



KWAZULU-NATAL PROVINCE
HEALTH
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King Dinuzulu

Hospital Complex

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Ezakwa Dinuzulu

NEWS

September 2025

Successful Emergency Evacuation Drill



King Dinuzulu Hospital Complex conducted an unannounced emergency evacuation drill to test the hospital's readiness in the event of a disaster such as a fire, **cont. Page 2.**



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King Dinuzulu Hospital Complex Conducts Successful Emergency Evacuation Drill

On 07 August 2025 at 10h00, King Dinuzulu Hospital Complex (KDHC) conducted an unannounced emergency evacuation drill to test the hospital's readiness in the event of a disaster such as a fire.

The intercom system broadcasted a simulated fire alert, and all staff, patients, and visitors were immediately evacuated to the designated assembly points. Busy areas such as the Outpatient Department, Pharmacy, and Emergency Department were safely cleared, with patients on beds and stretchers wheeled out in line with hospital safety protocols. The exercise involved everyone on-site, from doctors and nurses to administrators, security, clerks, patients, and visitors.

The drill formed part of KDHC's Disaster Management Programme, guided by the hospital's Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) and national disaster regulations. Hospitals are complex environments with large patient volumes and vulnerable individuals, making disaster preparedness crucial. Emergencies such as fires, power failures, structural damage, floods, and mass casualty incidents can occur without warning. Regular drills ensure that staff are able to respond quickly and effectively, protecting lives and minimizing risks.

After the evacuation, the Hospital Manager addressed patients and visitors, explaining the purpose of the drill and highlighting the importance of preparedness in healthcare settings. The Management Team, led by CEO Dr. Dlamini, then held a debriefing session to evaluate the exercise. The review assessed readiness, identified gaps, and confirmed areas of strength.

The drill was declared a success, with no incidents or casualties reported. It demonstrated KDHC's commitment to patient and staff safety, while reinforcing a culture of preparedness in line with international best practice.

Recommendations for future improvement include:

- Enhancing communication systems to ensure messages are clear and reduce panic during announcements.
- Strengthening patient movement procedures, particularly for critical and immobile patients.
- Introducing role-specific training refreshers for staff to ensure familiarity with evacuation responsibilities.
- Conducting multi-scenario drills (e.g. floods, chemical incidents, or mass casualty influx) to broaden preparedness.
- Improving data capturing at assembly points to speed up headcounts and accountability checks.

"Disasters are unpredictable. By conducting these drills, we strengthen our ability to save lives, protect patients, and ensure continuity of care," said Dr. Dlamini.



Strategic planning Photo Gallery 2025



Dr. Z.F. Dlamini delivering the Purpose of the day to MANCO members



Presentation by Dr. Mkhize Finance, Ms Kubeka M&E, Mr. B. Khoza OHS our program director for the day.



4 Groups breakaway discussion session before presentations



King Dinuzulu Hospital Complex successfully Conducted A Strategic Planning 2025

The King Dinuzulu Hospital Complex (KDHC) successfully hosted a two-day Strategic Planning Engagement from the 13th to the 14th of August 2025 at the hospital's Moth Hall. The engagement brought together hospital management, departmental heads, clinical managers, and key administrative staff to evaluate the institution's performance and strengthen strategies for the 2024–2025 financial year.

The session began with registration and opening remarks, followed by the welcome and purpose of the day, which outlined the importance of aligning the hospital's operational plans with the KwaZulu-Natal Department of Health's vision of delivering quality, patient-centered care. The Programme Director opened the event with words of encouragement, highlighting the need for unity, commitment, and accountability in service delivery.

DAY 1: Focusing on Performance and Planning

- The first day featured several informative presentations under the theme of "Service Delivery and Institutional Improvement." Key topics included:
- Service Delivery Imperatives: Addressing patient care standards, resource management, and performance improvement.
- Financial Outlook and Savings Plan: Discussing budget constraints and cost-saving strategies to enhance financial sustainability.
- 2024–2025 Annual Performance Plan (APP): Reviewing the hospital's performance indicators and setting achievable targets.
- Provincial Strategic Plan: Aligning KDHC's goals with the provincial health department's broader objectives.
- The afternoon session consisted of breakaway group briefings, where participants were divided into smaller working groups to discuss specific operational areas. Each group was tasked with identifying challenges, proposing solutions, and drafting practical recommendations for implementation.

