



KWAZULU-NATAL PROVINCE
HEALTH
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

LADYSMITH REGIONAL HOSPITAL

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NEWS

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Dec. 2024 – MAY2025

AYANDA MSWELI VISITS THE YOUNG TRAGEDY SURVIVOR



Dr M.E. Pule, Mr Ayanda Msweli and Mrs T. M. Buthelezi



**HOD FOR KZN TRANSPORT
VISITS YOUNG TRAGEDY
SURVIVOR**



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**GROWING
KWAZULU-NATAL
TOGETHER**

AYANDA MSWELI VISITS THE YOUNG TRAGEDY SURVIVOR

LADYSMITH REGIONAL HOSPITAL



From left to right: Dr M.E. Pule, Mr Ayanda Msweli and Mrs T. M. Buthelezi

Ayanda Msweli, a respected traffic anchor at Ukhozi FM, founder of the Ayanda Msweli Foundation, and well-known for his selfless acts of kindness through the IBHAKEDE initiative, recently visited a survivor of a tragic accident. The accident, which occurred on the Van Reenen Pass, involved a collision between a truck and a minibus (quantum), claiming the lives of seventeen individuals who died at the scene.

The Head of Department (HOD) for KZN Transport, Mr Siboniso Mbhele and traffic officers also visited the young survivor of the tragedy to offer support during this difficult time and wished for a speedy recovery for the child. Their visit was aimed at offering support to the young survivor and families affected by this incident.

The young survivor, who had been assessed at the Accident and Emergency Unit following the accident, was thoroughly examined by medical officers. After a careful assessment, the child was transferred to Ward 8 for further care. Fortunately, the child's condition is stable and is recovering well under the dedicated care of the medical staff.

This visit by Ayanda Msweli not only highlights his personal commitment to making a positive difference but also underscores the significance of community support, compassion, and solidarity during difficult times. His actions continue to serve as an inspiring example of how one individual can bring hope and healing to others, even in the wake of such devastating events. Through his ongoing efforts, Ayanda Msweli reminds us that kindness, empathy, and unity can help those in need rebuild their lives and find strength in difficult times.

DISASTER PREPAREDNESS DRILL

Ladysmith Regional hospital

On December 13, 2024, Ladysmith Regional hospital disaster team organized a disaster preparedness drill. This mock simulation aimed to test how hospital staff would respond to a real disaster. The scenario simulated a two-car collision on Helpmekaar Road, with the status of the casualties unknown. The primary objective was to evaluate the hospital's readiness to handle such emergencies.

Following the drill, a debriefing session was held where participants shared their experiences and made suggestions for improving disaster response at the hospital. The exercise reminded staff of their roles and responsibilities in emergencies, including key actions such as issuing triage stickers (red, green, and orange) to categorize patients, managing crowd control, broadcasting disaster announcements, etc.

The deployment of medical staff from various units was also emphasized, with each unit contributing at least two team members or equipment, such as blood pressure monitors, depending on the incident's scale.

Dr. Pule commended the actors for their realistic performance and stressed that disaster response requires collective effort from all hospital units, not just the Accident and Emergency unit. He described the drill as the first step in identifying areas for improvement, with the final goal of enhancing the hospital's overall emergency preparedness.

The drill was an eye-opener for many, highlighting the importance of being ready for various types of disasters, such as fires or floods.



Doctors assisting red code patients



Security guards restraining trauma patient



Doctors stabilising trauma patient

DISASTER PREPAREDNESS DRILL CONT..

During the debriefing session, Mr. Grobblers, an independent auditor, provided additional insights and recommendations to refine the hospital's emergency response plan. He emphasized that communication is the cornerstone of effective disaster management. He suggested that every unit or section should have at least one designated communication officer on the floor during a disaster to facilitate coordination on the ground.

