



KWAZULU-NATAL PROVINCE
HEALTH
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

UMKHANYAKUDE HEALTH DISTRICT OFFICE

SIKHANYAKUDE

NEWS

STAY INFORMED

JAN-MAR 2025

MR. B.P. FAKUDE WILL NOW SERVE AS DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON FOR OSS/DDM IN UMKHANYAKUDE DISTRICT



drive economic development through increased cooperation among various levels of government. It promotes joint and collaborative planning at the local level across all three spheres of governance, resulting in a unified and strategically focused One Plan for each district. DDM is complemented by Operation Sukuma Sakhe, a program designed to integrate government services and improve the lives of citizens.

Mr. Fakude will work alongside Mr. TJ Motha, the Department of Education District Director, who leads the OSS/DDM as Chairperson.

Left: MEC for Health in KwaZulu-Natal Nomagugu Simelane **Right:** Acting District Director Mr BP Fakude

Mr. BP Fakude, the Acting District Director, has been appointed as the Deputy Chairperson for the Operation Sukuma Sakhe/ District Development Model (OSS/DDM) in Umkhanyakude District. During the welcoming remarks, OSS/DDM Secretary Mr. Nhlakanipho Ngema extended his best wishes to Mr. Fakude as he takes on this new role. Mr. Fakude is well-acquainted with these structures, having previously represented the Department of Health.

A highly experienced clinician, Mr. Fakude has contributed to several health initiatives, including HIV/ AIDS, STIs, Tuberculosis, and Primary Health Care, among others. He is currently serving as Acting District Director for the Umkhanyakude Health District, a role he took on after serving as Clinical & Programmes Manager. The District Development Model (DDM) aims to enhance service delivery and



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KZN Health MEC Nomagugu Simelane Visits Hluhluwe Clinic



From Right: MEC for Health in KwaZulu-Natal Nomagugu Simelane, Chief Director for Corporate Communication Mr N Maphisa, Umkhanyakude Acting District Director Mr BP Fakude and Mseleni Hospital Medical Manager Dr LL Hobe Nxumalo during MEC's visit at Hluhluwe clinic.



MEC for Health in KwaZulu-Natal Nomagugu Simelane conducted a tour at the clinic, interacted with staff, and patients.

On 21st February 2025, KwaZulu-Natal MEC for Health, Nomagugu Simelane was pleased to know that Hluhluwe Clinic in Umkhanyakude District had sufficient medication available for patients. This comes after widely publicised and exaggerated allegations, especially on social media, about a purported shortage of medication in public health facilities.

Umkhanyakude Health District Acting Director Mr BP Fakude on a previous day had visited Manaba Clinic in Umhlabuyalingana on the 20th of February 2025, which had been reported to be out of medication on social media. However, it was discovered that the clinic had medication in abundance.

According to Hluhluwe Clinic Operational Manager Sister NP Mkhonto, there are also systems in place and constant communication between health facilities and

pharmacists in hospital through which they closely monitor medication stock levels in order to ensure that medication is redistributed accordingly.

MEC Nomagugu Simelane further engaged both staff and patients who were all pleased to see MEC physically visiting the facility. The visit underscored the government's commitment to strengthening primary healthcare access across the province.

Imizamo yokulwa nokukhulelwa kwabantwana iyaqhubeka futhi ayikaze ime.



Izinhlaka ezahlukahlukeni zabamba iqhaza emkhankasweni wokulwa nesihlala sokukhulelwa kwabantwana emhlanganweni owawubanjelwe eMachibini

Imikhankaso kanye nemizamo yokulwa nesihlala sokukhulelwa kwabantwana ikakhulukazi labo abasafunda isikole selokhu iqhubeka njalo. Mhla zingama 27 kuNhlolanja 2025, izinhlaka ezahlukahlukeni okubalwa kuzo: ubuholi bendabuko, iminyango ka hulumeni, izinhlangano zomphakathi ezinye zazo ezingenzi nzuzo kanye nezinye, ziye zahlangana ehholo lomphakathi endaweni yaseMachibini ngaphansi koMasipala wase Inkosi Mtubatuba. Lo mhlango

wawuwuhlobo lokuxoxisana kwezinhlaka ezahlukene okungabalwa kuzo: abantwana bamantombazana kanye nabesilisa; abazali, abaholi, iziphathimandla kanye nezinye. Bonke-ke bebexoxa bebonisana ukuthi ingqinamba yokukhulelwa kwabantwana idalwa yini futhi ingavikeleka noma igwemeke kanjani.

