



**KWAZULU-NATAL PROVINCE**  
HEALTH  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

**UMKHANYAKUDE**  
HEALTH DISTRICT OFFICE

**SIKHANYAKUDE**

**NEWS**

STAY INFORMED

APRIL-JUNE 2025

# UMKHANYAKUDE HEALTH DISTRICT CELEBRATED HAND HYGIENE DAY WITH EDUCATIONAL CAMPAIGN AND MALARIA AWARENESS

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Acting District Director Mr. B.P. Fakude giving a keynote address during Hand Hygiene Day at Umkhanyakude Health District Offices.

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# Hand Hygiene Day Commemorated



Staff attended hand hygiene day commemoration

On 5<sup>th</sup> May 2025, the Umkhanyakude Health District commemorated Hand Hygiene Day with a vibrant and informative session aimed at reinforcing the critical role of hand hygiene in preventing infections. This year's theme, "It Might Be Gloves. It's Always Hand Hygiene," served as a strong reminder that proper hand hygiene remains essential, even when protective gloves are used.

Staff gathered to participate in the session, which highlighted the ongoing need for rigorous hand hygiene practices in healthcare settings and beyond. Speakers emphasized that hand hygiene is one of the most effective ways to reduce the spread of harmful pathogens, protect patients, and safeguard the health of the healthcare workforce.

In addition to focusing on hand hygiene, the session featured an important health awareness session on Malaria, a disease that continues to affect communities in



Ms ZP Mponshane, District IPC Coordinator during hand hygiene day

the district. Mr Mathenjwa educated staff on malaria prevention, symptoms, and the importance of early treatment. The session was timely, given the district's efforts to reduce malaria transmission through public health initiatives.

To reinforce the lessons shared during the session, staff members were later quizzed on the key takeaways from the sessions. Participants who answered questions correctly were rewarded with branded T-shirts, creating an engaging and motivational atmosphere.

The session successfully combined learning, engagement, and fun, leaving staff empowered with practical knowledge to apply in their daily routines. The message was clear: whether gloves are worn or not, hand hygiene must never be overlooked.

Umkhanyakude Health District remains committed to promoting a culture of safety and awareness, with sessions like these playing a vital role in achieving that mission.



# Umkhanyakude Health District Commemorates Global Move for Health Day with Successful Community Campaign.



Provision of health services in Jozini town during Global Move for Health Day



Health education on various topics such as: malaria, healthy lifestyle etc were provided by various speakers

On 27th May 2025, Umkhanyakude Health District celebrated Global Move for Health Day with an impactful awareness campaign at Jozini Taxi Rank. Although the global observance falls on 10th May, the district took the opportunity to engage the community in vital health screenings and education.

The event offered free health services, including: Malaria testing (led by the Malaria Control Programme), HIV testing, Diabetes and hypertension screenings, Male medical circumcision consultations, And other essential health services

The initiative, supported by Othobothini Community Health Centre Team, drew a strong turnout

from Jozini residents, who enthusiastically participated in the screenings. The campaign not only promoted health awareness but also provided accessible care to the community.

The Umkhanyakude Health District remains committed to improving public health through proactive outreach and education.

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# Health Services Provided During the 2nd Annual Ubukhosi Bethu Cultural Event in Umkhanyakude District



Amakhosi from right: Inkosi Gumede (Chairperson of the local house), Inkosi Nxumalo and Inkosi Ngwane, below are festivities and activities Ubukhosi Bethu Cultural event.



Health services provision during Ubukhosi Bethu Cultural Event.



On 3 May 2025, while Amakhosi from the Umkhanyakude District hosted their 2nd Annual Ubukhosi Bethu Cultural Event at the Sqakatha Traditional Tribal Court in Ntenga, Jozini, the Department of Health was actively on-site, providing essential health services to the many community members who attended the event.

The department values its strong and collaborative relationship with traditional leaders, recognizing them as key stakeholders in the district's efforts to improve health outcomes. Events like Ubukhosi Bethu offer an ideal platform to extend health services to the community while reinforcing this important partnership.

This prestigious cultural gathering, led by the Umkhanyakude Local House of Traditional Leaders, celebrates the rich heritage, customs, and values of the Zulu nation. The event fosters unity, cultural pride, and community development through vibrant displays of traditional music, dance, storytelling, and ceremonial rituals.



