



# 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

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**TO: ALL MEDIA**

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**EMBARGO: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## WORLD AIDS DAY 2005

Khomanani appeals to South Africans to remember the importance of this day and to take action on the day – as well as throughout the year. Under the theme "A Nation Caring for Life", members of the public are being mobilised to care for themselves and those around them by talking, testing, practising safe sex and helping the affected.

**Media are invited to support and participate in the following build-up activities and plans for the national World AIDS Day event in Durban:**

As a build up to 1 December, thousands of health workers, health activists, community workers and members of the public will join hands to form a **human chain** as a display of solidarity in the face of HIV and AIDS. The chain will be formed at the **Durban Town Hall, 12h00, Tuesday 29 November**.

**At 08h00, on 30 November at the Clermont Catholic Church in Durban**, Health Minister Dr Manto Tshabalala-Msimang will be hosted at a breakfast by the St Clermont Home Based Care Project (funded by the Eskom Foundation). The breakfast will serve as a **media and stakeholder briefing session on the World AIDS Day** programme and activities and the **media will be given press passes for the national World AIDS Day** event at King's Park Stadium on 1 December. If you are unable to attend the briefing but would like to attend the national event on 1 December, please contact Priya or Tebogo for information and passes.

**On 1 December, the Department of Health will host the national event at King's Park Stadium in Durban, Kwa-Zulu Natal. Programme is from 10h00 until 13h30**, and it will feature the Minister of Health, provincial Premier and Health MEC and local Mayors, as well as well known entertainers, including one of South Africa's most popular artists, Thandiswa Mazwai. The event is expected to attract 10 000 people. World AIDS Day and other health calendar events are one of the activities used by Khomanani and its partners to educate South Africans about HIV, AIDS, STIs and TB messages.



As is the case with the human chain on 29 November, guests and community members are being encouraged to wear something red (eg a red t-shirt, a red ribbon pin) to bolster a sense of unity.

ENDS.

**For more information please contact, Lindiwe Khuzwayo on 083 393 9943 or Tebogo Matlou on 083 435 0957 or Priya Maharaj on 082 921 6442**