



SISONKE SIBANYE

NEWS

YOUR ONE INFORMATION STOP

2023 EDITION

EG & USHER MEMORIAL COMEMORATES NURSES DAY



Nurses with the DMN (Mr Mbali) During Nurses Day

On the 24th May 2023, EG & Usher Memorial Hospital Commemorated Nurses day under the theme “Our Nurses, Our Future”. The commemoration was done to celebrate the important role that the nurses play in the society and the contributions that they make in the public in providing the best health care services to the patients. International Nurses Day is celebrated

around the world annually on the 12th of May each year, and it is also the anniversary of Florence Nightingale's birth, the founder of Modern Nursing. Florence Nightingale was known for organizing professional trainings for nurses, she wrote the first textbook on nursing “Notes on Nursing” and she took public positions in favour of health care and philanthropic funding.

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FOREWORD FROM THE CEO

Warm Greetings to all the Readers,

I take pride in welcoming you to the EG & Usher Memorial Hospital's "Sisonke Sibanye newsletter" after so many years. I would like to greet you all with the words by Walter Anderson, "Nature has given us all the pieces required to achieve exceptional wellness and health, but has left it to us to put these pieces together."

At the heart of our hospital are our motivated colleagues who, through a strong team spirit, give the best of themselves on a daily basis throughout the year, your hard work and sacrifices do not go unnoticed, keep on shining. A lot of good and not so good happened this year and I would like to encourage you all to learn from the not so good and keep on improving on the good that has happened. Through your efforts and hard work, the Hospital has managed to achieve an Excellent and Compliant status from OHSC.

I would like to thank all our colleagues for the sacrifices and dedication that they display each day to ensure that we provide excellent services to all of our clients. OHSC Excellent and Compliant status means that our facility is ready for the implementation of the National Health Insurance (NHI). NHI is a health financing system that is designed to pool funds to provide access to quality affordable personal health services for all South Africans based on their health needs and not on their financial status. NHI will also seek to close the gap between the Public and the private sector by ensuring better collaboration between our private and public health systems. I preach unity in our facility because unity is our strength and when there is collaboration & teamwork, wonderful



Mr. J.B.J Ngobese
EGUM CEO

things can be achieved. A wise man once said, *"We are only as strong as we are united, as weak as we are divided."*

We have now come to the time that I perceive as the busiest season of the year where we take time off to be with our families. I would like to encourage you all to be responsible during this time. I wish you a season filled with plenty of happiness and tranquillity this Festive Season. Thank you all for your efforts during the year. Happy Holidays to you and your loved ones.

May the good Lord continue to bless you and your families. May he pour his blessings upon you and your loved ones. I wish you all the best for the New year!

NURSE DAY ARTICLE CONTINUES...

Giving his opening remarks, the CEO, Mr JBJ Ngobese outlined the importance of celebrating Nurses day, he said that it is important that we commemorate days' like the Nurses day because it shows that we still care and we still love our nurses. "Today we are celebrating selfless men and women who sacrifice their lives to serve the community with integrity and courtesy. I would like to encourage our nurses to assist us in decreasing the number of complaints that we receive in order to improve the way the community sees the hospital", the CEO also added that the management is fully aware of the challenges that are faced by the nurses and we pray to God that he will give us the strength and resources to overcome these challenges .

Before blessing those who were in attendance with the word of God, Reverend Tambo started by observing a moment of silence for all the nurses that lost their lives in the line of duty. After the moment of silent was done, Rev Tambo started delivering his sermon by encouraging all the attendees to seek the word of God in their everyday lives. He then opened a bible verse, John 6 verse 7-13, By this scripture, Rev Tambo encouraged everyone to have faith in the Lord and to trust in him even during difficult times. He further encouraged the attendees to be productive and respectful, he also encouraged nurses to treat the patients with courtesy.

A guest speaker for the day, Mrs Jwaqu who was no stranger to many was introduced by Matron Mathews. In her speech, Mrs Jwaqu emphasized the importance of working together as a collective to achieve the mandate of the Department of health which is to improve health status through the prevention of illness, disease and the promotion of healthy lifestyles, and to consistently improve the health care



From left to Right, OM Dlanjwa, ENA Mkhize and OM Semethe

delivery system by focusing on access, equity, efficiency, quality and sustainability. "As a nurse, it is heart-warming to see a patient leaving the facility knowing very well that you did your best to assist. As much as the patients can have exaggerated expectations from nurses, it is important that the nurses understand the pain of being sick and the pain of having a sick family member. As nurses we need to be considerate of the feelings of our patients and we need to try and treat them with respect at all times", said Mrs Jwaqu in her speech. She also added that we should be a hospital that attracts people from other areas and this could be achieved if we treat our clients with respect and courtesy.