DAY 2: Consolidation and Commitment

Day two began with the breakaway groups consolidating their reports and presenting their findings to the larger assembly. Each team provided insightful feedback and innovative strategies for improving efficiency, communication, and service delivery across all hospital departments.

Key discussions included:

- Feedback from Groups and Consolidated Reports
- Disaster and Business Continuity Planning: Ensuring the hospital's readiness and resilience in times of crisis.
- Service Commitment Charter: Reinforcing the importance of accountability, ethical leadership, and dedication to patients' needs.
- Way Forward and Closure: Emphasizing teamwork, shared responsibility, and continuous improvement in hospital operations.
- The engagement concluded with closing remarks and a vote of thanks, recognizing the efforts of all participants for their active involvement and valuable contributions.

PURPOSE AND SIGNIFICANCE

The Strategic Planning Engagement served as a vital platform for reflection, collaboration, and innovation. It enabled KDHC's leadership team to review progress, address key performance challenges, and align strategic priorities with the Department of Health's service delivery model.

This engagement reaffirmed King Dinuzulu Hospital Complex's commitment to excellence in healthcare, integrated service planning, and transparent management practices. By fostering teamwork and open dialogue, the hospital continues to strengthen its mission of delivering efficient, compassionate, and patient-focused healthcare services to the community.

King Dinuzulu Hospital Complex extends gratitude to all participants for their dedication and contribution to the success of this engagement. The collective insights and strategies developed during these two days will guide the hospital's operations and improve service outcomes in the coming year.

Together, we are building a healthier and stronger KwaZulu-Natal.



WOMEN'S DAY CELEBRATION PHOTO GALLERY



A Day of Appreciation and Joy: Women's Day at KDHC



Our guest and staff members sharing joy, inspiration and appreciation



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WOMANS DAY CELEBRATION 2025

On Friday, 22 August 2025, the King Dinuzulu Hospital Complex (KDHC) came alive with excitement and unity as staff members gathered to celebrate Women's Day. The event was organized by the Employee Assistance Programme (EAP) Team under the empowering theme "Stand Up, Be Counted."

The purpose of the celebration was to recognise the hard work, courage, and achievements of women within the hospital, while also creating a relaxed and joyful space for staff to connect, unwind, and celebrate together. The event encouraged women to take pride in their roles, support one another, and continue striving for equality and empowerment in all areas of life.

The canteen area was transformed into a vibrant celebration venue, beautifully decorated to match the dress code — "Black with a POP of Colour." The colourful outfits and cheerful smiles set the mood for an enjoyable and memorable day.

Unlike previous years, the 2025 celebration focused on fun and interactive activities rather than formal performances. The day was filled with music, dancing, laughter, and exciting games that encouraged teamwork and engagement among staff members. These light-hearted moments reminded everyone of the importance of joy, self-care, and unity in the workplace.

A special highlight of the event was the presentation of gifts to honoured guests as a token of appreciation. The gesture symbolized gratitude, respect, and recognition for the guests' contributions to the hospital community.

The atmosphere was filled with energy and togetherness, as staff members took time away from their busy schedules to bond, celebrate, and acknowledge one another. The music, laughter, and shared moments created a warm and welcoming environment that truly reflected the spirit of Women's Day.

The KDHC Women's Day Celebration aimed to:

- >Empower women to continue standing tall and making their voices heard.
- >Encourage teamwork, relaxation, and unity among hospital staff.
- >Recognize women's contributions to healthcare and community well-being.
- >Promote emotional wellness through music, laughter, and interactive games.
- >Appreciate all employees for their daily efforts in creating a caring hospital environment.

The success of the day would not have been possible without the wonderful support of our sponsors — Fundi, Nedbank, and Sanlam. Their sponsorship helped make the event a memorable one, providing refreshments, prizes, and support for the day's activities.