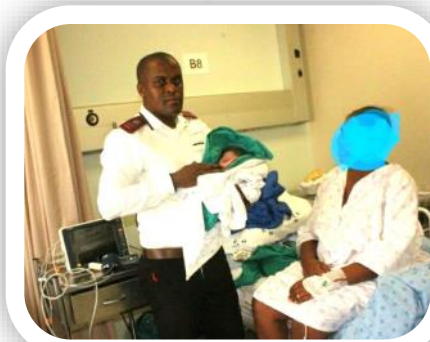
Umnyango WeZempilo uyaye ube seqhulwini kulemihlangano yalolu hlobo ngoba phela yiwona othintekayo uma umntwana esekhulelwe okanye uma sekumele atete umntwana wakhe. Ukuqwashisa-ke kwabe kwagxile

ekugqugquzeleni abantwana ukuba bazithibe ekwenzeni ucansi. Kodwa phela labo abangasakwazi mabazivikele ukuze bagweme ukukhulelwa kanye negciwane lesandulela ngculazi ukuze bazoba nekusasa eliqhakazile.

Imikhankaso yalolu hlobo ihlezi ithe chithisaka eSifundeni saseMkhanyakude. Umnyango uze ube nohlelo lwezempilo ezikoleni lapho ukuqwashisa abantwana ngale ngozi kuyinsakavukela umchilo wesidwaba.

DID YOU KNOW?

On April 17, 2018, at 4:55 AM, the first baby was born at Othobothini Community Health Centre.



HUMAN RIGHTS MONTH 2025
DEEPENING A CULTURE OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND HUMAN RIGHTS



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KZN Health MEC Nomagugu Simelane congratulates Hluhluwe clinic nurse for heroic service to rural communities



MEC for Health in KwaZulu-Natal Nomagugu Simelane with Hluhluwe Clinic's outstanding midwife, Sr Thandazile Nhlenyama

One shy and soft-spoken nurse is gaining accolades for her exceptional dedication and skill. Sister Thandazile Nhlenyama, based at Hluhluwe Clinic in Umkhanyakude, is an advanced midwife, and has become a trusted lifeline for patients. Whether it's an emergency delivery

or a complicated medical situation, Sr. Nhlenyama, 52, is known for her quick thinking and ability to handle high-pressure situations with remarkable ease. So much so that hospital-bound paramedics do not think twice about taking a detour to Hluhluwe Clinic when their patients encounter complications – because they know Sr. Nhlenyama will be there to help.

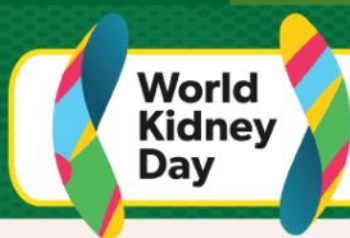
Her approach to her work is grounded in compassion, and she approaches every case with the utmost care.

"When a woman is giving birth, she's already in pain. You don't want to add to that by being harsh. It's important to be gentle and show kindness, because psychologically, they're going through a lot already," she says. "We have to show compassion – it makes all the difference to how the mother experiences the birth."

Despite her many years of experience and numerous successes, Sr. Nhlenyama's passion for nursing shows no sign of waning. "I love what I do. When I'm with a patient, I don't even look at the time," she says. "I stay with them until I know I've done everything I can and I can pass them on to a colleague so that they're in good hands."

During a recent visit to Hluhluwe Clinic, KwaZulu-Natal Health MEC Ms. Nomagugu Simelane praised Sr. Nhlenyama as an exemplary figure in the nursing profession.

"Sr. Nhlenyama embodies everything we strive for in healthcare," MEC Simelane said. "Her dedication, her skills, and her commitment to her patients make her an outstanding ambassador for the nursing profession. She's a great example to her peers and is living out the Nurses' Pledge every day through her compassion and professionalism."



13 MARCH 2025

WORLD KIDNEY DAY

Are Your Kidneys OK? Detect Early, Protect Kidney Health"

This day highlights the importance of identifying the risk factors for kidney disease and getting tested early for timely detection and intervention. It encourages individuals at risk to undergo tests, including blood pressure monitoring, body mass index (BMI) assessment, urine tests for albumin, and blood tests for glucose and creatinine levels, for better management and prevention of kidney-related complications.



#kidneyhealthforall

#worldkidneyday



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Umkhanyakude Health District Welcomes New Programme Coordinators

The Umkhanyakude Health District is pleased to welcome Mr. N.T. Vilane and Ms. S.P. Majozi as new programme coordinators. Mr. Vilane will oversee the High Transmission Area programme, while Ms. Majozi will join HIV/AIDS, STIs, and Tuberculosis programme.

Their expertise and dedication are expected to play a vital role in improving health outcomes for the community. The district looks forward to their contributions in strengthening healthcare services and making a meaningful impact on the lives of healthcare users in Umkhanyakude.



Thengani Clinic Hosts Successful Isibaya Samadoda: Initiative for Men's Health



Men came in numbers to attend Isibaya Samadoda programme at Thengani Clinic

On 19th March 2025, Thengani Clinic, under Manguzi Hospital, hosted local men for the Isibaya Samadoda initiative - a dedicated men's health outreach programme. The event provided critical health services, including: Health education sessions, HIV and TB testing, STI screening, Male Medical Circumcision (MMC) recruitment, Condom distribution and Prostate cancer screening

Men had an opportunity to engage in discussions on key health topics, gaining deeper insights into various diseases, their signs, symptoms, and prevention strategies. The programme was supported

by key stakeholders, including: Traditional leadership, Clinic committee, Religious leaders and Local government representatives.