The Nurses Day commemoration was concluded by appreciating the nurses, this was done by handing over various certificates of appreciation in recognition of valuable contribution by nurses in provision of optimal service delivery.

EMPLOYEE WELLNESS DAY - A POSITIVE WORKING ENVIROMENT PRODUCES A POSITIVE OUTPUT.

On the 23rd of June 2023, EG & Usher Memorial Hospital hosted a Wellness Day through its Employee Health and wellness program. Employee wellness can be defined as the overall mental, physical, emotional, and economic health of the employees. It is influenced by various factors such as their relationships with co-workers, the decisions they make, and the tools and resources they have access to.



Cone Challenge



Spoon Race Challenge

Employee wellness program is an initiative to improve the health and well-being of employees, which can boost productivity and morale. Employee wellness program can benefit both the employees and the employers, in reducing absenteeism, turnover, health care costs, stress, and can assist in increasing engagement and loyalty.

There were various sporting activities that included Tug of War, tennis, spoon race, aerobics, skipping rope and indigenous games (umlabalaba and Shumpu)



Ball Challenge

The employee wellness day was sponsored by Gems, Old Mutual, Metropolitan and Avbob. The sponsors were also given an opportunity to share financial wellness to the employees and the importance of being financial wise.



The CEO, Mr. J.B.J. Participating on Wellness Day

DID YOU KNOW?

Exercising improves your brain health, helps manage weight, reduces the risk of disease, strengthens bones and muscles, and improves your ability to do your everyday activities.

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Wellness Day Photo Gallery



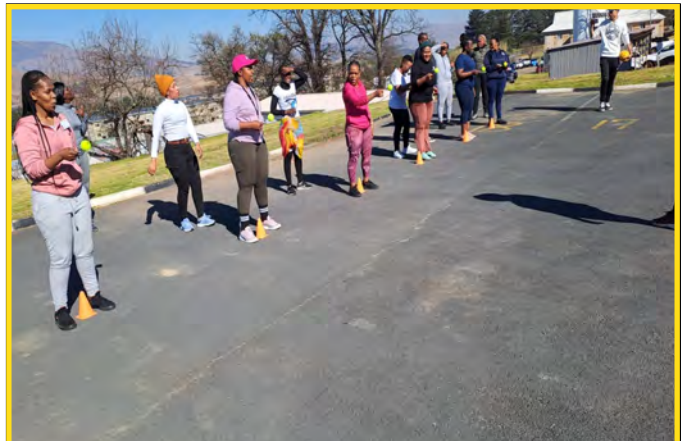
Employees participating in aerobics.



Employees participating in aerobics.



Employees participating in aerobics.



Employees getting ready for spoon racing.



Event Sponsors Gems, Old Mutual, Metropolitan and Avbob



Employees participating in aerobics.



COMMUNITY DIALOGUE ON TEENAGE PREGNANCY



Boys Commission



Parents Commission



Boys Commission

On the 14 September 2023, the Greater Kokstad Sub-district hosted a community dialogue on teenage pregnancy in Bhongweni Location, Kokstad. The community dialogue saw a number of stakeholders coming together to openly engage with the youth in Kokstad about the causes and impacts of teenage pregnancy and to also find ways to alleviate teenage pregnancy. The idea of the community dialogue came after an observation of high teenage pregnancy statistics in the Greater Kokstad region.

Adolescent pregnancy remains a major contributor to maternal and child mortality. Complications relating to pregnancy and childbirth are the leading cause of death for girls aged 15-19 globally. Pregnant girls and adolescents also face other health risks and complications due to their immature bodies.

The PHC Manager, Mr. B.D Nkosi presented the sub district statistics on teenagers accessing antenatal Services, deliveries in the Hospital and antenatal visits by teenagers versus the teenage population. The presentation outlined the dire need for inter sectoral collaboration towards fighting teenage pregnancy.

