



KWAZULU-NATAL PROVINCE
HEALTH
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

UMKHANYAKUDE HEALTH DISTRICT OFFICE

SIKHANYAKUDE

NEWS

STAY INFORMED

OCT-DEC 2024

QUALITY DAY AT OTHOBOTHINI CHC WAS A REFLECTION OF A JOURNEY FROM “COMPLIANCE” TO “PERFORMANCE”



Staff members who have long served the department were also awarded



Guests attending Quality Day Excellence Awards



Umkhanyakude Health District choir serenaded guests with music

01



Excellence, Commitment and Hard Work Rewarded at Quality Day Service Excellence Awards.



From left: Mrs DR Maola (Guest Speaker), Mr BP Fakude (Acting District Director) and Mrs DS Mkhwanazi (Othobothini CHC CEO)



Awarding of accolades to staff members

Othobothini Community Health Centre on 14th November 2024 celebrated excellence, commitment and hard work by its staff members in various components under the theme *"From Compliance to Performance"*.

This happened during the facility's Quality Day Service Excellence Awards event. Quality Day in a health institution typically involves a series of activities and initiatives aimed at promoting and improving the quality of care provided to patients. The event was centred on celebrating individuals and

teams who had demonstrated exceptional commitment to quality of health services and patient care. These individuals were identified through various rigorous methods by a neutral committee which assessed and singled out tangible impact made by their efforts in provision of health services.

Acting District Director Mr BP Fakude commended the management of Othobothini Community Health Centre for having made such an auspicious occasion possible.

Guest Speaker, former District Specialist on Primary Health Care at Umkhanyakude Health District Mrs

DR Maola congratulated staff on their exceptional performance and encouraged them to do more to improve their service to patients.

The day was filled the excitement, music and laughter, staff dressed up to the nines for the event, it was fashion galore!

Umkhanyakude Choir also delivered a stellar performance mesmerizing the guests who were left in awe after enjoying the melodic sounds.



Health Portfolio Committee Members visited Umkhanyakude Health District to assess the state of readiness as festive season has come forth.



Health Portfolio Committee members arriving at Hluhluwe Clinic

As part of its role to conduct oversight in health establishment across the province of KwaZulu-Natal, the health portfolio committee led by its Chairperson Hon Dr Imran Keeka visited Mseleni Hospital and Hluhluwe clinic.

Such oversight visits by legislative bodies such as the legislature are crucial in ensuring that public institutions honour their mandate to provide efficient services to the people.

The visit took place on 22nd November 2024 as part of health portfolio committee's programme to assess festive season readiness of health facilities which are located along national roads such as N2 in this case.

The committee received an overview presentation of the hospital's services and achievements presented by the CEO Mrs TR Sibisi during the visit. A tour to various departments (e.g. emergency, maternity, outpatient services) was taken. The committee members engaged the management team on discussion around current challenges faced by the hospital.

The committee was satisfied with the functionality of the hospital and clinic for possible festive season emergencies.



Health Portfolio Committee Chairperson Dr Imran Keeka being shown around the hospital by CEO Mrs TR Sibisi and Mr. SE Gumede, Systems Manager.



MEC for Health in KwaZulu-Natal Nomagugu Simelane visited Mkuze Clinic.



MEC Simelane conducting an assessment and a tour at Mkuze clinic during OSS Cabinet Day in Umkhanyakude



During Operation Sukuma Sakhe (OSS) Cabinet Day visit in Umkhanyakude District which took place on 30th November 2024 in Jozini Local Municipality, MEC for Health in KwaZulu-Natal Nomagugu Simelane was deployed in ward 20. Among the projects she visited were: Mkuze sewerage treatment plant project which is being constructed by Umkhanyakude District Municipality, Mthwazi Combined School and Mkuze Clinic. Operation Sukuma Sakhe (OSS) Cabinet Day is a platform that

allows communities in KwaZulu-Natal to engage with the government on service delivery issues. Mkuze clinic is located in Mkuze town which is less than a kilometre adjacent to the ever-busy N2 road between Pongola and Hluhluwe towns. The clinic is visited by population from as far as Zululand District areas hence its proper functionality and effectiveness is very important for the department of health to be able to respond to health emergencies especially as festive season has arrived.

MEC met the management team of the clinic and staff, interviewed few patients and conducted a tour in vital areas such as: maternity, emergency rooms, pharmacy and others in order to assess clinic's ability to provide efficient and sufficient healthcare services to community members. MEC was essentially satisfied by the overall functioning of the clinic and raised few areas of improvement and commended staff for their efforts in rendering health services.

