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**UTHUNGULU
HEALTH DISTRICT
NEWSLETTER**

Editor's comments

This is exciting as this is the first newsletter for the District to be published. The period covered, April to June 2010 is a remarkable period historically as some programmes were being modified to improve health outcomes, e.g. ARV, PMTCT and TB Guidelines.

I would like to thank the editorial team for their hard work and dedication during the production of this newsletter. We promise that you will see a newsletter at most quarterly.

P. Diwati (Chairperson)

Team members:

M. Cebekhulu
B. Dumisa
B. Dlamini
N.F. Dube
I.F. Mkhize
M. E. Zulu

Vision: To excel in the provision of quality district health services for all people in DC 28.

Mission: To continuously improve service delivery in DC 28 through a committed and

empowered work-force using an integrated, co-ordinated, comprehensive and sustainable primary health care approach through the district health system.

Core Values

- Approachable
- Confidentiality
- Courtesy
- Dignity and respect
- Effective communications and information sharing
- Honesty
- Openness and transparency
- Responsibility and accountability
 - Trust, built on mutual understanding and good human relations.

Uthungulu Health District – Demographics

DISTRICT OVERVIEW

The Uthungulu District is located in the north Eastern region of KwaZulu- Natal Province. It belongs to area 3 with Umkhanyakude District and Zululand District on its North. The District comprises of six local Municipalities, namely:

Mbonambi	(KZ 281)
uMhlathuze	(KZ 282)
Ntambanana	(KZ 283)
Umlalazi	(KZ 284)
Mthonjaneni	(KZ 285)
Nkandla	(KZ 286)

The District is mainly rural with vast majority of economic activity vested in Richards Bay, Empangeni and Felixton (these areas belong to uMhlathuze Local Municipality).

POPULATION FIGURES

The total district population is 930945 (source DHIS). There are more female than males (females 55%, males 45%). This is due to migratory labour that affects adult males.

HEALTH SERVICES

The District is comprised of:

- 6 District hospitals
- 2 regional
- 1 CHC
- 55 fixed clinics
- and
- 271 Mobile points

UTHUNGULU HEALTH DISTRICT OFFICE SENIOR MANAGEMENT



Mrs. I.F. Mkhize
Deputy District Manager: District Service Delivery:
Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation



Mr MM Zungu
District Manager



Mr BZD Dumisa
Office manager: Corporate Services Centre



Miss PPT Dlwati
Principal Technical Advisor:
Pharmaceutical Services



Ms N. Dube
Acting clinical & programmes manager

DISTRICT MANAGER'S COMMENTS

Four months ago, during our introductory meeting, we agreed as a team of Uthungulu Health District that we will keep our eyes and focus towards the bigger picture of "fighting disease, fighting poverty and giving hope". We stressed that for us to realize that vision, we need to have in place a few strategic imperatives in place, which are:

- Good leadership and management systems
- Ability to plan, monitoring and evaluation activities
- Willingness to embrace change and improve
- Create a culture of treatment and continuous communication, and

Creativity, innovation and maximization of outputs from minimum inputs.

I am proud to observe that we are collectively working hard towards the realization of the above practical ideals. We have observed packets of service excellency, especially in managing high impact health programmes, e.g. medical male circumcision (MMC), Health initiated counseling and testing (HCT) and the flagship projects.

We rarely, due to our ever busy work schedule, find time to say thank you to the other sector departments and private partners for their on-going support in our strategic service delivery projects.

May I, on behalf of the entire health services management team, say to you all, thank you.

The health information system In the District has all along been faced with challenges in providing quality information. This has led to difficulties in making certain management decisions. We are therefore delighted to welcome the newly appointed district information officer, who amongst his many functions, he will work towards strengthening our HIS, provide capacity development and support to HIO, and ensure readily available quality data for use during planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting.

We are on course to fill in the currently vacant strategic positions in order to complement the management and leadership capacity of the District. The following posts will have to be filled by September:

Deputy District manager: Clinical and programmes

Deputy manager: District Health Services

Principal Human Resources

District PRO

Senior accountant

May I also express the team appreciation of the visible strategic leadership of the Area General Manager, the Head of Department and the Provincial Department of Health MEC-Dr S. Dhlomo. We further recognize the dynamic hands-on leadership of the District flagship champion MEC S. Mchunu.



HIV COUNSELLING AND TESTING (HCT) CAMPAIGN AT UTHUNGULU HEALTH DISTRICT, kwaSanguye area.

“ I AM RESPONSIBLE , YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE , WE ARE RESPONSIBLE AND SOUTH AFRICA IS TAKING RESPONSIBILITY”



Left to right

Mr. Denis Luthuli Department of Health Provincial Office, Mr. MM Zungu District Manager for Uthungulu Health District Office and MEC for Education Mr. Senzo Mchunu planning for the launch.

Below: INkosi uBiyela was the first person to test on site.

The Honorable president of Republic of South Africa J.G. Zuma, in his State Nation Address, emphasized that people should come forward and know their HIV status . He lead by example by testing and also announced his results to the country.

MEC Mr. Senzo Mchunu, as a provincial Flagship Champion for Uthungulu District, initiated the launch of the HCT (HIV counseling and testing) Project at Uthungulu District .

The Project was launched on the 14th May 2010 at Kwa-Sanguye area under iNkosi uBiyela (Mthonjaneni Municipality). The HCT launch was coupled with the MMC (Medical Male Circumcision) project.

On the date of the launch, Inkosi uBiyela was the first person to test for HIV.

