

HIV/AIDS DAY

On the 01st December 2015 *Umgeni Hospital* jointly celebrated World AIDS Day. The staff and management know the importance of supporting people that are living with HIV/AIDS and to commemorate people who have died due to HIV/AIDS.

The activity for the day was to assemble at the parking area then proceed to the central venue (Nurses Lounge) for a prayer and candle lighting led by Mrs Zondi: Nursing Manager. Mrs Zondi made a short speech in support of people that are affected and infected by HIV/AIDS. “Life can be difficult to support people that are affected but think of Jesus who had to go to Samaria. One may think there is no life after being diagnosed but Jesus went through difficult moment when he was crucified” said Mrs. N.C. Zondi

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Mrs. N.C. Zondi (Nursing Manager) lighting the candle of hope



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Human Resource Department lighting a candle for their department led by Mr. A.S. Cele first from left (H.R. Manager)

Mrs. Zondi further mentioned that our mindset can be a battle field for good or bad. “Let’s put God at the centre of the field and be positive about life”. On behalf of the managers Mrs. N.C. Zondi lit a white candle with red ribbons which is for remembrance, perseverance and it is also a candle of hope which permeates darkness for those that are still discriminating or violating the human rights of people living with HIV/AIDS.

All head of departments were given an opportunity to pray and they were encouraged to light candles in their departments. World AIDS Day is important as it reminds the public that, collectively we can increase awareness through education. “We each have a responsibility to treat those who are struggling with an HIV-positive diagnosis with compassion, those struggling with AIDS with care and ourselves and our sexual partners with respect”.

After the main gathering all staff went to their departments and light candles to show support for people living with HIV/AIDS.



Reverend Bhengu (District Chaplain) delivering a sermon

CLOSING PRAYER: 2015

The end year prayer was on 07.12.2015 and the purpose was to thank the Almighty God for keeping the staff and their families all through the year. “We need to count our blessings” said Mrs. N.C. Zondi (Nursing Manager).

At the beginning of 2015 the mighty Lord was invited to safe-guide the family of *Umgeni Hospital*. It was a time to say thank you to the Lord for being a shield to protect us in difficult moments or hardships of life. All staff were given an opportunity to thank the Lord for their blessings in 2015, some mentioned the following:

- Employment
- Lord keeping them safe in all difficulties
- Appreciating the eternal life

Mrs Zondi thanked the staff for their obedience and further mentioned that a professional without God is without value but with the presence of God he/she can be a hero. She further made a testimony about herself of being raised by her mother, who was a domestic worker, for her to be able to train for nursing she got funding from Rotary Club but with the blessing from the almighty she managed to take her children for further education. “God will not lift you in materialistic things but only in faith”. “We need not look down on our storms but we need to take them as learning curves” said Mrs Zondi.

The chaplain for Umgungundlovu District Rev Bhengu made a talk based on Psalms 105 verse 1 (Give thanks onto the Lord and call up on his doing). He mentioned the power of God up lifting people, he also made his testimony of being anointed to do a presentation on 46th Union Conference .

OPENING PRAYER: 2016

The year 2016 started in a positive note at *Umgeni Hospital* i.e by inviting the mighty God to give the strength so that we can function and care for our patients. On the 10 February 2016 staff were united in prayer so that we can be filled with Lord's glorious strength that will keep us going in 2016.

A local pastor (P. Meintjies) conducted a sermon from the book of Mathew chapter 7 verses 24-27. He shared a word about two men (wise man and foolish man) a wise man is someone who is being able to judge what is wrong and what is right and foolish man is someone without a vision.

He dwell more on how to become a wise man, someone who plans ahead and have focus to achieve his or her dreams. "Judgement at this time of the year will lead to the positive outcome at the end of the year. You can plan and make decisions that will uplift you or bring increase in your life because one must move from doing bad things to doing good things" said pastor P. Meintjies.

He preached that wise man build a house that won't fall because of God's help. "The challenges will always be part of our lives but we need God solid foundation, let's make sound decisions" said Pastor P. Meintjies. He encouraged the staff to allow God to be at the centre of their lives. "Submit to the Lord to any local church and you will build a stability in your life" said Pastor Meintjies

Mrs. N.C. Zondi (nursing manager) did a vote of thanks mentioning that we've gone this far because we believe in God. "Being wise don't need money but need God ; take wise decisions and prosper in the Lord, other people build houses with gold, silver, or with materialistic things but all will be answered in front of the Lord" said Mrs. N.C. Zondi. She further mentioned that it is good to help people in need because God wants people to be prosperous. "Let's get focus and do what is right, lets invite the Lord each and every day" said Mrs. N.C. Zondi



Staff who attended the opening prayer



Pastor P. Meintjies preaching

FIRE DRILL

Introduction

A properly planned and regularly practiced evacuation procedure is necessary for all buildings, so that occupants will know how to make an efficient and orderly escape during an emergency. Any area affected by heat, flame or smoke should be evacuated and where there is any doubt, the entire building should be evacuated.

Purpose of the Fire Drill

The purpose of the fire drill is to ensure that all members of the fire safety team are totally familiar with the emergency evacuation procedures, resulting in an orderly evacuation with efficient use of exit facilities.

