



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

PROVINCE OF KWAZULU-NATAL

CORPORATE COMMUNICATION SERVICES

Natalia, 330 Longmarket Street, Pietermaritzburg, 3201
Private Bag X9051, Pietermaritzburg, 3200
Tel.: 033 395 2220, Fax.: 033 3420429
thusim@dohho.kzntl.gov.za

TO: ALL MEDIA

DATE: 28 OCTOBER 2005

EMBARGO: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

TRIBUTE TO HOME BASED COMMUNITY HEALTH CARE WORKERS

Everyday thousands of people are too sick to even go to a hospital or clinic. Many of them live alone or with children who are unable to give them the care they need. They have no-one to bathe them, feed them or change their wound dressing. This is where a special cadre of healthworker comes in, the cadre called home-based care givers, and on Tuesday, 1 November KwaZulu-Natal MEC for Health Mrs. Neliswa Peggy Nkonyeni and her department will pay tribute to these workers.

On this day the Department of Health will acknowledge the dedication, contribution and hard work of 1000 home based carers in the Umzinyathi District. The event will also double up as a graduation of 280 Community Health Care Workers who have undergone year-long training in home based care. training for a year.

The media are invited to attend and report on this event as follows:

DATE: TUESDAY 1 NOVEMBER 2005,

TIME: 10H00AM – 13H00

VENUE: SIBONGILE STADIUM, DUNDEE

Transport is available and will leave Playhouse in Durban, 6:00am. RSVP to Ms Roz Jordan on 082 7726 836 or Ms Lindiwe Khuzwayo on 083 393 9943.



A COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKER

The Community health worker is able to:

- Provide Health Promotion and Education at household level.
- Refer to relevant Departments those needing to.
- Identify areas of potential danger or hazard and report to relevant departments.
- Initiate and support community based development projects
- Liaison between community and Department of Health
- Advocacy and Marketing for Department of Health at community level.
- Community mobilization against diseases and ill health through awareness campaigns, health promotional material, word-of mouth, role modelling, etc.
- Counselling, support, passionate caring, stress relief etc.
- DOTS – directly supervised treatment support
- Home Based Care
- Screening of Health related cards for compliance or default
- Assesses health status of all family members and give advice.
- Weighs infants and babies and record in the Road to Health Card.
- Provide PMTCT support at household level.

ENDS

For more information please contact Mrs. Lindiwe Khuzwayo on 083 393 9943