# Umkhanyakude Health Institutions Commemorate International Nurses Day



Nurses came out in numbers, clad in white uniform in celebration of Nurses 'Day



Inkosi YeSizwe sakwaNyawo receiving a gift from Othobothini CHC CEO Mrs DS Mkhwanazi



**U**nder the theme “**Our Nurses. Our Future. Caring for Nurses Strengthens Economies,**” health institutions across Umkhanyakude District commemorated International Nurses Day throughout the month of May. The 2025 theme emphasizes the importance of safeguarding the health and wellbeing of nurses. It also highlights the vital role that a strong and supported nursing workforce plays in strengthening economies, improving health systems, and achieving better outcomes for communities and healthcare users.

Mseleni Hospital marked the occasion in a unique way by staging a role-play that illustrated the critical roles nurses perform and the daily challenges they face. The presentation served as a reminder of the essential contribution nurses make as the backbone of the healthcare system.

At Othobothini Community Health Centre, celebrations were further elevated by the presence of **Inkosi yeSizwe sakwaNyawo**, who attended the ceremony held at Gwaliweni Clinic. Inkosi expressed deep appreciation for the dedication of nurses, particularly in

rural communities where access to basic services remains a challenge. He acknowledged the pivotal role nurses play in delivering much-needed healthcare to underserved populations.

Meanwhile, at Manguzi, Hlabisa, and Bethesda facilities, the commemorations were filled with festive celebrations, a renewed commitment to nursing ethics, and heartfelt recognition of the unwavering efforts of nurses who often go beyond the call of duty to care for the sick.



# Umkhanyakude Stakeholders Unite to Raise Awareness During Child Protection Week 2025



Stakeholders in Social Cluster gathered at Jozini Clinic to raise awareness on Child Protection Week



**V**arious stakeholders in Umkhanyakude, led by the Department of Social Development under the banner of Operation Sukuma Sakhe, gathered at Jozini Clinic on 20 June 2025 to raise awareness as part of Child Protection Week 2025.

Participating institutions included the Department of Health, Umkhanyakude District Municipality, South African Police Service (SAPS), National Prosecuting Authority (NPA), and

several Non-Profit Organizations representing Civil Society. National Child Protection Week is commemorated annually in South Africa to promote awareness of children's rights as enshrined in the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa and the Children's Act (Act No. 38 of 2005).

Community members were urged to actively support Child Protection Week by ensuring that the most vulnerable members of society, particularly children, are protected from harm. The campaign

emphasizes that it is within everyone's power to break the cycle of neglect, abuse, violence, and exploitation.

Children in South Africa live in a society governed by a Constitution that places the highest value on their rights, equality, and dignity. Protecting children from violence, exploitation, and abuse is not only a shared social responsibility but also a constitutional obligation as outlined in Section 28 of the Constitution.

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# Customer Care Training for Othobothini CHC Nursing Personnel and Satellite Clinics



Customer Care Training at Othobothini CHC proved to be a valuable engagement aimed at enhancing the delivery of health services to patients.



**N**ursing personnel from Othobothini CHC and its five satellite clinics (Jozini, Makhathini, Nondabuya, Ophondweni, and Gwaliweni) received training on Customer Care. The training was facilitated by the Office of Communication, represented by Mrs. Z. Myeni (PRO).

The aim of the training was to reinforce professionalism and ethics among nursing staff, with a focus on how to treat clients and patients with the care and respect expected from public servants and healthcare workers.

Treating clients with respect, dignity, and courtesy is central to the Batho Pele principles, which must be upheld daily across all healthcare facilities.

Patients, clients and the broader community members are encouraged to engage with feedback systems in health facilities, including the Complaints, Compliments & Suggestions mechanism, for their needs to be better met.



# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS



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ACTING DISTRICT DIRECTOR  
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## International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking

### The evidence is clear: invest in prevention - Break the cycle

The International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking is a global campaign aimed at raising awareness about the dangers of drug abuse and the impact of illegal drug trade on society. It also emphasises the need for comprehensive strategies to address the health, social, and economic consequences of drug abuse. #SayNoToDrugs #SupportRecovery



## 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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