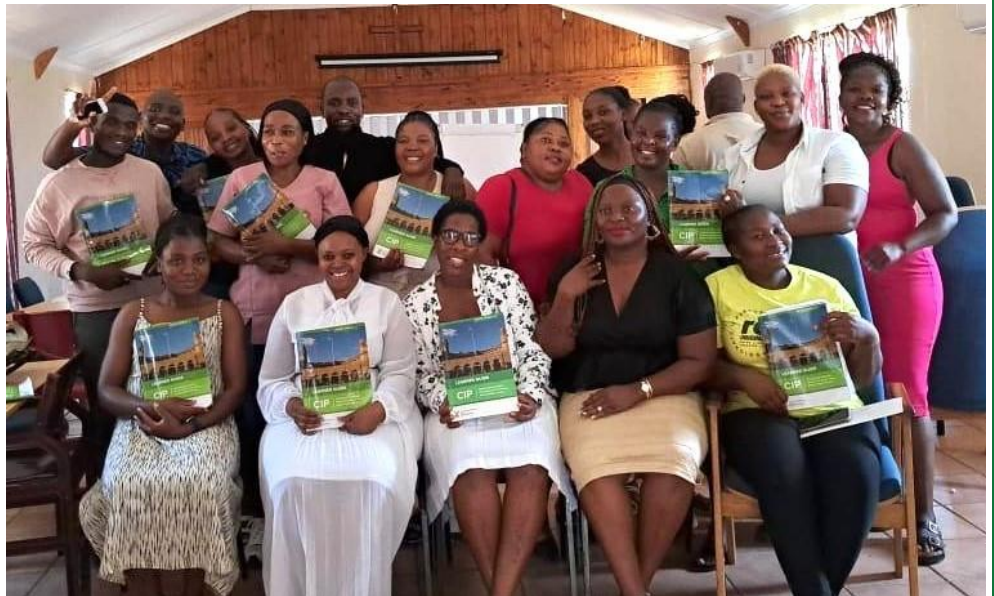


Compulsory Induction Programme for public servants

Umkhanyakude Health District through its Human Resource Development component continues to roll-out the Compulsory Induction Programme for staff members who have never gone through the training session, especially new entrants in the public service.

It is vital that public servants entering the State, regardless of their differing backgrounds, skills and experience, need to be oriented around a common programme to understand and implement the agenda of the State.

The purposes of the training programme, among others are to: introduce public servants on what is expected of them in terms of performance, acquaint them on how government is run, appraise them on ethical behaviour and improve relations between public servants among themselves and



Staff members at Bethesda Hospital after completing Compulsory Induction Programme training

most importantly with public who are the beneficiaries of the government services.

This programme is essential in professionalising public service in order to ensure that efficiency of

public services is improved for the benefits of health clients.

SAFER HOLIDAYS

HEALTHY AND SAFE LIFE

- **Wash Your Hands** – Before eating, after using the toilet, handling food, or working with pesticides.
- **Drink Safe Water** – Use clean, boiled, or filtered water for drinking and cooking.
- **Use Toilets** – Always dispose of waste in a clean and hygienic toilet.
- **Handle Pesticides Safely** – Wear gloves, wash hands thoroughly after use, and never wash pesticide containers near water sources.
- **Keep Your Surroundings Clean** – Avoid littering, dispose of waste responsibly, and keep living areas tidy.
- **Handle Food Safely** – Wash fruits, vegetables, and surfaces to remove any pesticide residues.
- **Store Water Safely** – Use clean, covered containers and keep them away from chemicals.

05



KWAZULU-NATAL PROVINCE
HEALTH
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



KwaZulu-Natal Department of Health



KZN Department of Health



kznhealth



@kznhealth

**GROWING
KWAZULU-NATAL
TOGETHER**

Umkhanyakude Health District Choir wins big at provincial competition

In a provincial musicale held at Grey's Hospital on 29th November 2024, Umkhanyakude Health District Choir serenaded a panel of musical judges with tuneful melodies and walked away prizes. A team of euphonious singers from various institutions under Umkhanyakude was part of the provincial music competition where all eleven (11) health districts in the province of KwaZulu-Natal were competing for best accolades.

Umkhanyakude scooped trophies and certificates in the following fashion: first (1st) position for the award of the Best Performing Conductor, second (2nd) position in a Double Mixed Quartet African song and third (3rd) position in a jingle song.

Mrs NP Myeni (Choir coordinator) thanked all choir members for their dedication and hoped to achieve even more in future.



