



# SIKHANYAKUDE

# NEWS

STAY INFORMED

OCT-DEC 2020

## WORLD AIDS DAY CELEBRATION IN UMKHANYAKUDE



World Aids Day lighting of candles in remembrance of all those who succumbed to HIV/AIDS.

**U**mkhanyakude was applauded by KwaZulu Natal Premier Sihle Zikalala for exceptional performance in dealing with HIV/AIDS. "We applaud, in particular, the districts of Ugu, uMzinyathi, **uMkhanyakude** and Harry

Gwala, for successfully meeting their 90-90-90 targets by 2020," he said. This was during the World Aids Day 2020 celebration which was held at Manguzi under Umhlabuyalingana Local Municipality in Umkhanyakude on 1<sup>st</sup> December 2020. Premier

was accompanied by, among others, the Mayors: Umkhanyakude District Municipality Cllr T.S. Mkhombo, Umhlabuyalingana LM Cllr N.S. Mthethwa and Umtubatuba LM Cllr V.T. Ncamphalala. Premier also encouraged young people to abstain from having

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# World Aids Day 2020 in Umkhanyakude

sex for as long as possible. "Young people must abstain from sex and when they do decide to have a partner, they must get tested together and ensure they use condoms. The call is for all of us to **"Cheka Impilo"** – to check regularly to make sure they are negative.

Should you discover that you are positive, start taking Antiretroviral Therapy (ART) and do so in strict compliance with the guidelines," he said. The Premier also noted that this year's World Aids Day took place in the midst of Covid-19,

a deadly global pandemic that is currently gripping South Africa and KwaZulu-Natal. He urged community members to keep distance, wash hands, avoid crowds and practice all precautions by government to curb the spread of Covid-19.



**In 2020, the international community is commemorating World Aids Day under the theme: "Global Solidarity, Shared Responsibility." inspired by the international theme by UNAIDS, our country through the south African National Aids Council (SANAC), is marking World Aids Day under the theme: "We're in this together, Cheka Impilo."**

**Let us fight stigma and discrimination of those who live with HIV and those who have TB. We all know that stigma discourages people from testing or them from asking for support. It is a silent killer and it is against our human rights ethos as a nation.**



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**About 7.7 million South Africans have HIV, making us to have the biggest epidemic globally. As things stand, Kwazulu-Natal remains the epicentre of the disease in South Africa. In KZN alone, about 2 013 741 people (more than two million) are living with HIV.**

**We know that HIV thrives in conditions of poverty and that it becomes a huge burden to women in conditions of gender inequality, gender-based violence, and patriarchy. It is for this reason that our provincial strategy on HIV prevention is also anchored on the pillar of addressing women empowerment to better fight the social drivers of HIV, TB, and STIs.**



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## Launch of 16 Days of No Violence against Women and Children



**O**n 25<sup>th</sup> November 2020, KwaZulu-Natal Premier Sihle Zikalala made a strong appeal to communities to take an uncompromising stand against violence directed at women and children.

Premier Zikalala was speaking at the provincial launch of 16 Days Campaign of No-Violence Against Women and Children held in Mtubatuba Municipality, Gunjaneni area, in the Umkhanyakude District.

KwaZulu-Natal was identified in April 2019 as experiencing escalation in violent crimes, especially contact crimes, including murder and attempted murders, aggravated robberies, sexual offence and assault GBH. Premier told the community

“In 2020, we launch the 16 Days Campaign under the theme of, “Women’s Economic Justice for a non-violent and non-sexist South Africa”. This theme is supported by the national call to action which says, “Working together to Build a Society where Morality takes Prevalence.”

The Premier emphasized that the violations upon victims is not of their own doing. “We want to stress that it can never be a fault of a woman to be violated or killed by a man or her partner. It is not women or the victims that must change, but the men who abuse and rape,” he said.

The Premier called on our traditional leaders and religious leaders to play their part in rooting out sexism

and patriarchy. “Let us stop telling our children that libanjwa lishisa emendweni. Let us also stop gossiping and mocking women who decide to leave abusive husbands – akukona ukwehluleka ukushiya umuntu okuhlukumezayo. We know that most of these

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## Covid-19 screening and testing is done in Public areas



**U**mkhanyakude Health District is closely monitoring its Covid-19 cases; during each government/community gathering there are teams dealing with screening for Covid-19 and testing is done if necessary. Kwazulu-Natal

Premier Mr Sihle Zikalala was delighted to hear such as he was being screened for Covid-19 at Sisizakele Special School at Bhambanani in ward 12 under Jozini Local Municipality. This was during District Development Model (DDM) launch for UMkhanyakude on

09th October 2020. The district development model aims to accelerate, align and integrate service delivery under a single development plan per district or metro that is developed jointly by national, provincial and local government as well as business, labour and community in each district.

