



SIKHANYAKUDE

NEWS

STAY INFORMED

April-June 2022

DISTRICT DIRECTOR HONORED BY MSELENI HOSPITAL STAFF



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Mseleni Hospital Management & Staff honored District Director



District Staff handing over an award to Ms MP Tthemba on behalf of Mseleni Hospital since the event was held in her absentia

Jokingly she normally says to staff “akube niyafunda njalo umsebenzi, siyahamba thina”, and everyone laughs; Ms Makhosazana Themba, the district director at Umkhanyakude Health District is bristling with energy, passionate about the service and in touch with reality. Most of the MECs in the province have referred to her as “isikhwishikhwishi sase Mkhanyakude” as she also serves as the Deputy Chairperson of the Operation Sukuma Sakhe District Task Team. The staff knows from

clinics, hospitals and district office that all she wants is excellent work and service to the people. During the Nurses ‘Day celebration at Mseleni Hospital in May, staff and management honoured Ms Themba with an award of dedication towards fostering service delivery of health towards the people. The awards referred to her as “Ingqalabutho” and conveyed a special message: “Siyabonga futhi siyalihlonipha ngegalelo lakho kwezobuhlelengikazi. Uyibekile

induku ebandla wasilwela isithunzi sobuhlelengikazi wasinikeza ugqozi thina esiza emuva kwakho”. Upon receipt of the award, Ms MP Themba was so humbled and thanked the staff for recognizing her diligence. “It is with great humility & appreciation that on your Nurses 'Day ceremony in May 2022 you honoured my contribution to the service with a special recognition. You are wished all the best in your daily endeavours to take care of your community.”

Integrated outreach health services campaign



Administering Covid-19 vaccine on site



Health education and condom distribution

On the 8th June 2022 the district had a health awareness blitz at Jozini town and mall. The initiative was one of many health promotional interventions to bring services nearer to the people. Provision of services included, among the few: vaccinating on the spot for Covid-19, distribution of condoms and educational materials on variety of conditions and preventative measures.

Health promotion and disease prevention programs focus on keeping people healthy. Health promotion programs aim to engage and empower individuals and communities to choose healthy behaviours, and make changes that reduce the risk of developing chronic diseases and other morbidities.



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Distribution of educational pamphlets



District Office Hand Hygiene Campaign

On 6th May 2022 Umkhanyakude Health District celebrated Hand Hygiene Day when Managers and staff members signed a pledge of commitment to: ensuring compliance to hand hygiene standards; cleaning hands as per WHO guidelines; promoting hand hygiene to everyone to ensure safety.

Hand washing is very important because Germs from unwashed hands can be transferred to other objects, like handrails, table tops, or toys, and then transferred to another person's hands.

Removing germs through handwashing therefore helps prevent diarrhoea and respiratory infections and may even help prevent skin and eye infections.



Signing of the pledge on hand hygiene and hand washing demonstration



I CHOOSE TO MASK

Masks are not mandatory but are recommended. They lower the risks of Covid-19 infections especially when in crowded spaces or closed spaces.

VISIT: SACORONAVIRUS SITE



Ideal Clinic Realization & Maintenance and Quality Road show



Mseleni Hospital Deputy Manager Nursing Mr MX Ndlovu & DDD: Clinical & Programmes Mr BP Fakude giving report to plenary after commissions

Umkhanyakude Health District participated in Ideal Clinic Realization & Maintenance and Quality Road show conducted by the provincial office which was held in uLundi on 5th July 2022. A very fruitful engagement focused on crafting and moulding strategies to better the

experiences of patients at healthcare facilities.

Among few areas of utmost importance are: positive & caring staff attitudes, reduced waiting times, safety and security, availability of medicines, infection and prevention control, records

management, ICT and improved infrastructure.

Implementation of these mentioned areas with timelines attached has started to speed up improvement in provision of healthcare services.



Umkhanyakude Health District commission



Dr Hervey Williams says: “goodbye”



Medical Managers from Umkhanyakude Hospitals and District Director Ms MP Themba gathered at Hluhluwe Anew Hotel to bid farewell to Dr Harvey Williams

Dr Hervey Williams is heading for retirement after 29 years serving people in Umkhanyakude. Originally from England, he arrived in June 1994 at Mosvold Hospital which is located in Ingwavuma near South Africa-eSwatini borderline.

He vividly remembers how a joke was made by others at Prince Mshiyeni Hospital in Durban where he had come to get transport to Mosvold; “You are going to Ingwavuma? There are snakes there, nobody goes there! you are going to the jungle!”.

Although he had never heard of the place called Ingwavuma but when he eventually arrived, he maintains that it was a very peaceful place. Dr Williams even started his own family in Ingwavuma. “My children learned to speak IsiZulu first before they could speak English!” One of the most challenging times

in the service for Dr Williams was around year 2000 where the country was riddled with high prevalence of HIV/AIDS. “Around the year 2000, TB & HIV just didn’t get better, wards were full of sick people passing away day by day,” he said. However, with intervention of ARV programme that war was overcome.

District Director Ms MP Themba described Dr Williams as a very hardworking public servant in the medical field. Dr Williams believed in sharing resources within the district; some hospitals in Umkhanyakude due to their rural and remote nature, from time to time would struggle to attract medical officers; in such cases, Dr Williams believed in assisting those facilities. Dr Williams also strengthened doctor’s visits to clinics as part of supporting services at primary health care level, he would do that even way before the district had a programme of hiring sessional doctors. Dr Williams also was instrumental

in ensuring that the district does not struggle to process post-mortems as he personally performed them from time to time. He had strong passion for service, although for the past 14 years he has been working at the district office as the Family Physician, he however identified some of the clinics where he worked and consulted patients such as Mtubatuba clinic and Othobothini Community Health Centre to keep his skills sharp. Dr Williams will be missed; but we thank him for dedication in the service of the people!

“From here I know you have got your plans but you will remain our resource person, as you go out you will have a clean eye on what we will be doing” - Ms MP Themba

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KWAZULU-NATAL PROVINCE
HEALTH
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



KwaZulu-Natal Department of Health



KZN Department of Health



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**GROWING
KWAZULU-NATAL
TOGETHER**

Umkhanyakude Health District Wellness & Healthy Lifestyle



Umkhanyakude Health District staff wellness and healthy lifestyle programme was held at Makhasa Sport Field on 20th July 2022. The event was sponsored by Old Mutual.

Hlabisa team took away the 1st prize in both volley ball and soccer; Bethesda team won 1st prize in Netball. All winners walked away with kits, trophies and medals.

Other participants were Malaria control programme, EMS, Othobothini CHC, Mosvold, Mseleni and Manguzi hospitals.



Mseleni Hospital Hand Hygiene Drive



Mseleni Hospital CEO Mrs TR Sibisi & Medical Manager Dr Hobe leading the hand hygiene campaign



IPC Manager and M&E Manager during the handwashing campaign

As part of Hand Hygiene Campaign, Mseleni hospital had a hype of activities emphasizing the importance of hand hygiene. IPC Manager Ms QG Shandu said this campaign had full support from hospital management team and staff; and they were able to even take it to the community.

Health experts usually say prevention is better than cure, hence hand hygiene is one the most important activities that can be done to curb the spread of germs that may lead to diseases like diarrhoea and respiratory infections and may even help prevent skin and eye infections.

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MR. THABANI S NTULI
AD: COMMUNICATIONS
WRITER, DESIGNER & PHOTOGRAPHER

EDITORIAL TEAM



MS. M.P THEMBA
DISTRICT DIRECTOR
EDITOR

