



KWAZULU-NATAL PROVINCE
HEALTH
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

UMKHANYAKUDE
HEALTH DISTRICT OFFICE

SIKHANYAKUDE

NEWS

STAY INFORMED

JULY-SEPT 2025

KWAZULU-NATAL LEGISLATURE ASSESSED STATE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES IN UMKHANYAKUDE DISTRICT

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Chairperson of the Quality of Life Committee, Honourable Fikile Masiko, led a delegation from the KZN Legislature

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Members of KZN Legislature conducted oversight in Umkhanyakude

Members of the KwaZulu-Natal Legislature conducted their oversight visit in Umkhanyakude District in September 2025. The health functionality monitoring programme commenced on Tuesday, 2 September 2025, at Manguzi Hospital, and continued to Mseleni Hospital. The visit placed a special focus on various aspects of Emergency Medical Services (EMS).

On the final day, the delegation received comprehensive briefings from health institutions and conducted a tour of the Umkhanyakude District EMS offices. The purpose was to assess working conditions, identify operational challenges, and develop recommendations for improving emergency services for the citizens of Umkhanyakude.

The delegation was led by the Chairperson of the Quality of Life Committee, Honourable Fikile Masiko. Other honourable members in attendance included Honourable Dudu Nzama, Honourable Thuthukani Madondo, and Honourable Nkosinathi Mthethwa.



Members of KZN Legislature also assessed the conditions of EMS fleet.



Mrs Butheleli, EMS Acting District Director giving account to members of KZN Legislature



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Umkhanyakude Health District Closed Men's Month with Impactful Engagement

On 30th July 2025, Umkhanyakude Health District Office, in collaboration with the Malaria Control Programme, brought Men's Month to a powerful close. Recognising July as Men's Month, an insightful and empowering session dedicated to male staff members was held. The event featured a range of informative presentations addressing key issues affecting men's lives and wellbeing.

Mr. Sipho Msane delivered a thought-provoking talk on financial literacy, encouraging men to take proactive steps in managing their finances wisely. His presentation aimed to raise awareness and reshape attitudes towards financial responsibility.

Mr. Xulu, representing the Department of Agriculture and Land Reform, outlined various government programmes available to individuals aspiring to venture into agriculture. His presentation was particularly valuable in highlighting opportunities for economic empowerment through land and farming initiatives.

Health matters took centre stage as Sir Sikhosana urged men to prioritise their health by regularly checking their health status. He stressed the importance of early detection and intervention to prevent health deterioration.

Mr. Madela from the South African Police Service (SAPS) addressed issues related to gender-based violence (GBV). He warned about behaviours and situations that, if left unaddressed, could escalate into legal trouble, urging men to act responsibly and with awareness.



Men discussed matters in their respective commissions



Men received messages from various sectors

Equally compelling was the session by Mr. Gumede, a social worker from Bethesda Hospital, who focused on mental health. He emphasised the importance of emotional wellbeing and encouraged men to seek help and prioritise self-care.

Following the presentations, participants broke into commissions to engage in deep discussions around the topics covered. These sessions provided a safe and

productive space for dialogue, reflection, and peer learning. District Director Mr. B.P. Fakude commended the initiative, praising the organisers and attendees for prioritising such a vital conversation. He noted that sessions like these play a significant role in instilling values, promoting personal growth, and strengthening unity among men in the workplace.

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Women's Day Celebrated at Umkhanyakude Health District



Women celebrated their day through songs, dance, cuisines and teachings

Clad in elegant shades of nude, with an array of beautiful designs on display, women gathered at Umkhanyakude Health District on 8 August 2025 to celebrate Women's Day ahead of the national holiday.

Guest speaker and local businesswoman, Dr. F.B. Madlopha, inspired attendees by sharing her personal journey of perseverance and success, encouraging women to continue breaking barriers and uplifting their communities

The celebration was held under the national theme: "Building Resilient Economies for All", emphasizing the critical role of women in leadership and economic growth.

Women were pleased to receive a heartfelt message circulated from the MEC for Health in KZN Nomagugu Simelane, who paid special tribute to women on the frontlines of healthcare as well as those serving in their communities. She commended their strength, resilience, and invaluable contributions across all sectors of society.



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Umkhanyakude Health District shines at 1.1 million ART/TB closing the gap campaign

Umkhanyakude Health District was honoured with the Best Achievement Award at the 1.1 Million ART/TB Closing the Gap Campaign Review Meeting held in Durban on 8 August 2025.