## Premier Zikalala Visited Gunjaneni Clinic





**P**remier Sihle Zikalala visited Gunjaneni Clinic in Mtubatuba Local Municipality on 25<sup>th</sup> November 2020. His purpose was to establish how does the clinic deal with Gender Based Violence victims. This was part of the launch of 16 Days of No Violence Against Women and Children. Premier was accompanied by Mayors Cllr T.S. Mkhombo and Cllr V.T. Ncamphalala.

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# UMtubatuba Local Municipality Mayor led “Nqo Nqo Sikhulekile

**M**ayor of Mtubatuba Local Municipality Cllr VT Ncamphalala and Speaker Cllr DR Ntuli led a health programme called "Nqo Nqo Sikhulekile eKhaya" around Mtubatuba on 3rd November 2020.

Nqo Nqo Sikhulekile eKhaya is a programme launched by MEC for Health in KwaZulu-Natal Ms Nomagugu Simelane-Zulu last year (2019); through this initiative, health workers conduct door-to-door once a month in community households identified by Community Health Workers; during these visits, health services are provided on the spot and relevant referrals are done if need be.

Various health services were rendered to the community by multi-disciplinary team of health



officials ie nurses, doctors, physiotherapists, social workers, pharmacists, etc. These officials were from different health facilities in the district. This

programme has previously been done in Jozini LM, UMhlabuyalingana LM and Big 5 Hlabisa LM.



Health services were rendered to community members at the comfort of their homes



## Women Empowerment Session



**W**omen Empowerment session was done at Umkhanyakude Health District. Women empowerment session was aimed at encouraging women gain confidence, practice self-care, and support each other's personal or professional success.

Various topics were discussed by women when they shared ideas, information, experiences and addressed each other's questions. Women agreed that such sessions will not be a once off; but will continue in order to uplift and support each other in various spheres of life.

WHAT CAN YOU DO TO  
**STOP** THE SECOND WAVE?

MS NOMAGUGU SIMELANE-ZULU  
MEC FOR HEALTH

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Download the COVID Alert South Africa app now and get notified if you are exposed to coronavirus



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# Celebration of Mental Health Day in Umkhanyakude



**D**istrict Mental Health Coordinator with Mental Health and Psychosocial

Response Team hosted a Mental Health Awareness to UMKhanyakude Health District Office Staff.

This day, 10th October is recognized as World "World Mental Health Day". Therefore, this day was all about the staff mental wellness. This campaign was hosted in order to promote a healthy life style to our staff

members as we believe that no employee can produce an excellent service delivery where as their wellbeing is not prioritized.

Different speakers were invited to advise our health care personnel.

Speakers were District Mental Health Coordinator, Mr. SG Ncwane, and Mrs. Bongekile Mbatha from KZN Liquor Authority, Ms. Zama Kunene (Clinical Psychologist), Nonhlanhla Mthimkhulu (Social Worker) and Ms. ZA Nkosi (Depression survivor).





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**Keep wearing a mask** whenever you are in public

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**Wash or sanitise your hands** regularly

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# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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**T**he District Director and the entire Management wish you all a happy festive season with your families and friends. It has been a challenging year for all of us, especially because we are operating in a health sector; since we all know, 2020 was riddled by the Covid-19 pandemic; through which lives were lost and livelihoods interrupted; but we thank Almighty for keeping us thus far.

It is not yet over, we are currently experiencing the 2<sup>nd</sup> wave of Covid-19 pandemic, Umkhanyakude is no exception; therefore we are urged not to let our guard down. Let us continue to wash hands, wear masks, social distance, stay at home, avoid gatherings and protect ourselves and families even more. The management team wishes you Merry Christmas and Happy New year.



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Maintain a **distance of one-and-a-half metres** from other people at all times

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Meet outdoors or in a space with **good ventilation**

6



**Avoid** crowds and gatherings

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