He further advised that security guards should prioritize restraining trauma patients rather than pursuing them. Another recommendation was to ensure that prominent staff members wear jackets that distinguish them from others. This would make it easier for people to identify key personnel, such as the trauma doctor, Public Relations Officer (PRO), CEO, Accident & Emergency Operational Manager etc.

Dr. Pule concluded by thanking everyone for their participation and reviews, emphasizing that there is always room for improvement.



PRO leasing with the media



Stable patient waiting to be assessed by doc-

LRH CELEBRATING NEW-BORN BABIES BORN ON CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR'S DAY



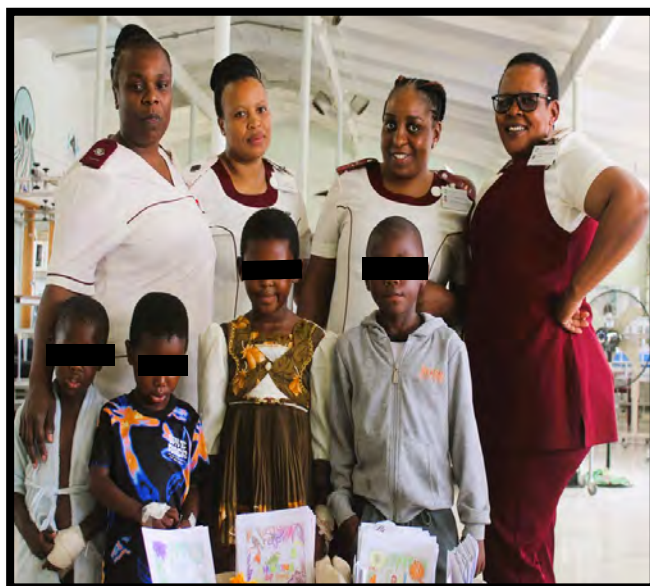
The hospital, known for its caring staff, organized a celebration for the new-borns. Babies born on these two special days were given extra warmth and joy with thoughtful gifts, such as plush teddy bears, bathtub, clothes, and other baby essentials. Ladysmith Regional Hospital staff, including nurses, doctors, and support workers, took pride in calling these babies "holiday miracles."

LRH CELEBRATING NEW-BORN BABIES BORN ON CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR'S DAY CONT....

We know that giving birth during the holidays is extra special, and we wanted to make it even more memorable with these gifts and our heartfelt congratulations. Patients were touched by the thoughtful gesture and expressed their gratitude for the hospital's effort to make their new-borns first days even more meaningful. The celebration was a reminder of the joy that these babies bring to their families and the community at large. One of the parent mentioned that it feels so good to be part of something positive.

The tradition of celebrating babies born on Christmas and New Year's Day is a heart-warming example of how Ladysmith Regional Hospital continues to create lasting memories for patients. As parents leave with their new-borns, they will always remember the care and love their little ones received on the day they were born. In a busy world, this gesture is a reminder of the beauty of new beginnings and the importance of community during the holiday season.

MKHAMBA PRIMARY LEARNERS SPREAD JOY TO PEDIATRIC PATIENTS WITH HEARTFELT GESTURES



FLOWERS AND CARDS DRAWN BY LEARNERS FROM MKHAMBA PRIMARY SCHOOL

In a heartwarming display of kindness and compassion, learners from Mkhamba Primary School recently visited the pediatric ward, brightening the day for children undergoing treatment. The learners brought with them colorful flowers and handmade cards, each carrying well-wishes for a speedy recovery.

The thoughtful gesture was a ray of sunshine for the young patients who are currently receiving care at the hospital. The flowers, vibrant and fresh, added a splash of color to the sterile hospital environment, and the personalized cards served as a reminder of the love and support surrounding the children during their stay. The learners heartfelt wishes and artwork were received with smiles, providing both comfort and encouragement to the children. For many of these young patients, the experience of being in a hospital can be overwhelming and intimidating. However, the thoughtful gestures from the learners brought moments of joy, helping to ease the emotional toll that often accompanies illness.