The district was recognised for outstanding HIV management, achieving 98-89-85 against the 95-95-95 targets, and for overall excellence in HIV and TB services, including case finding, treatment initiation, adherence, and retention in care.

These accolades reflects the unwavering commitment of our healthcare teams to improving lives and closing the gap in HIV and TB care.



Umkhanyakude team celebrating their well-deserved accolades



CLOSING 1.1 MILLION HIV TREATMENT GAP

A national **Close The Gap** campaign has been launched under the theme **"Start and Stay on HIV Treatment"** to close the 1.1 million HIV treatment gap and achieve the second 95% target. The campaign is crucial in meeting the UNAIDS 95-95-95 targets, ultimately reducing HIV transmission and advancing the goal of ending AIDS by 2030.



#CloseTheGap #StartAndStayOnHIVTreatment #MyHIVTreatmentWorks #BetterMen4Tomorrow

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Teenage Pregnancy Awareness Dialogue Held in Umkhanyakude

On 26 September 2025,

Umkhanyakude Health District, in partnership with various stakeholders including local government, traditional leadership, civil society, and sector departments, hosted a Teenage Pregnancy Awareness Dialogue with school learners at Makhasa Hall in Mduku, under the Big 5 Hlabisa Local Municipality.

The programme created a platform for open discussions on the causes and consequences of teenage pregnancy. Key contributing factors identified included peer pressure, poverty, social media influences, and other socio-economic challenges.

The dialogue placed strong emphasis on the need for continuous education and awareness to caution learners about the negative effects of teenage pregnancy, which often disrupts education and limits future opportunities.



Pupils engaged in discussions to come with solutions that will curb the scourge of teenage pregnancy



Stakeholders from various sectors were part of the dialogue



Ms T.M. Dlamini, Acting Clinical and Programmes Manager



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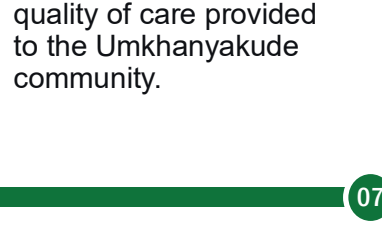
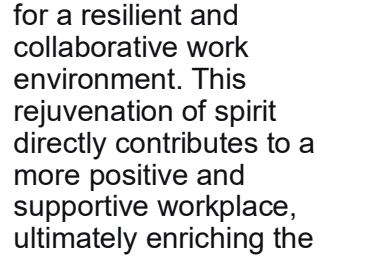
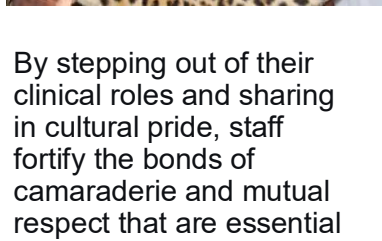
Umkhanyakude Health District Reimagines Heritage, Fostering Staff Unity and Resilience

In a vibrant celebration aligned with the 2025 Heritage Month theme, “**Reimagine our heritage institutions for a new era,**” Umkhanyakude Health District came alive with a series of cultural festivities throughout September. Staff from the district office, hospitals, and clinics participated enthusiastically, transforming workspaces into a tapestry of shared traditional heritage centres.

The celebrations were a feast for the senses, featuring a dazzling display of traditional songs and dance styles, an array of authentic local cuisines, and the rich, colourful textures of diverse cultural attire.

These events provided a powerful and necessary pause from the high-stakes environment of healthcare.

Such initiatives are far more than mere calendar events; they are a crucial investment in frontline staff. In the demanding field of healthcare, where focus is constant and pressures are high, these gatherings offer a vital opportunity for personnel to reconnect with one another and with their personal identities.



By stepping out of their clinical roles and sharing in cultural pride, staff fortify the bonds of camaraderie and mutual respect that are essential for a resilient and collaborative work environment. This rejuvenation of spirit directly contributes to a more positive and supportive workplace, ultimately enriching the quality of care provided to the Umkhanyakude community.



JOIN IN THE
**HERITAGE DAY
CELEBRATION**



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END TB CAMPAIGN

"End TB Campaign" aims to test 5 million people for tuberculosis in South Africa by March 2026, mainly focusing on increasing testing and treatment enrolment.

TB is preventable and curable!

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