Background

On 12 February 2016 the evacuation procedures were successfully carried out. The drill was conducted and monitored by the fire brigade personnel from uMgungundlovu Fire Department and in conjunction with the safety officer (Mr. L. Govindsamy). On hearing the evacuation alarm of an emergency, all staff members and control personnel i.e Fire Marshals, Health and Safety Representatives, First Aiders and Operational Managers who immediately ceased all activities and successfully played their role and responsibilities by applying a **RACE** action.

- R – Removing of patient in immediate danger (evacuate the premise quickly and calmly)
- A – Alert others (raise the alarm)
- C – Confine fire and smoke (close all windows and doors)
- E – Evacuate to the assembly point (all report to a safe place)

This was achieved in 3 minutes and 18 seconds for all patients, staff and visitors to reach a place of safety (assembly point), considering the size and number of patient at the hospital. Fire marshals were aware of physically challenged personnel of the sections. Special attention was given to the aged, ill and those needed aided effort to evacuate. We have been found Occupational Health and Safety compliance by Umgungundlovu Fire Department.

Article submitted by: Mr. L. Govindsamy (Health & Safety Officer)



Patients are relaxed after being evacuated from the ward



Staff members moving out the necessary equipment for continuity of patient care while on the assembly point

HOUSEKEEPERS AND GENERAL ORDERLIES FAREWELL

On 26 February 2016 the hospital bid farewell to five staff members i.e three housekeepers (M.P. Khumalo, J. Zondi and P.N. Ngubane) and two general orderlies (M.T. Msomi and T.G. Mbambe).

It was a joyous occasion celebrated by the staff, the housekeepers, general orderlies and family members. From the hospital point of view it was not a good day as the work of these 5 staff, took a lot of perseverance and their jobs played an important role with regards to the cleaning of the hospital buildings.

All housekeepers started by being general assistants known as hospital orderlies and were promoted due to their commitment. When housekeepers were employed there were no job descriptions but they worked entirely to ensure that patients were in a clean environment. They also worked in offices, nurses home and in single quarters which was an accommodation for male staff.

M.J. Msomi and T.G. Mbambe started to work at this institution almost at the same time with housekeepers when cleaners were reporting to sisters in-charge of the wards. Even though they started working before the KwaZulu- Natal Department of Health took over they adapted to change so that they can be a good asset to the institution.

Management, staff and patients of *Umgeni Hospital* wish you well in your years at home and a big thank you for the services that you rendered in your own special way.



From left T.G. Mbambe, J. Zondi, M.P. Khumalo, P.N. Ngubane and M.T. Msomi with some their gifts and cake to celebrate their special day



P.M.A. Zuma : Public Relations Intern

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself, my name is Mxolisi Philani Armstrong Zuma, I am from Mpophomeni Township. I am doing N6 at Technical Vocational Education & Training (TVET) at uMsunduzi to qualify as a Public Relations Personnel. After completing my experiential learning, I'm planning to carry on with my studies and do B- tech in Public Relations Management at the Durban University of Technology.

So getting right down to business of what have I learnt thus far under the mentorship of Mrs. Ayanda Biyase (Public Relations Officer). I started my internship on 02 February 2016 and thus far I have gained a wealth of experiences naming few:

- Planning for the events
- Conducting Patient Satisfaction Surveys and compiling a report after the survey
- Doing presentations
- Liaising with the internal and external stakeholders
- Office work (typing, filling, compiling posters and distributing them to strategic areas etc.)

I have had the privilege to actively contribute towards the compilation of this newsletter. I'm so grateful to be an intern at *Umgeni Hospital* because there are times when I interact with patients. I can proudly say "if my mentor is not present I am there on her behalf" because she has trained me on good customer care.

In closure I would like to thank my mentor and human resource skills development (Mr. R.B.N. Chirwa) for giving me this opportunity and good hospitality; not forgetting the entire staff for their caring attitude towards me.

Article submitted



N. Mazibuko: Community Serve (Physiotherapist)

My name is Nelisiwe Mazibuko, but I prefer being called Inkazimulo YeNkosi (God's Magnificence) which has never happened quite frankly, so I just go along with what most people call me, Neli. I was born and bred in Johannesburg, SOWETO, and have never lived anywhere else until now. I studied at The University of the Witwatersrand and obtained my BSc degree in Physiotherapy in 2015. I am currently doing my community service at Umgeni Hospital, KwaZulu-Natal.

Countless people question me on my decision to work so far away from home, and I always tell them that it was for the experience. I enjoy new experiences, so getting up and leaving home to go live in a different province wasn't a difficult decision to make. The Community Service year is one where you're given the opportunity to gain as much knowledge as you possibly can in the "real" world (outside of the world of very limited experiences that varsity gives you) before going out to being the individual health practitioner that you were trained to become.

This, I thought, is also the year that I can experience a bit of the fun that life has to offer before I grow too old, and what better way to start than to pack all your bags and settle in a small town, +/- 500Km's from home?

My experience at *Umgeni Hospital* thus far has been a great learning experience. I've been put in positions where I've had to crawl out of my comfort zone - from answering and making calls from the office in a professional manner; to having the majority of my workload being, what I've always considered my weakness, Paediatrics (with Cerebral Palsy); to running an outpatient department alone (which I've never done before); and dealing with patients who have Intellectual Disability. It was challenging at first and even though I'm still finding my feet, it's becoming easier and easier. The friendly colleagues in all the various departments have certainly contributed in making the 3 months at this hospital as bearable and enjoyable as they have been.

Article submitted

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