KDHC extends its deepest gratitude to these organizations for standing alongside the hospital in empowering and celebrating women. Their contribution made a meaningful difference and added great value to the celebration.

The EAP Team expressed appreciation to all staff members who attended and participated in the event. Their energy, enthusiasm, and positive spirit made the celebration a great success. The team also thanked management for their continued support and encouragement in organizing such wellness and appreciation events.

The day ended on a joyful note, with music, dancing, and laughter filling the air — a reminder that celebrating women is not just about recognition, but also about joy, unity, and gratitude.

The 2025 Women's Day Celebration at King Dinuzulu Hospital Complex was more than just an event, it was a reminder of the power, strength, and unity of women. Through laughter, games, and shared appreciation, the celebration highlighted the importance of supporting one another and creating a workplace where women can continue to "Stand Up and Be Counted."



King Dinuzulu Hospital Complex Hosts First-Ever Mental Health Patient Market and Games Day

On 15 August 2025, the Tertiary Psychiatric Unit at King Dinuzulu Hospital Complex hosted a historic and inspiring event – the first-ever Mental Health Patient Market and Games Day. This ground-breaking initiative brought together patients from P1 to P5 wards (male and female), creating an atmosphere of joy, unity, and celebration of talent.

The day was filled with a variety of fun and engaging activities where patients showcased their creativity, energy, and teamwork. From dance performances, athletics, board games, karaoke, and fun challenges, the event was lively and full of laughter. Patients cheered each other on, while staff members – including occupational therapists, nurses, and doctors – actively participated and supported them throughout the day.

The atmosphere was truly electric, with music, singing, and dance energising the crowd. A highlight of the day was watching patients confidently display their unique talents and skills. Winners from each category proudly received special hampers and prizes, which brought encouragement and joy to all who took part.

Adding to the celebration, a coffee and cake sale was organised to raise funds for patient gifts and refreshments. This initiative not only added sweetness to the day but also reflected the collective commitment of staff in making the event memorable.

The Market and Games Day highlighted the importance of holistic mental health care – recognising that recovery and well-being extend beyond treatment to include joy, social connection, and a sense of community. Both patients and staff expressed a strong desire for such events to be held regularly, at least once a month, given the positive impact on morale and mental wellness.

King Dinuzulu Hospital Complex is proud of this milestone and remains committed to creating supportive environments that promote healing, inclusion, and dignity for all patients



MENTAL WELLNESS DAY 2025 AT KING DINUZULU HOSPITAL COMPLEX

World Mental Health Awareness Programme Highlights the Importance of Accessible Mental Health Services

The Social Work Interns at King Dinuzulu Hospital Complex organized a successful World Mental Health Awareness Programme on 10 October 2025, under the theme “Access to Services – Mental Health in Catastrophes and Emergencies.”

The purpose of this event was to raise awareness about the importance of mental health, especially during disasters, crises, and emergencies. It aimed to educate staff and patients about the need to make mental health services accessible to everyone and to promote emotional resilience during challenging times. The programme also encouraged open discussions about mental well-being, reducing stigma, and supporting those who are struggling.

The event started with an opening prayer and welcoming remarks, followed by an explanation of the purpose of the day. Several informative presentations were delivered by professionals from various departments, focusing on topics such as the importance of early mental health intervention, the role of healthcare workers during crises, and the need for continuous mental health education.

In between the presentations, the audience enjoyed poems and musical performances, which brought comfort, reflection, and inspiration. These creative items reminded everyone that mental health is not only a medical issue but also an emotional and social one that affects every part of life.

A guest speaker gave a motivational message emphasizing the importance of compassion, teamwork, and mental health awareness in the healthcare setting. The programme ended with a vote of thanks and refreshments, where attendees interacted and shared their reflections on the day.

Purpose of the Event

- The World Mental Health Awareness Programme was held to:
- Promote understanding of mental health issues.
- Encourage access to mental health services during catastrophes and emergencies.
- Reduce stigma and discrimination against people with mental health challenges.
- Strengthen collaboration among healthcare professionals in supporting mental health care.
- Remind everyone of the importance of self-care and emotional well-being.

