



SIGN LANGUAGE GRADUATES



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It was an opportunity of a lifetime when 20 staffers were taught sign language by St. Martins de Pores Comprehensive School. On this day they were awarded certificates after passing the exams.

Staffers had to attend classes twice a week for 1 month. These classes aimed at improving communication between staff and deaf/mute clients since departments are regularly assessed if they have a functional system in place of attending to deaf, blind, foreign and illiterate patients.

Management would like to forward heartfelt gratitude to St Martins school, teachers and Sister Lydia Potocka (deputy principal at St Martins) who made this initiative possible.

Thank you to delegates for your dedication and contribution towards this exercise.

REHAB TEAM PAINTED THE CRÈCHE



From the front:
Jade Rocher, Kirsten
Bennett, Kerryn
Simons, and Tarren
'tHart

In 2008 the Community Service Therapists identified the need to initiate a quality improvement project involving general stimulation of children in the crèche who were not referred for individual therapy.

Many of these children spent at least 2 weeks in hospital, and therefore were removed from their normal home/school environment and were not receiving the necessary physical, perceptual and cognitive stimulation they required to ensure normal development. A weekly stimulation program was launched.

This involved weekly sessions presented by 2 therapists of the multidisciplinary team including Occupational Therapists, Physiotherapists, Audiologists, Speech Therapists and Dieticians. The aim of this program was also to equip staff working in the crèche with skills and ideas to ensure the children receive appropriate stimulation on a daily basis

This project continued to flourish in 2009. In 2010, Nurse Gumbi approached the Rehab Team with an idea to paint the outside of the crèche. The Community Service Therapists agreed that with careful planning, this task would further enhance development of these children. Specific designs were chosen to develop cognitive skills such as counting, colour and shape identification; perceptual skills such as object constancy and figure grounds and fine motor skills such as writing.

Tarren 't Hart, the Community Service Occupational Therapist spearheaded the project and secured sponsorship of paints and brushes. These were kindly sponsored by Ideal Homes Estate Agency in Umtentweni and a painter by the name of Ian Kuhn.

We would like to take the opportunity to acknowledge the Community Service Therapists for their enthusiasm and dedication to continuously improving Rehab service delivery. Thank you also to the sponsors who make these endeavours possible. Beside painting the crèche the therapists also coordinated other health awareness campaigns such as stroke awareness week, deaf awareness week breastfeeding week, garden projects and more.

Article written by Tara Pretorius (physiotherapist)

MMC CAMPAIGNS



Picture was taken at the post procedure room on 08 April 2011



GS Shazi & M Bixi attending to a patient during the circumcision campaign

Members of the community who are interested on being circumcised can contact Casualty department on 039 687 7311.

Murchison has hosted numerous successful MMC Campaigns. The community response to the call is and continue to be overwhelming.

These MMC campaigns are coordinated from the clinics where a patient gets tested for HIV/aids and is booked for circumcision procedure which is done at the hospital every Mondays and Fridays. Clinics play a major role in mobilizing the communities. EMRS provided transport for patients

In addition to weekly circumcision massive campaigns are coordinated. Three massive campaigns have been coordinated from January 2011 and were scheduled as follows:-

- ◆ 14 January at Imbunde clinic 37 males were circumcised
- ◆ 28 January at Izingolweni Clinic 48 males were circumcised
- ◆ 08 April at the hospital 97 patients were circumcised.

Two major winter campaigns are due on 27 June and 04 July 2011.

During the campaigns upon arrival detailed health education is given which also clarify the myths related to circumcision such as circumcised males cannot be affected by HIV/AIDS, etc.

Participants are told that this is an initiative to reduce sexual transmitted diseases, educators emphasize that people must practice safe sex at all times.

The MMC and HCT teams are commended for ensuring that this campaign runs smoothly .

COMMEMORATING NURSES DAY



Left picture

All nursing personnel that were in attendance cited the nurses pledge that was lead by and Operational managers.