The Medical Manager, Dr. Mxhalisa presented medical and physiological dangers of teenage

Pregnancy to teenagers, parents, families and society. The presentation also emphasized on the negative maternal outcomes teenage pregnancy causes, safer conceptions and various contraceptive methods with emphasis to loup and reversible contraceptives (LARCS)

The children from the schools were divided into three commissions to have a discussion on the topics that they were given, the commissions were the Girls Commission, Boys Commission and the Parents Commission. Each commission was tasked to robustly engage on the topics that affects them and also make a suggestion on the challenges that were stated in each commission. The topics were all tied to one topic which was, "What leads to teenage pregnancy and what can be done to reduce teenage pregnancy".

There were one hundred and ninety-two (192) attendees on the day. The stakeholders that were part of the programme were Greater Kokstad Municipality, KZN Department of Education, KZN Department of Social Development, KZN Department of Health, KZN SAPS and the Traditional authority.



NEW AND IMPROVED VISION FOR HUNDREDS OF PATIENTS DURING THE WORLD SIGHT DAY



Eye Screening During World Sight Day

East Griqualand & Usher Memorial Hospital Hosts the South African Eyecare Coalition in Celebration of the World Sight Month

A sigh of relief as more than 200 people get to see the world again following a joint programme driven by Department of Health in Harry Gwala in partnership with the South African Eyecare Coalition. During the World Sight Month celebration in October, the partnership saw hundreds of patients seen by Optometrists, specialists, etc. and removed cataracts, giving a new sight to a number of people.

Five major civil society partners whose combined expertise comprises the South African Eyecare Coalition, an umbrella body driving meaningful eye health, worked together with

coalition partner AMS KZN in an outreach programme to provide vision screening for patients of the EG Usher Memorial Hospital, Kokstad, on Wednesday 11 October 2023 – as their commitment to October being World Sight Month. The month of October is traditionally World Sight Month which reinforces awareness about the importance of eye health. Every person on the planet will experience an eye health issue at some point in their lives, but the reality is that more than a billion people do not have access to eye care services to correct, treat or prevent vision loss.

East Griqualand and Usher Memorial Hospital is a 185-bed district hospital situated on the outskirts of the Kokstad. The hospital has optometry nurses, but no optometrists. The coalition team worked with existing hospital patients. 200 patients were seen by three optometrists, two vision screeners and one optometrist team leader.

“South African Eyecare Coalition is dedicated to promoting eye health and increasing accessibility of services to millions of under-served South Africans by advocating for eye health at the highest levels. The Coalition, which was created exactly a year ago, aims to provide a scalable, cost-effective approach to eye health, including the delivery of free, high-quality or low-cost eye care and vision services across the country, with a particular emphasis on children and marginalized communities” explained Coalition spokesperson, Prof. Kovin Naidoo from OneSight Essilor-Luxottica Foundation...

DID YOU KNOW ?

The theme for World Sight Day 2023, 'Love Your Eyes at Work,' resonates deeply in our fast-paced, digital age where we increasingly strain our eyes through prolonged screen time and demanding work schedules. It emphasizes the importance of caring for our eyes while navigating the challenges of the modern workplace.

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WORLD SIGHT DAY ARTICLE CONTINUES...

The five founding members of the Coalition are African Eye Institute: an Africa-wide, non-profit development organization; SA Red Cross Air Mercy Service (AMS) a non-profit aero-medical rescue organization with more than 55 years of expertise in the aero-medical sector; OneSight Essilor Luxottica Foundation who have an innovative approach to philanthropy, partnerships and raising awareness to create sustainable access to vision care; St. John who operates 12 Eye Care Centers across South Africa and has been providing eye care services to the public for over 70 years by providing professional comprehensive eye testing and quality eyewear at affordable prices; the International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness is an international alliance working to promote eye health, with more than 150 organizations in over 100 countries.

WOMENS DAY CELEBRATION—“I am a woman and I get to define what that means.”



Management During women's Day



Mrs B. Mthethwa giving the word of God

On the 9th of August 1956, more than 20,000 South African women of all races staged a march on the Union Buildings in protest against the proposed amendments to the Urban Areas Act of 1950, commonly referred to as the "pass laws". The march was led by Lillian Ngoyi, Helen Joseph, Rahima Moosa and Sophia Williams. Each year South Africa observes and celebrates Women's Day on the 09th of August.

