

# KUBONGWA AMAQHAWE



**MRS S.E. MLAMBO RECEIVING AN AWARD FROM THE HONORABLE MEC FOR HEALTH DR SIBONGISENI MAXWELL DHLOMO AND ACTING HEAD OF DEPARTMENT DR Y. L. MBHELE.**

*"Achievers never expose themselves but their achievements expose them"*. The new MEC for Health Dr S. M. Dhlomo on the 16th of May, International Nurses Day held in Hlabisa seemed to be declaring the same words by honouring our very own Mrs S. E. Mlambo for representing the Province at the National Project Teams Awards.

Silethithemba, "we bring hope" project led by Mrs S. E. Mlambo, working at Vryheid PHC as an HIV and AIDS Coordinator was acknowledged by the KZN DoH, and certificates

were awarded by the National Minister of Health, Ms Barbara Hogan on the 28 November 2008 at Sandton Sun hotel. The Department of Health introduced these awards with an aim of encouraging a team approach to improving service delivery.

Silethithemba project was established in 2005 in the Vryheid Sub-District, a very rural district of KwaZulu-Natal with a high level of unemployment and poverty.

The aim of this project is to give hope and care to the people living with the HIV and AIDS, and those affected by the condition. The project supports the local Community Care Centre in caring for HIV and AIDS orphans and vulnerable children.

It has extended its scope to health care providers infected and affected with HIV and AIDS, and aims to raise awareness about HIV and AIDS by encouraging access to voluntary testing and counseling.

Halala Silethithemba halala! Fly with the eagles!

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## Words of Encouragement From The Management.



*Senior Management Team congratulating Mrs S. E. Mlambo.*

*From left to right front row: Mr M. P. Msomi F & S, Mrs M. T. Zulu CEO, Mrs S. E. Mlambo and Mrs T. Ndebele PHC.*

*Back row: Dr F. S. Idika Medical Manager and Mrs J. K. Eekersley Nursing Manager*

Congratulations Sibongile! You deserve it! You are a phenomenal lady! Everyday you should reach out and touch somebody with love and warm hug. Your care and support for people infected and affected by HIV and AIDS makes a huge difference in their lives. You are really passionate about people living with HIV and AIDS. WENZE kahle ntombazane! Zizwakele zabonakala izigi zakho eBaqulusini.

Vryheid Hospital and Zululand Health District are very proud of you.

You and your team rock!

### **HOSPITAL MANAGEMENT AND STAFF**

#### **ABAQULUSI PHC IS PROUD**

Congratulations Sibongile, you are a star for PHC support on HIV and AIDS programme. You really deserve this award and recognition. You have been committed and dedicated to the programme and very supportive to the people infected and affected by HIV and AIDS.

You really maintained inter-sectoral collaboration with NGOs and CBOs of Abaqulusi Municipality. You are very active in supporting the PMTCT Programmes. PHC Team is proud of your achievement. This is the first of the many to come. You have placed Abaqulusi PHC name on the map. May grow you from strength to strength. The sky is the limit!

### **VRYHEID PHC TEAM**

*Some people are born great, some achieve their greatness, some are the greatest of them all.*

***fighting diseases, fighting poverty, giving hope—preventive and promotive health is our business***

# Amazwibela ngezithombe—WENZENI?



*Child Protection Week Celebration*



*Training Caregivers.*



*Training Correctional Officers on CCMT*



*Door-to-door campaign in the community.*



*Garden project in the community*



*Taxi and Bus ranks community outreach*

*fighting diseases, fighting poverty, giving hope—preventive and promotive health is our business*



## We talk to our diva.....

We spoke to our hero to find out what does it feel to be in her shoes. This is what she had to say.

### **What does this award mean to you?**

It means a step forward. I feel great and motivated to work very hard for the benefit of Abaqulusi Communities.

### **How has the project impacted people's lives?**

The project has provided long term on going support in order to prolong lives of people living with HIV and AIDS.

It became a job creator and capacity builder for people infected and affected by HIV and AIDS rather than the disease looked at as a death sentence.

It has provided nutritional support through garden projects.

Importantly treatment adherence had increased to clients receiving antiretroviral therapy.

### **With the increase in the HIV and AIDS prevalence, what keeps you motivated to work with people infected and affected by disease?**

Working with the infected and affected is always challenging as they always expect new developments on issues around HIV and AIDS.

As an HIV and AIDS activist you need to seek knowledge in order to provide and always bring hope.

### **Are there any challenges that you come across with Silethithemba?**

Silethithemba cannot reach all the rural areas within Abaqulusi. Lack of resources in the communities is also a challenge.

### **Would you say you have reached your goal?**

Not really since we haven't reached all the rural areas of Abaqulusi. To me it is a beginning of the race. I will appreciate to see people coming in numbers for VCT services.

### **Who are you working with on the project?**

I believe in team work. Each individual in the Health sector from lower to higher level had a role to play towards the project.

Community participation and involvement; government departments, municipality, NPOs, FBOs, NGOs and CBOs.

### **What other projects are you involved in?**

Community Home Based Care Projects, Youth Projects and Church Projects.

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