The event was well-organized and inspiring. It successfully achieved its goal of spreading mental health awareness within the hospital and the community, thanks to the dedication and teamwork of the Social Work Interns.



ORAL HEALTH MONTH

Oral Health Month Commemoration Brings Smiles to King Dinuzulu Hospital Complex

On 11 September 2025, the Oral and Dental Training Clinic at King Dinuzulu Hospital Complex commemorated Oral Health Month with an exciting and impactful event dedicated to promoting good oral hygiene among patients.

Throughout the day, the oral health team conducted free oral health screenings for patients visiting various clinics within the hospital. The screenings aimed to raise awareness about the importance of regular dental check-ups, proper brushing techniques, and maintaining healthy oral habits.

To further encourage good oral care, the team also distributed dental care packs containing toothbrushes, toothpaste, and mouthwash to patients. The initiative was well-received and created an atmosphere filled with laughter, smiles, and joy as both staff and patients engaged in meaningful conversations about oral health.

This initiative forms part of King Dinuzulu Hospital Complex's commitment to preventive health care, community engagement, and patient education. The Oral and Dental Training Clinic continues to play a vital role in empowering patients to take charge of their health—one smile at a time.

Free Oral Health Screening for Patients



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Patient safety day commemoration

King Dinuzulu Hospital Complex joined the global community in celebrating World Patient Safety Day on 18 September 2025 at the hospital foyer. The event highlighted the hospital's continued commitment to quality health care and ensuring the safety of every patient, particularly new-borns and children.

The programme began with an opening prayer led by Ms. Tracey Van Niekerk, setting a warm and reflective tone for the day. This was followed by a heartfelt welcome address by Dr. Mabesa, who acknowledged the efforts of all departments and stakeholders in promoting a culture of safety within the hospital.

Delivering the purpose of the day, Dr. Z.F. Dlamini emphasized the importance of teamwork, communication, and continuous vigilance in safeguarding patients. Dr. Dlamini highlighted that patient safety is not just a professional obligation but a moral duty shared by everyone working in health care.

The celebration was vibrant and inclusive, involving multidisciplinary teams and key stakeholders across the hospital. The Paediatric Outpatient Department (POPD) captivated the audience with a beautiful song titled "Safe Care for Every New-born and Every Child," perfectly aligning with the 2025 theme.

Adding an element of creativity and awareness, the Security Department presented a dramatic skit on baby snatching prevention, reinforcing the importance of vigilance and security protocols in all wards. Each department also showcased informative stalls under the motto "Do they Do and Represent," displaying educational materials on patient safety practices.

Ward M performed an engaging skit demonstrating proper infection prevention practices, baby-friendly procedures, and safe care techniques within the Mother and Child (MKC) unit. Their performance educated staff and visitors alike on preventing healthcare-associated infections and promoting safe environments for new-borns.

The event was filled with song, dance, and health education, creating an atmosphere of unity and learning. Dr. T. Mazibuko delivered an insightful presentation on safe care for every new born, elaborating on best practices for early detection of complications, hygiene, and the importance of family-centred care in neonatal safety.

The guest speaker, Dr. Gumede from the eThekweni District Office, delivered a thought-provoking address titled "Patient Safety from the Start." He commended the hospital for its proactive approach and urged all healthcare workers to remain advocates for safety from the very beginning of life. He emphasized that protecting new-borns and children requires not only clinical competence but compassion, accountability, and teamwork.

The programme concluded with a vote of thanks by Mrs. A. Kinsey, who expressed appreciation to management, staff, and all participants for their dedication and creativity in making the day a success. She further encouraged everyone to continue embedding the principles of patient safety into daily practice.