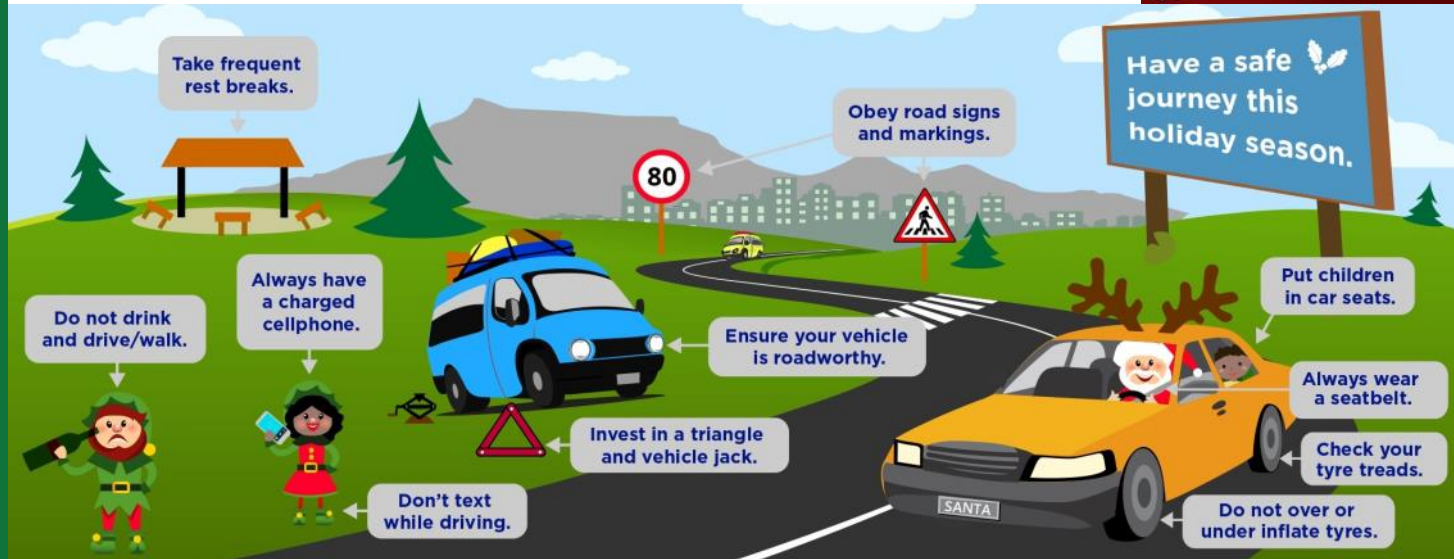
Umkhanyakude Health District Choir at the provincial competition held at Grey's Hospital



Celebrations after receiving accolades



STAY ALIVE AND SAFE THIS FESTIVE SEASON!



As festive season has come forth, most people will travel to various destinations such as: church conferences, holiday destinations, home and many other places. It is crucial to be safe during this busy season on our roads.

Traditionally this means that country's roads will have more vehicles than usual which increases the chances of road accidents which may unfortunately results to:

deaths, injuries, financial setbacks, and other unplanned and unfavourable implications which might change people's lives forever.

Bad decisions and various forms of irresponsible behaviour such as: reckless driving, speeding, drinking alcohol while driving and others may contribute to road accidents and fatalities.

According to Arrive Alive these are safety tips:

- Obey the rules of the road and carry your driver's license with you.
- Plan the route to your holiday destination and allow yourself enough time to reach the destination.
- Make sure that your vehicle is in a roadworthy condition before departure. All lights and indicators, windscreens, windscreen wipers, brakes, steering, shock absorbers, exhaust system and tyres should be carefully examined for faults.
- Do not overload.
- Try to avoid driving after dark if possible.
- Have a good rest before you embark on your journey
- Take safety breaks every 2 hours or 200km.
- Try to recognise potentially dangerous drivers on and pedestrians alongside the road and keep well clear of them
- Be visible - drive with your lights on
- Headlights should be dipped well before an approaching vehicle is within the range of the main beam.
- Always wear your seat belt and see that everyone in the car is wearing theirs.
- Drive defensively.
- Stay within the speed limit at all times
- Only overtake when it is absolutely safe to do so
- Maintain at least a 2-second following distance - this distance should be increased at night, in foggy or rainy conditions and when the road is wet.
- Expect others to not be as obedient to the law as yourself
- Avoid distractions on the road such as texting, conversations on cellular phones etc
- Be courteous towards fellow road users - keep your temper and resist the temptation to retaliate
- Know your emergency numbers - When you need assistance.



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

EDITORIAL TEAM



MR. THABANI S NTULI
AD: COMMUNICATION
WRITER, DESIGNER
& PHOTOGRAPHER



MR. BHEKI FAKUDE
ACTING DISTRICT DIRECTOR
EDITOR

THIS IS HOW YOU CAN HELP TO PREVENT **IRON DEFICIENCY**:

EAT A VARIETY OF IRON RICH FOODS LIKE

Legumes
(beans, lentils, chickpeas)

Eggs

Meat

Dark leafy greens

Nuts and seeds



AND TO HELP YOU ABSORB **IRON** FROM YOUR FOOD:

Eat citrus fruits



and avoid coffee and tea during your meals



FOLLOW US ON DOH SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS



TIPS FOR SAFE FOOD

Here are the 5 basic hygiene tips for food safety:



1. Keep clean



2. Separate cooked and raw food



3. Cook thoroughly



4. Keep food at safe temperatures



5. Use safe water and raw materials



16 Days of Activism
For No Violence Against Women and Children 2024



25 NOVEMBER - 10 DECEMBER

"30 Years of Advancing Collective Action to End Violence Against Women and Children"

