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Clinic to help curb teenage pregnancy in rural Nongoma

His Majesty the King, Goodwill Zwelithini has thanked KZN Health MEC, Dr Sibongiseni Dhlomo for building a clinic in the Usuthu area at Nongoma.

The R25 million facility was initially built in 1968 but due to its size and limit in the number of services it offered had to be rebuild and was completed in April this year.

During the official opening on Thursday, September 8, the King admonished young girls who at an early age run to have sex instead of remaining celibate as per Umkhosi Womhlanga prescripts. He said he hopes the Clinic would help in decreasing teenage pregnancy and illegal abortions that the nation has seen growing.

In handing over the clinic, MEC Dhlomo thanked the King for His continuous interest in the health being of His subjects, saying:

‘As a nation we feel very blessed that we have a Monarch that over the years has shown interest in the good health of its citizens.

Today as we again converge here to open the New Usuthu Clinic for close to 12 000 citizens, we thank His Majesty the King, Zwelithini, ka Bhekuzulu for insuring that no-one here dies prematurely because they now have this beautiful health facility which offers:



- Reproductive Health and family planning
- Pregnancy management (Antenatal, Perinatal and Postnatal)
- Integrated Management of Childhood illnesses that include Immunization and weight monitoring
- Adolescent and youth friendly services
- HIV and AIDS as well as Sexually transmitted infections management
- Oral care
- Management and treatment of communicable diseases; common illnesses; Chronic care and geriatric diseases

- Diagnosis and referral of rabies
- Mental health care services as well as,
- Recruitment for circumcision

The Usuthu Clinic offers its health services on a 24 hour basis and is visited by a Doctor from Benedictine Hospital twice a month. it also services three mobile points for hard to reach areas and is supported by the Health System Trust, an NGO that visits once a month to help with ARV initiation and Prevention of Mother To Child Transmission of HIV Management
ENDS

Pictures by Themba Mngomezulu