This year, EG & Usher Memorial Hospital celebrated its Women's Day on the 30th of August 2023. This was a day that saw all the females of the Hospital being appreciated

for their excellent contributions towards the success of the Hospital. On National Women's Day, important concerns that South African women still confront are brought to light, including uneven pay, domestic abuse, sexual harassment in the workplace, single parenting, and equitable access to education for all girls. Women's Day serves as a day of protest or advocacy for these causes. This national holiday has allowed for numerous noteworthy advancements that have seen women becoming recognized and occupying senior positions that were formerly perceived as positions that were only suitable for men

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WOMEN'S DAY ARTICLE CONTINUES...

This year's theme was, "Women's Socio-Economic Rights and Empowerment: Building Back Better for Women's Improved Resilience". The concept of Generation Equality is a global campaign and links South Africa to global efforts to achieve gender equality by 2030. Women who were attending the event received encouraging speeches from different guests. Mrs B. Mthethwa (EAP) gave a talk on the importance of believing in God as a woman. She stated that, "God knows everything we are going through at this very moment and everything we will go through in the future. He knows the best way to handle every situation so we get the best possible outcome and we need to trust him with that. We need to follow his path and trust that he knows best, because he does". The day was then concluded by dance and praise by all those who were in attendance.



EGUM Choir During Women's Day

Message from the P.R.O



Mr. B.N Ngcangula
Public Relations Officer

Dear Reader,

I would like to welcome you all to "Sisonke Sibanye Newsletter" 2023 edition. The newsletter will be published on a quarterly basis and will entail all news from the hospital and PHC facilities. I am looking forward to working with all the components including PHC facilities to ensure that our Newsletter is informative, interesting and educational. All components that are planning to have their awareness campaigns, events and any other newsworthy activities may feel free to contact the P.R.O.

I would also like to encourage all the patients to make use of the suggestion boxes around

the facility to lodge their complaints, compliments and suggestions because these will assist us to note our shortcomings and to improve going forward.

I would like to take this opportunity and wish you all the joy, peace, and love that this time of year brings. Happy holidays! Sending you love, light, and laughter for good memories and a bright and healthy 2024

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CELEBRATING OUR CULTURAL DIVERSITY IN A DEMOCRATIC SOUTH AFRICA- Heritage Day 2023



Group Photo During Heritage Day



Ms. V.C booth representing the Griquas



Group Photo During Heritage Day



Left to Right:: Mr Ubisi, Ms Ndlela and Mr. Mkhize

EG & Usher Memorial hospital celebrated Heritage Day in style as the colleagues were asked to wear their stylish heritage attires to celebrate the diverse and unique cultures that are within our institution. The colleagues gathered at the ANC Boardroom to celebrate the wonderful day that is celebrated across the country. Heritage Day recognises and celebrates the cultural wealth of our nation. South Africans celebrates the day by remembering the cultural heritage of many cultures that make up the population of country.

Giving his remarks on this day, the CEO Mr J.B.J Ngobese stated that, “Heritage Day is a joyous occasion where the nation comes together to celebrate our differences. We learn to embrace each other’s cultures and traditions. Heritage Day is all about unity. As a nation, we come from a long history of using our differences as basis for separation. Heritage Day is an attempt, not only to remind us to celebrate and preserve our cultural heritage but to encourage harmony and a sense of belonging for every South African”

This was a joyful day that was full of traditional dances, traditional songs and traditional food was served.



HERITAGE DAY PHOTO GALLERY



“Pharmacy United in Promoting Healthcare for Patients” Pharmacy Month 2023



The Dedicated Pharmacy team that was responsible for EGUM'S Pharmacy month celebration.

On the 19th and 20th of September 2023, EG and Usher Memorial Hospital's pharmacy hosted its pharmacy month celebration. This was done under this year's theme, "Pharmacy United in Promoting Healthcare for Patients". The Pharmacy Month 2023 theme was aimed at educating the public on the role of pharmacists and pharmacy support personnel in delivering primary healthcare services to the community; promoting the uptake of immunisation and educating the public on adverse drug identification and reporting; and promoting antimicrobial stewardship, including infection prevention and control (IPC).

The team from pharmacy engaged with the patients and encouraged them to comply with their medication, some of the patients raised some issues that makes it difficult for them to comply with their medication, some of the issues that were raised include economic factors, being not properly informed about the medication and transport issues for those who reside far from the Hospital. The team noted the concerns and encouraged the patients to always do their best to ensure that they comply with their medication, the team also encouraged the patients to approach them whenever they have questions about the given medication.

