



KWAZULU-NATAL PROVINCE
HEALTH
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

UMKHANYAKUDE
HEALTH DISTRICT OFFICE

SIKHANYAKUDE

NEWS

STAY INFORMED

JAN-MAR 2026

UMKHANYAKUDE NEWLY APPOINTED COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKERS INDUCTED.



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From Right: Mr. J. Mndebele and Mrs H Langa during Community Health Workers Orientation and Induction programme in Umkhanyakude

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Building a Stronger Community Health Workforce in Umkhanyakude District.

Following the landmark announcement of permanent employment for Community Health Workers by MEC for Health in KwaZulu-Natal Nomagugu Simelane on 27 January 2026, efforts have been made to ensure their effective integration into the health system through orientation and capacity-building initiatives.

On 17 March 2026, a provincial team led by Chief Director: District Health Services Mr Jabulani Mndebele visited Umkhanyakude District to deliver a comprehensive orientation and induction programme at Mtubatuba Inkosi Mzondeni Civic Centre.

This initiative aims to strengthen the roles of Community Health Workers by enhancing the valuable work they have already been performing, while also expanding the provision of health services at community level.



Mr J. Mndebele, Chief Director: District Health Services, led the Community Health Workers' Orientation and Induction session.



Seasoned Primary Health Care Specialist, Mrs Hlobisile Langa, focused on performance indicators aimed at improving service delivery.



Capacitation of CHWs covered a range of topics, including Human Resources, Ethics, and health service delivery expectations



Community Health Workers from across Umkhanyakude gathered in large numbers at Mtubatuba for their Orientation and Induction Programme.



Strengthening Healthcare Integration Through Phelophepa Health Train Visit

On 4 March 2026, the Acting Director of Umkhanyakude Health District, Mr BP Fakude, conducted a support visit to the Transnet Phelophepa Health Train, which was stationed at Mkuze Railway Station.

The Phelophepa Health Train provided a wide range of essential healthcare services to the community from 02 to 13 March 2026, free of charge or at minimal cost. This initiative played a critical role in improving access to healthcare services, particularly in underserved and rural communities.

The purpose of the visit was to strengthen the integration of health services and to explore opportunities for the Department of Health to actively participate in expanding service delivery. Through this engagement, the department was able to identify areas where it could complement the services offered on the train.

The Department of Health provided additional services required by patients that were not available on board. This collaboration significantly enhanced the overall quality and scope of healthcare services delivered to the community.

Partnerships such as these demonstrate the importance of coordinated efforts in improving healthcare access and ensuring that communities receive comprehensive and holistic care.



Acting District Director Mr B.P. Fakude met Phelophepa Train Management team to discuss operational arrangements



Department of Health Joins Stakeholders in Teenage Pregnancy Dialogue

On 18th February 2026, the Department of Health was among the stakeholders who gathered at Oshabeni Community Hall, Ward 18 under Jozini Local Municipality, for a teenage pregnancy dialogue.

Other stakeholders in attendance included Zisize Educational Trust,

a non-governmental organisation, pupils from local schools, parents, community members, and local leadership such as izinduna and the local councillor.

The event was organised through the Sukuma Sakhe programme, which brings all stakeholders together under one roof to facilitate coordination and fast-track the

resolution of community-based challenges.

Key discussions focused on teenage pregnancy prevention, breaking stigma, available support services, and the consequences of teenage pregnancy for pupils, families, schools, and the community at large.



Mrs NC Mthembu, District MCWH Coordinator



Ward Cllr Vilane was part of the awareness campaign



Sister Mngomezulu from Nkungwini Clinic providing health education



Induna, Mr A Mngomezulu making remarks



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Strengthening Patient-Centred Care and Leadership Accountability

Umkhanyakude Health District management teams from five hospitals and one community health centre participated in a high-level engagement led by the MEC for Health in KwaZulu Natal Nomagugu Simelane and the Head of Department Penny Msimango.

