



health

Department:
Health
PROVINCE OF KWAZULU-NATAL

Umgeni Hospital

Umgeni

NEWS

Special Edition

MANDELA DAY CELEBRATION (ACTION FOR CHANGE)



FIGHTING DISEASE, FIGHTING POVERTY, GIVING HOPE

Nelson Mandela's birthday is on 18 July and over the years people around South Africa are encouraged to commemorate his birthday by acting on the idea that each person has the power to change the world by helping the less fortunate among us.

"The idea of Mandela Day was inspired by Nelson Mandela at his 90th birthday celebrations in London's Hyde Park in 2008 when he said: **"It is time for new hands to lift the burdens. It is in your hands now."** Nelson Mandela has contributed to the struggle for democracy internationally and the promotion of a culture of peace throughout the world. Mandela once said "he would be honoured if such a day can serve to bring together people around the world to fight poverty and promote peace and reconciliation."

On 18 July 2017 *Umgeni Hospital* celebrated Mandela Day in an exceptional way by working with ± 30 personnel from the Department of Correctional Services including Senior Managers from their Provincial Office. Included in the list of organisations that joined hands with us, was SANCA, uMngeni Municipality: i.e. Ward 1 Committee Members led by Councillor Mkhasibe and community members affiliated with the **Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP)**. The activities of the day included, the painting of Ward 1, cleaning of hospital walkways, as well as cleaning of bushy areas around staff houses, etc. The purpose of the entire project was to restore and reaffirm the dignity of the Mental Health Care User's and the staff by ensuring a clean and safe environment.

Our hardworking and dedicated visitors were engaged in vigorous work for over 5 hours in honour of the great Mandela who gave up his freedom for the emancipation of all South African citizens from apartheid. During the course of the day, they identified other areas that needed attention and proposed that these be attended to on other days as an ongoing project and a way to ensure continuous relations between the two public service departments. Through this continuous initiative, the idea was to strengthen the notion "make everyday a Mandela Day".

The Management and patients would like to extend a heartfelt "thank you" to all staff of Umgeni Hospital who were determined to work for change at their institution because **charity begins at home**. Our warm and sincere gratitude also goes to the Special Events Committee for a sterling job in co-ordinating the event.

And last but by no means least, a big hearty "thank you" to our friends from the Department of Correctional Services. The project would not have even happened if it was not for this group of hard working individuals.

"In return for everything Madiba has taught us, we each owe it to him to support his work and legacy by doing and living our own as best as we can, not just on this day, but throughout our entire lives."



PICTURES FOR MANDELA DAY



The unused house before the trees were trimmed



The house after the trees were trimmed



Miss. N.E. Ndlovu (Chief Executive Officer) clearing cut branches



Mr. M.V. Ngcobo (Systems Manager) cutting the bush around the fence

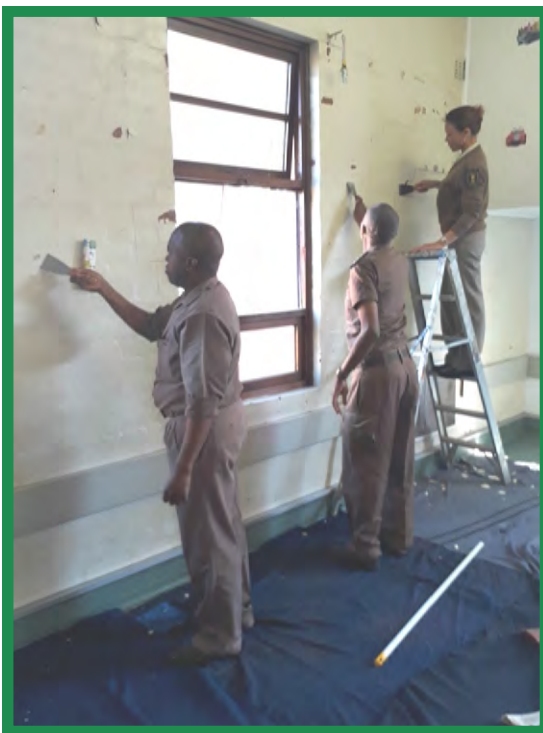


Staff residence after the parameter fence was cleared

PICTURES FOR MANDELA DAY



The wall before it was painted



Correctional Service personnel busy scrapping the paint that has been peeling off



Sister Khumalo scrapping the wall before it can be painted



The ward after painting