Uthungulu District had targeted to test 52 022 people for HIV by the end of June 2010, 68 989 people were tested for HIV by the end of June 201 0, which translates to 133% achievement.

The HCT campaign continues daily in all health facilities.



Below: MEC S. Mchunu leading by example.



NO MATTER WHAT RELIGION, AGE OR COLOUR, YOU MUST KNOW YOUR HIV STATUS!

People came in numbers to hear about HCT!



People of all races, religion and age came in numbers to test for HIV!



MEDICAL MALE CIRCUMCISION (MMC) AT UTHUNGULU DISTRICT



MMC was launched by the KZN Provincial MEC for Health, Dr S. Dhlomo on the 04th March 2010 at Ngwelezane Hospital. This was after the announcement by His Majesty The King in this year's uMkhosi wokweshwama that we should revive the male circumcision. He emphasized that it should be performed surgically to prevent complications. Medical circumcision is the full removal of the foreskin, fully exposing the head of the penis. Before the procedure is conducted, clients are tested for HIV and STI's.

The procedure is performed to, among other advantages, improve hygiene, reduce the risk of the STI's, reduce risk of HIV infection, lower the risk of penile cancer.

The District has conducted two camps since the launch of MMC. The District utilizes the Department of Education buildings (during school holidays) to conduct MMC camps. At the camps, initiates are taught life lessons by the community leaders and representatives from other Departments. Since the launch, 381 clients have been circumcised.

People are urged to go to their nearest health facilities for more information.

EVEN IF YOU ARE CIRCUMCISED, YOU ARE AT RISK OF CONTRACTING OR SPREADING THE HIV VIRUS AND/OR STI !!!!!

Below: Initiates, during the Eshowe FET camp, listening to different speakers giving them words of advice.



Below: MEC for Health, Dr S. Dhlomo addressing the initiates at the MMC LAUNCH at Ngwelezane Hospital



Above: MEC Mchunu reassuring the young initiate before the procedure was performed.



Above: Even the District Manager got his hands dirty!

Flagship Programme at Uthungulu District

All about the flagship programme...

The programme was launched in July 2009 and started on the most deprived municipal wards; Nkandla, Umlalazi, Mbonambi, Mthonjaneni, Umhlathuze and Ntambanana. MEC S. Mchunu is the District champion, Mrs T. Ngwenya is the Provincial convener and Mrs T. Luthuli-Nyandu is the District convener for the programme. This is a multidisciplinary programme and all Departments attend weekly meetings where they look at the gaps identified by the cadres during household profiling and address them.

Some of the social problems identified during profiling include: Unemployment, Poor housing, Inadequate water and sanitation.

The social sector cluster departments implement projects in an integrated and militaristic approach.

- Multi-departmental task teams were identified to focus on three key projects namely: Creating healthy and sustainable communities ,
- Integrated programme for youth and women development, and
- Food security programme

Cadres were trained to profile houses, mobilize communities, provide home based care and DOT services and monitor progress of the households referrals.

Achievements

440 Cadres trained on profiling, 1762 households visited and profiled.

Interventions

Increased immunisation coverage from 40% to 60%, educators trained on HIV & AIDS counseling, 865 qualifying beneficiaries assisted with social grants, food parcels distributed to clients identified.



Left to right: Mrs T.E. Nyandu, District Flagship convener; Mr Mnguni, Ntambanana Municipal Manager; Mr Biyela, the Honourable Mayor of Ntambanana and Mr S. Mchunu, the flagship champion at the flagship programme launch, Ntambanana Municipality.



Above: Ms Qhamkile Mbuyazi of Mambuka area at Ntambanana Municipality, unable to walk was transported to SASSA offices .

Below: (Intervention) A wheel chair from health and food parcels from DSD



Below: Happy faces of the Mlawu family. they received food parcels as intervention of the flagship programme.



APPOINTMENTS



Above, left to right: Miss. Zandile Buthelezi, Environmental Health Component (Community Service); Miss. Jabu Dlamini, Environmental Health Component (Community Service); Mrs. Philiswa Precious Mthembu, Environmental Health practitioner



Above, left to right: Miss. Nolwazi Mdletshe, Human Resource intern; Mr Sifiso Shabalala, District information officer; Miss Thabisile Mthiyane, Finance intern; Mrs Isiphile Mpungose, District Maternal Child & Women's Health programme coordinator.

AMAZWI AVELA KUMXHUMANISI WOMNYANGO

Anginibingelele kulengosi yethu.

Ngifisa ukuqala ngamukele bonke abasijoyinile lapha Othungulu.

Sesiyophetha lonyaka wedumela ka 2010 ngiyakholelwa ukuthi wonke umuntu obenezifiso ngawo zifezekile, kungaba ezempilo nje yomuntu kube ezomsebenzi. Ngithi ke mina qhubeka lapho ungabe usama, kuthi lapho kungenzakalanga khona njengesifiso sakho ungapheli amandla kodwa wazi ukuthi ukuhlela kwenqama akusho ukuphela kwamandla kodwa isuke ilande amandla amaningi.

Ngamafuphi-ke ngithi asiyibambeni noma ngabe iyashisa kodwa ekugcineni siyophumelela ukwenza izimpilo zabantu basoThungulu zibengcono. Asibambisane ndawonye sibe yimbumba ukuze sikwazi ukunqoba lapho kwehluleka khona umuntu oyedwa. Thina sonke sindawonye siyonqoba ngokubambisana, ngakho ke masibe yimbumba, uma siyithimba elilodwa siyophumelela.

Ngiyabonga kakhulu, okumhlophe kodwa!!!!



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