This act of kindness highlights the power of community involvement in supporting the well-being of children. The hospital staff expressed their gratitude for Mkhamba Primary's generosity and noted that acts of kindness like this go a long way in creating a welcoming and supportive environment for children receiving care. In turn, the children who received flowers and cards were not only uplifted by the physical gifts but by the fact that someone cares about their recovery. The Mkhamba Primary learners visit reminds us all of the importance of community support, especially when it comes to the health and recovery of our youngest patients.

N3 TOLLS, SHARAJ AMBULANCES & SAPS BRING JOY TO PAEDIATRIC WARD

On April 10, 2025, N3 Tolls, in collaboration with SAPS and Sharaj ambulances embarked on a truly heart-warming mission that not only brought smiles to the faces of the patients at Ladysmith Hospital but also demonstrated the power of kindness and community support. This initiative, which took place just before the Easter holidays, was a touching reminder that sometimes, the smallest acts of kindness can have the most significant impact on people's lives.

In a world that often feels rushed and disconnected, it is truly remarkable when organizations come together for the good of others. The partnership between N3 Tolls, Sharaj ambulances and SAPS for this visit was a beautiful reflection of unity between civil service and corporate responsibility. While N3 Tolls is primarily known for managing and maintaining one of South Africa's most vital roadways, their presence in communities extends far beyond the road. SAPS, whose core responsibility is to serve and protect, showed that protection also includes emotional and community support especially for the vulnerable.

The team from N3 Tolls, Sharaj ambulances and SAPS arrived with an assortment of thoughtful gifts—teddy bears, snacks, and refreshing juice. These simple yet meaningful items were intended to brighten the day of each patient, offering comfort and a sense of normalcy amid the hospital environment. The teddy bear, soft and cuddly, symbolized warmth and safety, a reminder that there is always something gentle and caring in the world, even when life feels uncertain. The snacks provided a little taste of comfort, while the juice served as a refreshing treat, helping to rejuvenate both body and spirit.

Easter is a time that holds deep significance for many, representing themes of renewal, hope, and resurrection. For the patients at Ladysmith Hospital, it was a poignant time to reflect on their own journeys toward recovery.



Sharaj Ambulances handing over gifts to patients



N3 Tolls representative handing over gifts



N3 TOLLS, SHARAJ AMBULANCES AND SAPS BRING JOY TO LRH'S PAEDIATRIC WARDS CONT...

In a place where healing often comes in quiet moments and slow progress, the visit from N3 Tolls, Sharaj Ambulances and SAPS was a reminder that they were not alone. The kind gestures, the thoughtful gifts, and the time spent with the patients helped to lift their spirits and renew their sense of hope. The team from N3 Tolls, Sharaj ambulances and SAPS didn't just drop off gifts and leave, they took the time to engage with the patients, offering kind words and well-wishes for a speedy recovery.

N3 Tolls, together with SAPS, is known for its commitment to supporting the communities it serves, and this visit was an excellent example of their ongoing dedication to social responsibility. While tolling may be their primary business, N3 Tolls and Sharaj Ambulances recognize the importance of giving back to the community. Their involvement in charitable activities such as this one serves as a testament to their values, which extend far beyond infrastructure development, road management, and patient transport.

The visit to Ladysmith Regional Hospital was not just a one-time event. The patients who received the teddy bears, snacks, and juice may find themselves passing on the kindness to others when they are well. The hospital staff, who witnessed the thoughtful gestures, may feel encouraged to continue providing the best care for their patients. The visitors and families at the hospital may be inspired to support those in need, creating a cycle of generosity and compassion.

In the weeks leading up to Easter, many other organizations and individuals will find their own ways to give back to those in need. Whether it's through donating time, resources, or simply offering a kind word, there are countless ways to show compassion. As the world becomes more interconnected, it's important to remember that even small acts of kindness can create lasting change. The visit by N3 Tolls to Ladysmith Regional Hospital serves as a shining example of how we can all make a difference in the lives of others.