The celebration at King Dinuzulu Hospital Complex was a true reflection of unity in purpose — a reminder that safe care begins with every healthcare worker and every act of service



King Dinuzulu Hospital Complex Celebrates Wellness Day 2025

The staff of King Dinuzulu Hospital Complex (KDHC) gathered on 23 October 2025 to celebrate Complex Wellness Day, held at the Dining Kitchen from 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. The event was organized by the Employee Assistance Programme (EAP) Team, focusing on promoting health, wellness, and self-care among hospital employees.

The main purpose of the day was to encourage staff to take care of their physical, mental, and emotional wellbeing. The EAP Team aimed to create a positive and relaxing environment where employees could step away from their daily work pressures and focus on their personal wellness. The initiative also highlighted the importance of maintaining a healthy lifestyle to ensure better performance and a balanced work-life routine.

Activities of the Day

The Wellness Day was filled with exciting and educational activities that kept staff motivated and engaged. These included:

Aerobics Session: A fun and energizing aerobics class from 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. helped staff stay active and boost their energy levels.

Massage: Staff members enjoyed relaxing massage sessions that helped relieve stress and muscle tension.

Health Screening: Free health checks were provided, including blood pressure and glucose testing, to promote early detection of health risks.

Financial Literacy: A session on financial management taught staff the importance of planning and budgeting for a stable financial future.

The event created a cheerful atmosphere where employees supported each other and shared positive energy throughout the day.

The Complex Wellness Day, organized by the EAP Team, was a great success. It reminded everyone that self-care and wellness are essential parts of a healthy and productive life. The initiative reflected King Dinuzulu Hospital's continued commitment to building a happy, healthy, and motivated workforce.

The day ended with smiles, laughter, and a renewed sense of togetherness truly showing KDHC's spirit of "Growing Healthy Communities Together."



There is no health without mental health; mental health is too important to be left to the professionals alone, and mental health is everyone's business.



KDHC Pharmacy Month 2025 Initiative: Outreach to Collegevale Primary School

As part of the Pharmacy Month 2025 celebrations, the Pharmacy Department at King Dinuzulu Hospital Complex (KDHC) held an outreach event at Collegevale Primary School on 9 August 2025. The theme for this year's celebration was "Think Health, Think Pharmacy: One Profession, Many Roles."

The main purpose of the outreach was to create awareness among young learners about the importance of pharmacy in healthcare and to inspire them to consider careers in the pharmacy field. The event also aimed to teach learners about different health topics, such as asthma, and how to take care of their health from a young age.

The programme started with a warm welcome and a brief explanation of the day's purpose. Learners were introduced to the world of pharmacy and the different career paths available within it.

During the session, presentations were made on topics such as "A Career as a Pharmacist" and "A Career as a Pharmacist Assistant." These talks helped learners understand what pharmacists and their assistants do, their roles in ensuring safe medicine use, and how they help patients every day.

The interns also shared their personal experiences and the journey of studying to become pharmacy professionals. Their stories motivated the learners to work hard and follow their dreams in the health field.

Another important part of the programme focused on health education.

Learners were taught about asthma, including what causes it, how to manage it, and why following treatment instructions is important.

To make the session more exciting, a Questions and Prizes activity was held where learners answered questions and received small rewards. This encouraged participation and helped them remember what they learned.

The event ended with a Vote of Thanks, where appreciation was given to the school, staff, and learners for their cooperation and enthusiasm.

The outreach was a great success as it combined learning, motivation, and fun. It helped young learners gain knowledge about health and the pharmacy profession while strengthening KDHC's role in promoting health awareness in the community.



HERITAGE DAY CELEBRATION 2025

King Dinuzulu Hospital Complex (KDHC) proudly celebrated Heritage Day on the 26th of September 2025 in the hospital foyer. The event was organized to honour South Africa's rich and diverse cultural heritage, allowing staff, patients, and visitors to showcase and celebrate their traditions through clothing, music, and dance.

The main purpose of the celebration was to promote cultural awareness, unity, and pride among the hospital community. It aimed to encourage everyone to embrace and appreciate the different cultural backgrounds represented within KDHC, fostering a sense of belonging and togetherness among staff and patients alike.