The two days were also used as a platform to reassure the patients that the Pharmacist are always there and they are always willing to assist. Patients were also informed about the Central Chronic Medicines Dispensing and Distribution (CCMDD) program which External pick-up points (PuPs) are made available to provide the patient with a more convenient option for the collection of their medicine which has been dispensed and distributed. The PuP may be closer to their homes or workplace and can result in reduced transport costs. The patients were happy to be informed about the program and to conclude the day they were given some fruits for extra vitamins.



EG & USHER MEMORIAL HOSPITAL'S ANNUAL SERVICE EXCELLENCE AWARDS—QUALITY DAY 2023



The CEO Mr J.B.J Ngobese Handing over certificates



Mr Mkhize Giving the word of God



Management and Guests

In an effort to recognize the excellent work that is being done by the staff, EG & Usher Memorial Hospital hosted its annual service excellence awards commonly known as Quality Day on the 29th of November 2023. This is a day that is celebrated each year in November and its purpose is to promote quality in the workplace and to show appreciation to those who are dedicated towards improving quality in their line of operation.

More than one hundred trophies and certificates were handed over to different individuals and Components to recognize their positive contributions and to encourage them to continue to work hard and contribute positively to the success of the institution. The crowd was entertained by Thandizitha group (Xhosa cultural Dancers) and breath taking performances from Nhlanhlo (Freestyle singer). Different components presented their Quality projects, Casualty came out as number three, OPD came out as number two and position one was taken by Environmental Health (Waste management).

All the projects were a demonstration of Quality improvement within our institution and they gave a clear guide of how each component plans to manage, deploy and review Quality improvement. The staff and stakeholders in attendance were given a presentation of the direction, timeline, activities, and importance of quality and quality improvement.

EG & Usher Memorial hospital was also given a certificate of appreciation for achieving OHSC Compliance and Excellent status, Greater Kokstad Clinic was also given a certificate of appreciation for obtaining OHSC Compliance and Excellent status and Gateway was given a certificate of appreciation for achieving OHSC Good and Compliant status....



Ms. Mazeka & Ms. Mghobozi with 1st prize trophy



ANNUAL SERVICE EXCELLENCE AWARDS—QUALITY DAY 2023

Article Continues..



OPD receive an award for 2nd place project presentation



GKC receives a Certificate for OHSC Excellence and Compliant



Gateway Clinic receives a Certificate for OHSC Good and Compliant



Quality Manager Ms. Ndiela (Right) Handing over a trophy to OM Kam (Left) for CHIPP and PIPP clinical Governance

Giving his remarks, the CEO Mr J.B.J Ngobese thanked all the people who were in attendance for sacrificing their time to attend the Quality Day. The CEO said that, “World Quality Month is an occasion for reflection, education, and personal development rather than just a chance to highlight the wonderful job we do. It enables us to reorient our plans to better meet the changing needs of our stakeholders and clients and to reset our quality compass”.



Thandizitha Group Entertaining the crowd.



From left to right: Mr Mbali, Mr Ubisi, Ms. Mghobhozi, Ms. Mazeka, Inkosi Umakhoba, Mr Mhlamvu and Mr J.B.J Ngobese



Small Actions, BIG IMPACT: Immediate Skin-to-Skin Care for Every Baby, Everywhere - Prematurity Day 2023



Sr. Hlomendlini (Left) and OM Kom (Right)

World Prematurity Day is observed on 17 November each year to raise awareness of preterm birth and the concerns of preterm babies and their families worldwide. Premature babies require specialised attention and specific care to enable them to survive, grow and develop healthily. In order to give visibility and raise awareness of the needs and rights of premature babies and their families, EG & Usher Memorial Hospital hosted a Prematurity Day on the 30th of November 2023. The theme for this year's prematurity day was "Small Actions, BIG IMPACT: Immediate Skin-to-Skin Care for Every Baby, Everywhere"

World Prematurity Day is an opportunity to advocate for essential care for women and new-born care for every baby and to highlight the benefits of methods that save lives such as immediate skin-to-skin contact and Kangaroo Mother Care (KMC). KMC emphasizes continuous and prolonged skin-to-skin contact between parent and infant, promotes breastfeeding, lowers stress levels, and strengthens family bonding. Twelve mothers of premature babies that were born in Egum hospital were invited to attend the prematurity day.