Patients receiving gifts

NEW RENAL UNIT BRINGS SPECIALIZED CARE CLOSER TO UTHUKELA



DR M.E. PULE AND RENAL UNIT STAFF



REVERSE OSMOSIS

A Milestone for Ladysmith Hospital and the People of Uthukela District

Ladysmith Hospital is proud to share the successful establishment of its Renal Unit, a vital addition to specialized healthcare services in the Uthukela District. The unit officially began operations on 24 July 2023, initially located near the ICU. In January 2024, it was relocated to a more spacious and purpose-fitted area in the Day Ward, offering an improved environment for both patients and staff.

The Renal Unit now operates from 07:00 to 16:00, Monday to Saturday, and is under the expert supervision of Dr S. Chinasamy, Head Clinical Unit: Internal Medicine and specialist nephrologist. Operational oversight is provided by the ICU team, ensuring high-quality, integrated patient care.

The success of this development would not have been possible without the collaborative efforts of several departments. The Provincial Infrastructure Development Unit played a pivotal role in ensuring the timely completion of renovations and the installation of the Reverse Osmosis (RO) water system, which were finalized in December 2023 to accommodate the unit's move.

In a significant boost to the unit's capacity, three

brand-new dialysis machines were delivered in March 2025 and successfully installed by the end of April 2025. Fresenius, the supplier, will conduct a three-day training session for staff from 14 to 16 May 2025 to ensure optimal use of the new equipment.

Currently, the unit provides acute dialysis services, with plans underway to ensure all chronic dialysis patients from Uthukela District who are currently accessing services at Greys Hospital, are accommodated with effect 1 August 2025.

This new service marks a turning point for the district, providing residents with access to specialized renal care closer to home, improving health outcomes and overall quality of life.

This milestone achievement is a testament to the power of teamwork and shared vision. I wish to extend my sincere gratitude to the Senior Management Team, Mr Sir Tshabalala (Assistant Nursing Manager), Dr S. Chinasamy, the ICU staff, Hospital Maintenance Team, and the Provincial Infrastructure Development Unit for their unwavering support and dedication.

Written By: Dr. M.E. Pule

Acting Chief Executive Officer

METHODIST CHURCH OF SOUTH AFRICA BRINGS COMFORT AND CARE TO LRH PATIENTS

In a touching display of care and community spirit, the Methodist Church of South Africa made a heartfelt visit to the Ladysmith regional Hospital, extending compassion and generosity to the patients in need.

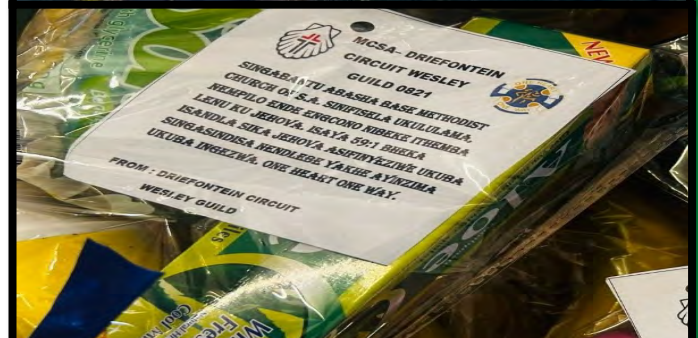
The outreach initiative was part of the church's initiative ongoing commitment to serving communities and supporting wellbeing of the sick and vulnerable.

During the visit, church members distributed essential care items including sanitary pads, a variety of toiletries, and fresh fruits to patients across several wards. These small yet impactful gift were received with gratitude and joy, as they not only addressed practical needs but also lifted spirit.

The visit was marked by warm interactions, kind words, prayer, and words of encouragement shared with both patients and healthcare staff. The church members expressed their appreciation for the hard work and dedication of the hospital staff, acknowledging their tireless effort in caring for the community.

This kind act reminded patients that they are not forgotten and reflected the Methodist Church's commitment to caring for others with compassion. Through this outreach, the church continues to bring hope and support to the Ladysmith community.