The session focused on aligning leadership across the provincial health system for the 2026 strategic agenda. Discussions were open and constructive, with a strong emphasis on accountability, service excellence, and patient-centred

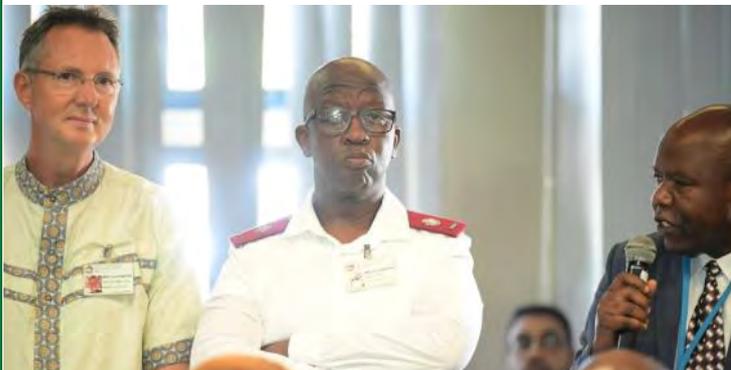
care. The guiding principle for 2026, “*Ngizokunakekela njengowakwethu*” (I will care for you as my own), was reaffirmed as the core commitment to treating patients with dignity and respect.

Key resolutions included shifting to a proactive and preventative approach to healthcare challenges, strengthening the role of clinical managers as key leaders, ensuring visible improvements in service delivery, and reinforcing professionalism among healthcare workers.

The meeting concluded with a shared commitment to unity, accountability, and driving tangible improvements, positioning the session as a catalyst for building a resilient and patient-focused health system in KwaZulu-Natal.



Umkhanyakude Health District Acting Director: Mr BP Fakude



Mosvold Hospital team, from right: Dr B. Mung'omba, CEO; Mr M.K. Khanyile, Deputy Manager: Nursing; and Dr Hamilton, Medical Manager.



Bethesda Hospital Team (from right): Mr. MI Mathe, CEO; Mrs. PE Kunene, Deputy Manager: Nursing; and Dr. TC Ngwenya, Medical Manager.



Mseleni Hospital Team (from left): Dr. LL Hobe, Medical Manager; Mrs. TR Sibisi, CEO; and Mr. MX Ndlovu, Deputy Manager: Nursing.



Hlabisa Hospital Team (from right): Mr. SPN Mkhwanazi, CEO; Mrs. BSV Ndlovu, Deputy Manager: Nursing; and Dr. Mntungwa, Medical Manager



Othobothini CHC team, from left: Dr P.G. Ubisi, Clinical Manager; Mrs D.S. Mkhwanazi, CEO; and Mr S.R. Dlamini, Deputy Manager: Nursing.



Manguzi Hospital team, from left: Dr S.B. Vumase, CEO; Mrs Z.V. Tembe, Deputy Manager: Nursing; and Dr M.B. Blylock, Medical Manager



Umkhanyakude Health District held Opening Prayer for 2026

On 28 January 2026,

Umkhanyakude Health District with Malaria Control Programme held its year-beginning Interfaith Prayer Gathering with staff members, as believers came together in prayer.

The prayer session was honoured by Pastor E.T. Mbuyazi, who shared the Word of God with employees.

He encouraged staff to put God first in their daily endeavours and emphasized the importance of starting the year with prayer to help shape their consciences as they serve the people who access services within the Department of Health.



Testimonials, songs, prayers, dance, and various forms of praise and worship formed part of the Umkhanyakude Health District Opening Prayer for 2026



Mentoring Programme Strengthens Leadership and Service Delivery in Umkhanyakude



Mr E.S.Z. Shandu from the National School of Government facilitated the training as an expert in Human Resource Management and Leadership Development.



Managers from various facilities and components participated in the Mentoring for Public Service Managers programme.

Assistant Director: HRP & Development, Ms S.J. Mthembu, coordinated the mentorship training programme.