Dr Mxhalisa gave her welcoming remarks and thanked all the guests for attending the event. Dr Mthikrakra gave a brief introduction of the day and stated that prematurity Day is one of the most important days in the year because it helps to raise awareness of the challenges and burden of preterm birth globally. She explained that babies born prematurely face higher health risks, with physical and neurodevelopmental disabilities both short- and long-term and they require extensive and special care. The mothers received gifts such as blankets, dresses and rompers. This was a joyful day for both the mothers and the babies.



Dr Mxhalisa (Left) and the team from Maternity ward

EGUM HOSPITAL CONDUCTS AN EMERGENCY FIRE DRILL EXERCISE



GKM fire department, GKM disaster team and EGUM fire brigade

An Emergency fire drill is a structured and planned exercise that aims to familiarize the staff and patients with the necessary precautions to take when a fire emergency takes place within the premises of the Hospital. The primary goal is to promote a quick, orderly, and safe evacuation of the individuals while avoiding the risk of injuries or casualties. On the 13th of December 2023, EG & Usher Memorial Hospital conducted an unannounced Emergency Fire Drill Exercise. A sound of a continuous siren was let off unannounced to see how the patients and Staff members would react and it was announced that there is fire in admitting, OPD and in casualty, and therefore everyone should evacuate those building. A team of Fire brigades was deployed to observe and ensure that all the mentioned departments are evacuated correctly.

A team of firefighters that were deployed from Greater Kokstad Municipality were on site during this exercise which made it even more real to the colleagues as the team came with a truck and the siren was loud.



GKM FIRE TEAM MEMBERS



EMERGENCY FIRE DRILL EXERCISE CONTINUES....



GKM FIRE FIGHTER

The team of firefighters jumped off the truck as if the fire was real and they showed urgency as they entered OPD, Casualty and Admitting. The colleagues evacuated the building and all patients were escorted to the different assembly points within the Hospital. The Safety Officer Mr Merwe Ubisi stated that as much as there were some challenges with the evacuation, he was impressed with how the colleagues responded to the fire drill given the fact that it has not happened in the hospital for quite some time. He also added and stated that the drill was excellent but there are areas that needs to be improved and trainings will be provided regularly for all staff.

Fire drills are crucial for safety preparedness as they allow the practice of emergency procedures, minimize panic, and ensure effective evacuation during fire emergencies. Practicing fire drills will also educate participants on fire safety measures and promote compliance with regulations.



Staff and Patients being engaged on Safety at the assembly point

New Staff Appointments

B.D Nkosi
PHC Manager

B.N Ngcangula
Public Relations Officer

N.N Ndawonde
Enrolled Nurse

S. Mtheku
Enrolled Nurse

N. Dube
Enrolled Nurse

I.N Zulu
Enrolled Nurse

T. Nyawo
Artisan Carpentry

N.B Ndala
Enrolled Nurse

Y. Mpanzela
Enrolled Nurse

Z.L Zoneli
Enrolled Nurse

S.A Khumalo
Enrolled Nurse

T.V Gwija
Enrolled Nurse

N.E Dlamini
Medical Officer (Comm Serve)

Z.N Mshengu
Enrolled Nurse

A. Lukhozi
Speech Therapist (Comm Serve)

S. Mabindisa
Professional Nurse (Comm Serve)

K.S Kwetana
Enrolled Nurse

N. Mdingi
Enrolled Nurse

L. Govender
Professional Nurse

J.C Clark
Professional Nurse

M. Makhele
Clinic Nurse Practitioner

U. Ndabeni
Professional Nurse (ophthalmic)

E.P Nomnganga
Professional Nurse (Speciality)

P. Njisane
Radiographer

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New Staff Appointments

B.P Mkhize

Enrolled Nursing Assistant

S. P Moya

Enrolled Nursing Assistant

C.P Mthembu

Enrolled Nursing Assistant

N. Njokweni

Enrolled Nursing Assistant

M.K Khonyane

Social Worker

We would like to welcome you at EG & Usher Memorial Hospital and we hope that your stay with us will be productive.

Welcome to the team! It's so great to have you join us and We look forward to collaborating with you.

We believe you will do great things in your new role and we hope that you will always feel comfortable sharing your thoughts and ideas with everyone.

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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