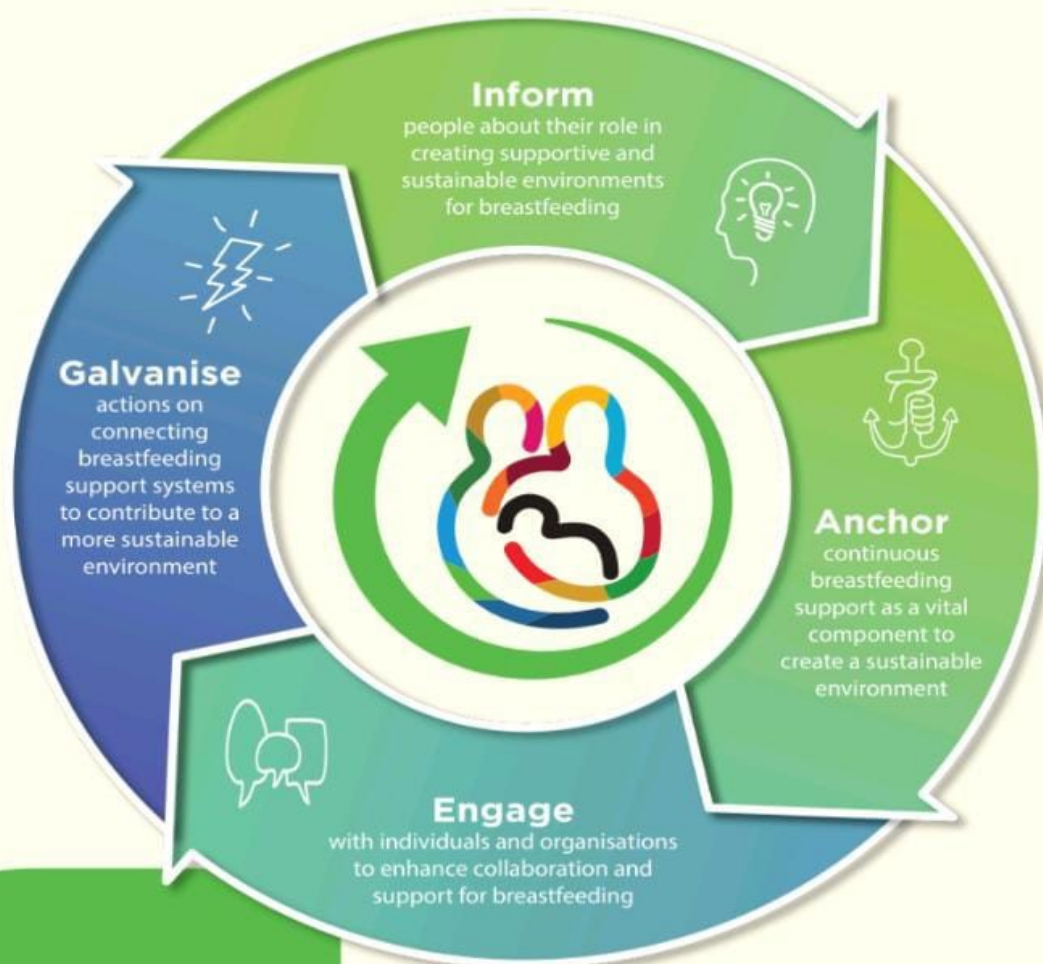


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# PRIORITISE BREASTFEEDING

## Create sustainable support systems



**We invite everyone— governments, health systems, workplaces, civil society organisations, communities, and individuals — to join us in prioritising breastfeeding and creating lasting support systems that contribute to a healthier planet for future generations.**

This WBW, the spotlight is back on the environment and climate change. The campaign underscores the importance of prioritising breastfeeding by building robust and sustainable support systems. A supportive environment for breastfeeding not only benefits families but also significantly reduces the environmental impact associated with artificial feeding.

#WBW2025 aims to connect actors across all levels involved in breastfeeding support to create resilient and sustainable support systems. We will also highlight the World Health Assembly (WHA) 2025 Nutrition Targets.