From 11–13 February, the National School of Government conducted a Mentoring for Public Service Managers programme at the Umkhanyakude Health District offices in Jozini.

The initiative brought together managers from various components and facilities, including clinics and hospitals, with the aim of strengthening their mentoring skills and enhancing their capacity to support professional development within the workplace.

The programme focused on equipping managers with practical mentoring tools and techniques to create enabling environments

where continuous learning and growth can thrive. Participants were empowered to foster meaningful engagement with their teams, ensuring that knowledge and experience are effectively shared to build a more capable and confident workforce.

A key objective of the training was to promote a service-oriented culture and ethos within the public sector. This was achieved by deepening managers' understanding of mentoring and highlighting its direct link to improved performance and service delivery.

By integrating mentoring into everyday management practices, leaders are better positioned to drive accountability, support staff development, and ultimately enhance the quality of healthcare services provided to communities.

This initiative forms part of broader efforts to stimulate performance across the public service, reinforcing the commitment to delivering efficient, people-centred healthcare services in the Umkhanyakude District



Healthy Lifestyle and Wellness Day Boosts Staff Well-being in Umkhanyakude

On the 11th March 2026, Umkhanyakude Health District hosted a Healthy Lifestyle and Wellness Day in Jozini aimed at promoting staff wellbeing and improving productivity.

The programme provided employees with an opportunity to unwind, recharge, and engage in a variety of enjoyable activities while at work.

Staff members participated in diverse activities including aerobics, soccer, netball, umlabalaba, and tug of war,

ensuring that there was something suitable for everyone. These quarterly wellness sessions bring together staff from various institutions to foster teamwork, relaxation, and a positive work environment.

Such initiatives play a vital role in supporting employees' emotional, physical, and mental health, ultimately contributing to a more motivated and productive workforce.



Staff enjoyed various activities during the Healthy Lifestyle and Wellness Day



Organising team members: above – Mrs L. Gumede; below – Ms P.V. Nhlenyama.



UMKHANYAKUDE DISTRICT

Bhekisisa Fakude
Acting District Director
083 843 5806



**SIWUMNYANGO
WEZEMPILO
OVULELEKILE,
ONGOWAKHO:**

**SIKUNIKA NAZI
IZINOMBOLO
ZABAPHATHI BAZO
ZONKE IZIBHEDLELA
NEZIFUNDA:**

- Sicela nizisebenzise kahle
- Akekho onemvume yokweshela, ukuhhahameza, ukuthuka, noma ukuhlukumeza abasebenzi bethu!

1. Zingaki izibhedlela, imitholampilo, namaphoyinti emitholampilo engomahamba nendlwana (mobile clinic points) engaphansi kwakho kulesi sifunda?

Ngaphansi kweSifunda saseMkhanyakude sinezibhedlela eziyisihlanu (5) okubalwa kuzo: Bethesda, Hlabisa, Manguzi, Mosvold kanye neMseleni. Imitholaphilo ingamashumi ayisithupha (60) okubalwa nesikhungo sezempilo sohlobo lwe Community Health Centre, Othobothini CHC. Imitholampilo engomahamba nendlwana ingamashumi amabili nanye (21) evakashela amaphoyinti angamakhulu amabili namashumi ayisikhombisa nesishiyagalombili (278). Lezi zikhungo zisabalele kubo bonke omasipala abangaphansi kwesifunda saseMkhanyakude.

2. Njengomphathi, yini oyithembisa umphakathi osebenzisa izikhungo zezempilo ezingaphansi kwe-district yakho?

Siyawethembisa umphakathi waseMkhanyakude namaphethelo ukuthi sizoqhubeka nokuwunika usizo lwezempilo olusezingeni elifanelekile kuzo zonke izikhungo zethu. Abasebenzi bayazibophezela ukuphatha kahle amalungu omphakathi avakashela izikhungo babuye bawanakekele ngendlela efanelekile.