The event concluded on a cultural note, with men enjoying traditional culinary delights such as inhloko (boiled cow's head), ujeqe (steamed bread), and isobho (a traditional beverage).

This initiative not only promoted health awareness but also strengthened community bonds, encouraging men to take proactive steps toward their well-being.



Top: NA Mkhumbuzi, Thengani Clinic Operational Manager, Below: Men enjoying meals together after engagement.



Yes! You and I Can End TB: Commit, Invest, Deliver



TB Awareness Programme at Mahlangu clinic under Manguzi Hospital in Umhlabuyalingana

On Monday, March 24, 2025, South Africa joined the global community in

commemorating World Tuberculosis (TB) Day under the theme: “Yes! You and I Can End TB: Commit, Invest, Deliver.” This day serves as a crucial reminder of the urgent need to eliminate TB, which remains the world’s deadliest infectious disease.

As part of ongoing awareness initiatives aligned with the Department of Health’s annual health calendar, all Umkhanyakude health facilities dedicated the entire month of March to strengthening health education on TB. This initiative marked TB Month, reinforcing the district’s commitment to fighting the high TB prevalence and HIV/TB co-infection rates. Through

community-based strategies, integrated TB treatment, and capacity building, the district aims to enhance early detection and ensure timely treatment.

In line with this commitment, the Department of Health has launched the “End TB Campaign.” The primary goal for its first year is to test 5 million people for TB, which is expected to identify an additional 250,000 cases—a 20% increase in case detection. Research indicates that this proactive approach could lead to a 29% reduction in TB incidence and a 41% decrease in TB-related deaths by 2035.



Strengthening HPV Vaccination Efforts Through Community Engagement in Dukuduku

After noticing resistance from parents in the Dukuduku area near St Lucia to signing consent forms for their children to be vaccinated against Human Papillomavirus (HPV), the Department of Health took concerted action by engaging local leaders. A meeting was convened,

during which district program coordinators and outreach team staff from Hlabisa Hospital conducted an awareness campaign on HPV. They emphasized the importance of vaccinating young girls to protect them from cervical cancer. The HPV campaign focuses on vaccinating girls aged nine and older

with a single dose of the HPV vaccine to prevent cervical cancer. These campaigns take place in public, private, and special schools. The HPV vaccine used in South Africa is both safe and highly effective in preventing HPV-16 and HPV-18, the strains responsible for most cases of cervical cancer.



Community members in Dukuduku heed the call from local traditional leadership to attend awareness campaign on HPV Vaccination brought by the department of health.

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A Resounding Success: Healthy Lifestyle Event at Makhonyeni Sport Ground



Staff from all hospitals, one community health centre and Malaria Control Programme in Umkhanyakude came in numbers to attend a healthy lifestyle programme at Makhonyeni Sport Ground.

On a cloudy Wednesday morning on 5th March 2025, the Makhonyeni Sport Ground came alive with energy, enthusiasm, and a shared commitment to health and wellness. The Umkhanyakude Health District staff from all five (5) district hospitals and one (1) community health centre and Malaria Control Programme gathered for a highly anticipated Healthy Lifestyle Event, which proved to be a resounding success.

The event, aimed at promoting physical activity and healthy living, it featured a variety of activities, including soccer, netball, aerobics, and more. It was a day filled with fun, fitness, and inspiration for all. The event kicked off early in the morning with a vibrant aerobics

session led by fitness instructors. Participants all joined in, moving to the rhythm of upbeat music and breaking a sweat. The aerobics session set the tone for the day, emphasizing the importance of regular exercise in maintaining a healthy lifestyle. Smiles and laughter filled the air as staff encouraged one another to keep moving.

The soccer and netball tournaments were undoubtedly the highlights of the event. Teams competed in friendly yet spirited matches, showcasing their skills and teamwork. The soccer matches drew large crowds, with spectators cheering passionately for their favorite teams. The netball games were equally thrilling, with players demonstrating agility, precision, and sportsmanship.

The Healthy Lifestyle Event at Makhonyeni Sport Ground was a testament to the power of collective action in promoting health and well-being. It was a day of celebration which was sponsored by Old Mutual and its success surely left a lasting impression on all who attended. Here's to many more such events in the future, as the staff in Umkhanyakude continues to thrive!

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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THIS DAY EMPHASIZES THE IMPORTANCE OF COLLABORATION IN COMBATING GLAUCOMA, A LEADING CAUSE OF IRREVERSIBLE BLINDNESS WORLDWIDE. THIS DAY FALLS WITHIN WORLD GLAUCOMA WEEK, WHICH RUNS FROM MARCH 9 TO 15, TO RAISE AWARENESS, PROMOTE REGULAR EYE EXAMINATIONS AND TREATMENT THAT CAN PREVENT SLOW VISION LOSS.

Date: 12 March 2025

Uniting for a Glaucoma-Free World