The Hospital Management is thankful to the church for its thoughtful visit and the contribution made to our patients.



LADYSMITH HOSPITAL CELEBRATES WORLD HAND HYGENE DAY

On the 7th May 2025, Ladysmith regional hospital joined the world in commemorating the Global Hand hygiene day with a lively campaign focused on education, engagement, and the life saving power of clean hands.

The hospital hosted the spirited events to raise awareness about proper hand hygiene among staff, patients and visitors.

The program kicked off with an opening speech by health care professionals who heightened the “**FIVE MOMENTS FOR HAND HYGENE**”. These five key points indicate when a health care workers should clean their hands to prevent the spread of infections or germs. They are:

- **before touching the patient,**
- **before clean or aseptic procedure,**
- **after body fluid exposure/risk,**
- **after touching the patient and**
- **touching patient surrounding.**

The speakers also clarified the five essential steps of hand washing: wet, lather, scrub, rinse and dry - emphasizing that consistent, thorough hand hygiene is everyone's responsibility, not just the health care professionals

To make the event more memorable and accessible, staff performed a fun and educational dance routine that demonstrated the proper hand washing technique in rhythm with catch music. This creative approach drew smiles and applause from the crowd and helped people of all ages remember the steps.



LADYSMITH HOSPITAL CELEBRATES WORLD HAND HYGENE DAY CONT...

The celebration continued with walkabout through the wards, where organisers interacted directly with patients and visitors. Participants were quizzed on hand hygiene facts and those who answered correctly were rewarded with handy giveaways including pocket size sanitizers, and branded pans - small yet practical tokens to encourage daily hygiene habits.

This days was more then just creating awareness; its about reminding everyone that cleans hands saves lives, said one of the organisers in a fun and meaningful way. This campaign showcased its dedication to infection control and community health through education, engagement and empowerment, reminding everyone that clean hands truly do save lives.

Ladysmith Regional hospital thanks all its participant and looks forward to making the next years campaign even bigger.



COMPLIMENTS

I am writing to express my heartfelt gratitude and appreciation for the exceptional care and support you provided to our mother during her recent stay at Ladysmith Provincial Hospital both night & day shift staff at Ward 4 Bed no 5. From the moment of her admission from the MPD, GOPD until the day of her discharge, the level of professionalism, compassion, and dedication shown by each of you was truly remarkable. Throughout her stay, we witnessed the tremendous effort and expertise that went into ensuring her well-being. Whether it was the attentiveness of the nursing staff, the careful monitoring by the doctors, or the support provided by the entire healthcare team, your unwavering commitment made a significant difference although she is slowly recovering at home while awaiting CT scan results to determine the cause of her illness.

Sicela uchaze isehlakalo noma unikeze isincomo noma wenze isiphakamiso.
* Lapho kunokwenzeka khona bhalisa/rekhoda nabasebenzi ababandakanyekayo kanye nomnyango lapho isehlakalo senzeke khona.

Usuku okwenzeka ngalo isehlakalo:

Ngifika mhlaka 20 March 2025 esibhedlela
Sase Mnambithi ngafika ngilungu zwe INyoka
Emte Onyaweni kodwa ngaluthola lonke usizo
okufanele ngithole onesi bakhona bangiphatha
kahle kakhulu.

Sicela uchaze isehlakalo noma unikeze isincomo noma wenze isiphakamiso.
* Lapho kunokwenzeka khona bhalisa/rekhoda nabasebenzi ababandakanyekayo kanye nomnyango lapho isehlakalo senzeke khona.