3. Umphakathi unganikelelela kanjani ningabasebenzi bezempilo ukuze nikwazi ukwenza umsebenzi wenu kangcono, noma nehlise ijoka lawo?

Siyacela umphakathi ukuba ubambisane nathi ezikhungweni

zethu. Uma kunemibono, izincomo kanye nezikhhalazo mayelana nezindlela zokulethwa kosizo lwezempilo, izandla zethu zivulekile ukuthi amalungu omphakathi angaxhumana nathi. Izikhungo zezempilo zingezomphakathi, ngakho-ke siyawunxusa umphakathi ukuba nawo ubambe iqhaza ekuzivikeleni nasekuqinisekiseni ukungaphazamiseki kokusebenza; bese kuqiniswa ukusebenzisana okuhle nezinhlela ezahlukahlukeni emphakathini okubalwa kuzo amakomidi ezikhungo zethu.

4. Uthini umlayezo ofisa ukuwubhekisa umphakathi mayelana nendlela yokuziphatha, ukugwema izifo,

nokudla imishanguzo ngendlela efanele kulabo abayidlayo?

NjengoMnyango WeZempilo eMkhanyakude sizimisele ukuba umphakathi ukwazi ukusizakala kuzo zonke izikhungo zethu ngendlela efanele. Lapho kudingeka khona usizo oluthile, sizimisele ukululetha lolo sizo. Siyafisa ukubona izakhamuzi zaseMkhanyakude ziphila isikhathi eside, ziphila impilo enhle, kunciphe nezifo ngokusebenzisa izinhlelo eziningi esinazo zokuthuthukisa izinga lezempilo. Sinxusa ukubambisana ukuze ekugcineni Umkhanyakude uzoba yisifunda esinomthamo ophansi lezifo, ube umphakathi ophilile nokwaziyo ukuzinakekela ngokwempilo.

IZIBHEDLELA

BETHESDA HOSPITAL

CEO: Mr Musawenkosi Mathe
Switchboard: 035 595 3100

HLABISA HOSPITAL

CEO: Mr Sihle Mkhwanazi: 066 496 3837
Switchboard: 035 838 0037

MANGUZI HOSPITAL

CEO: Dr Siphon Vumase: 066 300 1875
PRO: Mrs Silungile Mthembu: 060 501 7260
Switchboard: 035 592 0150

MOSVOLD HOSPITAL

CEO: Dr Bernard Mung'omba: 082 987 4791
PRO: Mr Khethokuhle Mngomezulu: 082 777 2116
Switchboard: 035 591 0122

MSELENI HOSPITAL

CEO: Mrs Tholothemba Sibisi
PRO: Ms Nombali Nyawo:
067 592 8574
Switchboard: 035 574 1005

OTHOBOTHINI CHC

CEO: Mrs Dimakatso Mkhwanazi:
071 878 4671
PRO: Mrs Zanele Myeni:
083 778 1152
Switchboard: 035 572 9002

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EDITORIAL TEAM / DETAILS



MR. THABANI S NTULI
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
COMMUNICATION
WRITER, DESIGNER
& PHOTOGRAPHER



MR. BHEKI FAKUDE
ACTING DISTRICT DIRECTOR
EDITOR

WORLD TB DAY

**YES!
WE CAN
#ENDTB**



WORLD KIDNEY DAY

12 March 2026

This day highlights the connection between kidney health and environmental sustainability, emphasizing the need for eco-friendly, sustainable, and accessible kidney care. It underscores the importance of early screening to slow disease progression, access to early treatment, and raises awareness of preventive measures to improve life.

Kidney Health for All: Caring for People, Protecting the Planet



World Obesity Day

March 4

**"8 Billion
Reasons to Act
on Obesity"**



With the global population now exceeding 8 billion, this year's theme underscores that obesity is a universal issue affecting all segments of society. It highlights the importance of everyone's participation in addressing the growing obesity epidemic, raising awareness about weight-based stigma, and educating communities about the realities of obesity as a medical condition.