The day began with a warm welcome from hospital management, who highlighted the significance of Heritage Day in recognising South Africa's diversity and celebrating the nation's cultural richness. Staff members, patients, and visitors attended in traditional attire, representing various South African cultures and traditions. The vibrant outfits added colour and excitement to the event, making the day truly memorable.

Throughout the celebration, attendees enjoyed a variety of performances and activities. Traditional dances and songs were performed by staff volunteers, showcasing the uniqueness of South African culture. Storytelling sessions were held, where participants shared stories and histories from their cultural backgrounds, promoting learning and mutual respect. Interactive cultural quizzes and games were also conducted, encouraging participation and friendly competition among attendees.

Special gifts and tokens of appreciation were handed out to participants who actively engaged in the activities, as well as to performers who contributed to the success of the event. The celebration also provided an opportunity for staff to network, share experiences, and strengthen relationships across different departments.

The Heritage Day Celebration at KDHC was a joyful, educational, and unifying event. It reminded everyone of the value of diversity and the importance of respecting and celebrating South Africa's cultural heritage in everyday life. By embracing their traditions, participants not only enriched their own understanding but also contributed to building a harmonious and culturally aware hospital community.

KDHC Celebrates Heritage Day What a Joyful, Educational and Unifying moment.



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Heritage Day Celebration



We are many culture but one heartbeat of care



OUR CULTURE ,OUR STREANGHT,OUR PRIDE



KDHC came together in colours ,songs in spirit to celebrate our south Africa



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Spinal Symposium 2025 **Improving Spinal Care Through MDT Intervention**

The Spinal Orthopaedic Team at King Dinuzulu Hospital Complex (KDHC) hosted a successful event called the Spinal Symposium 2025 on the 16th of October 2025 at the Dental Lecture Room. The event was directed by Ms. N. Singh, who served as the Programme Director.

The main purpose of the symposium was to promote learning, teamwork, and collaboration among different healthcare professionals to improve spinal care services at KDHC. It aimed to encourage the use of the Multidisciplinary Team (MDT) approach, where doctors, nurses, physiotherapists, occupational therapists, dietitians, and social workers work together to provide holistic care to patients with spinal conditions. The symposium also provided a platform for knowledge sharing and professional development, helping staff members stay updated with the latest medical information and treatment methods.

The day began with registration and a warm welcome by Dr. J. Mabusha, who opened the event by emphasizing the importance of unity and cooperation among hospital departments. Several presentations were delivered by experienced professionals, covering topics such as Spinal Tuberculosis, Spinal Tumours, Pain Management, Holistic Nursing Management, Wound Care, and Rehabilitation in Spinal Care. Each presentation was informative and helped attendees gain deeper understanding of how to handle spinal cases more effectively.

To make the day more engaging, interactive games were played between sessions. These games helped participants relax, laugh, and build stronger relationships across departments. The activities promoted teamwork and made the atmosphere lively and enjoyable.

Ms. N. Singh added a special touch to the programme by rewarding participants who actively engaged in discussions. Gifts were handed out to those who asked or answered questions during the presentations. All guest presenters also received appreciation gifts for their valuable contributions and for sharing their expertise.

Lunch and tea breaks were provided, allowing participants to network and discuss what they had learned during the sessions. The day ended with a vote of thanks by Matron Maphumulo, who expressed gratitude to all organizers, presenters, and attendees for their support and participation. She also encouraged everyone to continue working together to improve patient care and uphold the hospital's commitment to excellence.

The Spinal Symposium 2025 was both educational and inspiring. It strengthened teamwork within the hospital and reminded staff of the importance of continuous learning and professional collaboration. Through such initiatives, KDHC continues to promote quality healthcare and improve the standard of spinal care services for all patients.

Improving Spinal Care Through MDT Intervention



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Miss Amanda Mazibuko PRO Intern



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- **Identity document**
- **Proof of address**
- **Pension card**
- **Medical aid card and next of kin contact details**
- **Referral letter**
- **Under 18 must be accompanied by parent .**
- **all patients are requested to pay fees on admission.**
 - **Visiting hours**
 - **13H00 14H00**
 - **17H00—18H00**



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