Usuku okwenzeka ngalo isehlakalo:

NGIYU PHETHILE MABUKO EBMFADI
NGITHI ANGENDLULISE OKUKHULU UKUBONGA
NGEMPADU ESIZINIKWE ABALINGIKAZI ABABONGA
ENA EMINI KUNYE NABABONGENA EBUSUKU
NISIYATHI KAHLE KAKHULU UTHANDO NESINEKE
ENINGIPHE SONA ENIKWENZILE NGATHI NINGAKHWE
NZA KWABANJE UJGHOVA ANIBINGELE NJALO
KUSUKA MHLAKA 06 NGINGENA KUWA WARD 2 KWAZE
KWADA MHLAKA 10 NGIPHUMA BENQITHI NIE
ISANDLA SIDULI KHANDA NIKHULE NIZE NIKHOKHO
BO NABO BONE ODDOKTELA ABEPHUMA BENQITHI
KUNYE NAMAKHUNA NINGAKHOKHO ABEPHUMA KELA
KWANDE ZINGANE ZAKHULU SITABONGA.

RA MABUKO
Isiginisha yomuntu ofaka isikhalazo
noma orekhoda isincomo noma owenza isiphakamiso

RA MABUKO
Isiginisha yesiguli

Sicela uchaze isehlakalo noma unikeze isincomo noma wenze isiphakamiso.
* Lapho kunokwenzeka khona bhalisa/rekhoda nabasebenzi ababandakanyekayo kanye nomnyango lapho isehlakalo senzeke khona.

Usuku okwenzeka ngalo isehlakalo:

Ngiyabonga kakhulu emphelelweni engiyenzile
odokotela bakakhiya bengenza i-operation
ezizima kodwa indlela ehambengayo ike
Perfect. Bengisaba ngenta yobucayi be Operation
ngiphinde neibange amangeli a very supportive
banginike ne counselling, bechulelwa kuhomano
engathi bangagumbeka benjane bonke
abasebenzi bany mphathu. Isizathu sokusika
lokha bengiphulelwe i-medical aid ngezwa
kuthiwa sibhedlela sika-hospitali asiphathani
kahle kodwa nina ngilufakazi bekumandla
ngiyabonga kakhulu kuba phathu bonke
J. P. Mhlango

Isiginisha yomuntu ofaka isikhalazo
noma orekhoda isincomo noma owenza isiphakamiso

Isiginisha yesiguli

Please describe the complaint or give a compliment or make a suggestion.

* Where possible also record the staff involved and department where the incident took place.

Date on which the incident took place:

I would like to appreciate Dr
BW. Sibys for his good, excellent
service.

PICTURE GALLERY



Christmas new-born baby



New year new-born baby



Ayanda Msweli visit the young tragedy



HOD FOR KZN TRANSPORT VISITS YOUNG TRAGEDY SURVIVOR

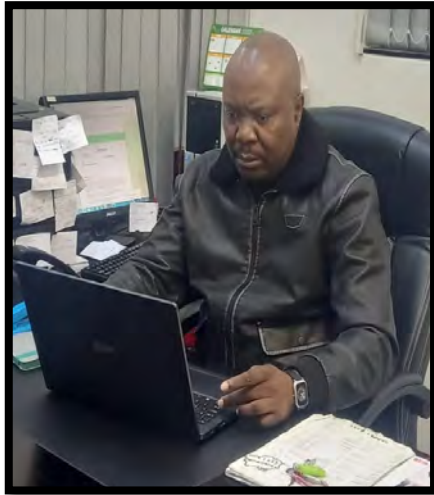


Colourful flowers and cards from Mkhamba primary School



Colourful flowers and cards from Mkhamba primary School

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS



MR. A.T. SITHOLE
EDITOR



MS. N.B. KHUMALO
PRO INTERN

***PLEASE INFORM THE OFFICE OF THE PRO IF YOU HAVE ANY UPCOMING
EVENT OR CAMPAIGN***



KWAZULU-NATAL PROVINCE
HEALTH
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

CONTACT DETAILS

PHYSICAL ADDRESS:

36 Malcom Road
Ladysmith
3370

SWITCHBOARD:

036 637 2111

FAX NUMBER:

036 637 6457

POSTAL ADDRESS:

Private Bag X 9928
Ladysmith
3370



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