



CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS

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TO: ALL MEDIA
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EMBARGO: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MEC FOR HEALTH AND uKHOZI RADIO TO PROMOTE HIV TESTING IN VRYHEID

The MEC for Health in KwaZulu Natal, Ms. Peggy Nkonyeni, together with the Management of uKhozi Radio will on Friday the 26th January 2007 officially open the Voluntary Counseling and Testing (VCT) non medical site in Bhekuzulu Township, Vryheid. This is part of the campaign that was launched by the MEC on the 24th January 2006 at Wentworth Hospital.

The MEC will be challenging all leaders from various sectors of civil society to play a leading role in the fight against the disease. She will be saying; *"Knowledge is Power: I know my Status, Do you?"* This follows her public testing together with members of the provincial legislature, the Head of Department, Senior Managers of the department of health and the Management of uKhozi radio.

At this event uKhozi DJs, Musicians and District Managers of the department will also publicly test after undergoing counseling. This is to show that knowing ones status is responsible. At the launch the MEC had challenged men to come forward and lead the nation in the fight against HIV as well as to care and support for those living with the virus.

Transport to the event has been arranged and you are requested to book your seat with **Slondiwe Hadebe** at **079 523 8358**.

The details of the launch are as follows:

DATE : **FRIDAY, 26 JANUARY 2007**
TIME : **08h00 am - 15H00 pm**
VENUE : **BHEKUZULU TOWNSHIP**
VRYHEID

*(Transport departs from Playhouse, Smith Street,
Durban at 06h00 sharp!)*

The media is invited to attend and report on this event.

ENDS

For more information please contact Mr. Leon Mbangwa on 083 459 8695