World Alliance for Breastfeeding Action (WABA) is a global network of individuals and organisations dedicated to the protection, promotion and support of breastfeeding worldwide based on the Innocenti Declarations, the Ten Links for Nurturing the Future and the WHO/UNICEF Global Strategy for Infant and Young Child Feeding. WABA is in consultative status with UNICEF and an NGO in Special Consultative Status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations (ECOSOC). WABA coordinates the annual World Breastfeeding Week campaign.

WABA, PO Box 1200 10850 Penang, Malaysia | Email: [wbw@waba.org.my](mailto:wbw@waba.org.my) | Web: [www.worldbreastfeedingweek.org](http://www.worldbreastfeedingweek.org)

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# Fire Safety at Newcastle Regional Hospital



Pictured is Newcastle Fire Department together with the Newcastle Regional Hospital Disaster Committee after the hospital fire drill



Fire safety remains a critical component of the hospital commitment to safeguard patients, staff and infrastructure. Proactive measures and structured preparedness ensure swift, coordinated response to fire - related emergencies.

On the 20th August 2025, Newcastle Regional Hospital in partnership with Newcastle Fire Department conducted a fire drill in order to check the preparedness of the hospital in case of fire



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in support of  
**CHILD**   
**PROTECTION**  
**365 DAYS A YEAR**

# REGISTER BIRTHS WITHIN 30 DAYS



## BIRTH REGISTERING REQUIREMENTS

- ✓ Proof of Birth
- ✓ Identity Documents (Both Parents)
- ✓ Marriage Certificate (If Married)
- ✓ Passport in case one parent is not a South African Citizen

All children born in South Africa, regardless of their parents' nationality or citizenship status, must be registered within 30 days.

*#RegisterBirthsWithin30days*

For more information on the requirements of birth registration, visit <https://bit.ly/dha-at-hospitals> or contact 0800 60 11 90



home affairs

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**G20** SOUTH  
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# WORLD DAY FOR SAFETY AND HEALTH AT WORK



**Hospital CEO Mrs. T.T. Vilakazi in blue dress leading the song during World Safety Day**

World Safety Day's aim is to promote the prevention of workplace accidents, injuries and occupational diseases. On the 17th September 2025 Newcastle Regional Hospital commemorated this day by having talks at the Foyer of the hospital where issues of PSI were discussed and also the importance of early reporting of PSI's.

Speaking at this mini event, CEO of the hospital Mrs. T.T. Vilakazi said the main objective of celebrating this day is to restore public trust in the health care system, enhance communication and team work among health care staff. Hospital staff and management supported this event by wearing Red T-Shirts, Yellow R-Shirts and Green T-Shirts with posters bearing PSI messages. Everyone was singing "Phansi ngo PSI phansi - Down with PSI down"

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# PHARMACY MONTH CELEBRATION IN PICTURES



Comm Servers from Pharmacy Department Ms. Ntandoyenkosi Nkosi, Ms. Amukelani Nkasa and Ms. Simphiwe Ntshangase were behind the planning and the execution of the mini event



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# Blood donation a success at Newcastle Hospital



**Mrs. Francis Fourie from Finance Department getting ready to donate blood assisted by Sr. V. Simelane of the SANBS**

The South African National Blood Services visited Newcastle Regional Hospital in what has become a long standing tradition at the Hospital, the brave employees saved many lives simply by donating blood.

Donating blood is a life saving act that helps individuals in need, including those injured in accidents

and those needing blood transfusion for other medical conditions. One donation can save up to three lives.

Management at the hospital extended a heartfelt thank you to their staff who donated as well as the Public Relations Unit for ensuring that the donation process went smoothly.



**South African National Blood Services representatives attending to one of the patient who came to donate blood. The gentleman happened to be the winner of the day and received a nicely branded bag from SANBS.**

# EDITORIAL TEAM



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Chief Editor



**Mr. P.S. Buthelezi - PRO**  
Designer / Writer & Photographer

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