



**health**

Department:  
Health  
PROVINCE OF KWAZULU-NATAL

# Umgeni Hospital

## Umgeni NEWS

STAY INFORMED

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# THE MEC VISITS UMGENI



From left: Cllr. T. Njilo (Mayor: uMsunduzi Municipality), Miss. N.E. Ndlovu (CEO: Umgeni Hospital), Dr. S. Dhlomo (KZN MEC for Health) and Mrs. M. Zuma-Mkhonza (uMgungundlovu District Director)

# MEC Gives Words of Encouragement

**T**he Member of Executive Committee (MEC) for Health in KwaZulu–Natal, Dr. S. Dhlomo commended the management and staff at Umgeni Hospital for their dedication in serving Mental Health Care User's (patients).

Dr. S. Dhlomo visited the institution on 22 August 2018; accompanied by uMsunduzi Mayor Cllr T. Njilo and uMgungundlovu Health District Director: Mrs. Zuma-Mkhonza. The visit was to witness the excellent care provided to Mental Health Care User's (MHCU's) as reported to the MEC by the Portfolio Committee on Health from the National Assembly that visited Umgeni Hospital on 16 August 2018.

Dr. Dhlomo, Cllr Njilo, Mrs Zuma-Mkhonza came with a team from the Provincial Office; i.e. Mr Mhlongo (Infrastructure), Mr Zondi (Office of the MEC); and they were joined by the local Management (Miss Ndlovu—CEO, Mrs Hlongwane—Nursing Manager, Dr Nwokedi—Medical Officer, Mr Mjaja—Pharmacy Manager, Mr Ngcobo—Systems Manager, Mr Mathobela—Finance Manager, Mr Chirwa—Acting HR Manager, Mr Zuma—Chief Artisan) of Umgeni Hospital in conducting a brief “walk-about” of the hospital.

The team took note of the services rendered to the Users, the overwhelming majority of whom are fully dependent on clinicians for their survival as a result of their condition. The facility admits Users with severe to profound intellectual disability with associated physical disabilities.

During the walk to various wards, Dr. Dhlomo showed a keen interest in understanding the challenges Nurses encounter in serving these Users; and in contextualizing these narratives he stated: “...when you hear such stories you get encouraged: people are dedicated to their work” said Dr Dhlomo.

“The Portfolio Committee that visited the hospital had good things to say about this facility. I decided to see them to congratulate them on the positive image the national leadership has about them. It is extremely humbling to see our staff, despite staff challenges, doing their very best to care for clients who have no one else to look up to. The service that they provide is Godly. Caring for Mental Health Care Users without having a temptation to abandon or abuse them, but instead clothe, bath and feed them... is highly commendable. We want to say a big ‘Thank You’ to facility CEO Miss N.E. Ndlovu and the entire leadership team and staff for the excellent service,” MEC Dr. Dhlomo said.



## The MEC Visits Umgeni



Dr. Dhlomo, Cllr Njilo, Management and the Staff Umgeni Hospital



Dr Dhlomo interacting with Mental Health Care Users



From right: Sr S. Govender (Operational Manager: Ward 3) welcoming the dignitaries into the ward and explaining the type of Users housed in the ward.

## The MEC Visits Umgeni



Dr. Dhlomo enjoying the music of the Unforgettable Band. He was impressed to see that despite their conditions and disabilities, they were able to play such beautiful instrumental music.

The User playing piano accordion is blind—the MEC was pleased to see such talent



Occupational Therapist (Mrs N. Ramcharan) showing the dignitaries a Therapy Area (pottery) one of the stimulation areas.



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