Below picture:

L-R: Dr H Nel (Medical Manager), Pastor P Mwape and Mrs. BL Ngesi (CEO)

On Thursday, 12 May 2011 on the international nurses day, Murchison Hospital hosted a remarkable nurses day event.

The purpose of the event was to give a platform to delegates who attended nursing summit in April to give a report from the summit.

Nursing management wanted to do this report given as a special and also acknowledge nursing for their hard work and being able to rise above challenges and honor the nursing profession.



Mr K EManyokole and Ms NP Nodunyelwa were delegated to attend the summit. Ms Nodunyelwa stated that the main theme of the summit was **revitalizing the nursing profession for a long and healthy life for all South Africans**. She gave a heartfelt presentation and emphasized the importance of giving the nursing profession the dignity that it deserves and she further reminded us what the profession represents.

Mr KE Manyonkolo emphasized that every day should be made an important day through caring and that good quality care should be given to our people. We should follow suite to historical nurses such as Cecilia Makiwane who give a remarkable inspiration to all nurses.

CEO urged the nurses to be more committed in their work and provide excellent service delivery at all times. She also stated that one of the departmental goals is to increase life expectancy and nurses have a crucial role to play in ensuring that this vision is achieved. Pastor Mwape blessed us with the word of god there after Matron Antana handed over gifts to all nursing departments.

PARTING IS A SWEET SORROW



A group of 2010 community service personnel were bided farewell. Management thanked them for their contribution to the institution & wished them well in their future endeavors. Jade Rocher was nominated to be the best therapist and Dr Nel as the best medical officer.



Hospital executive management said their goodbyes to one of their own team when Dr Shinnars who was the medical manager left. His contribution towards is commended.



On 13 May 2011 Female ward staff said their goodbyes to Mrs KD Msiza who has served the institution diligently. NC Gumede was presenting gifts to her



Happy Retirement to CN Memela (lady with red hat). The party was on 9 March 2011. She started working for the hospital in 1994. We wish her a good rest



It was a good yet sad moment when OM's & Drs. said farewell to DR. Raghu. Who served the hospital from 1999 –02/11. The CEO thanked her for being the best doctor and told her that staff & patients will miss her dearly. DR Rhagu gave a hearty goodbye speech to all & thank the support she got from her colleagues through out her stay at MH.



L-R Sr. L Mkhize Sr J Nxasana, Mam Dlamini & Sr N Madlala. OM's wished their colleague well in her future Endeavours. Mam Dlamini expressed that she was happy to be part of MH family and will miss them all. She further stated that she now understands the daily challenges the Nursing manager is faced with. and encouraged her that she should pray without ceasing and thanked her for the knowledge she has imparted in her. She acclaimed the good working relationship she had with managers.

HCT CAMPAIGN HELD AT BUNGES



Ms Ntsiki Mqotyana doing VCT. Pictures like this tell how far the health care giver will go to provide service to the community.

.On Thursday, 14 April 2011 The Murchison Hospital H.C.T team visited Mr Bunge's farm. Farm workers were keen to be part of this initiative 57 people participated but others refused because they felt it was an unnecessary exercise. People were screened for Blood Pressure, TB, diabetes, anemia and HIV.

On arrival health education was given to all workers emphasizing the importance of healthy lifestyle which included practicing safe sex and knowing ones status. They were also informed of their rights of refusing testing as the farm manager insisted that all her workers be tested. Workers were also informed about the male circumcision campaign and the importance of circumcising by all males to reduce the risk of being easily infected with HIV and STI's. On the same breath they were warned that circumcising does not mean that people should stop using condoms.

Workers wanted to be screened for all diseases because for them it was a rear opportunity since the nearby clinic is situated few kilometers away and they do not get time to be screened for diseases. As a result comprehensive health education was given to address all their health concerns. The Bunge farm staff members thought that the campaign was a big and a positive contribution to their lives.

Even though the HCT team was not provided with adequate resources to run the campaign but the purpose of HCT campaign was accomplished. Staff were working seated, kneeling or standing on the grass but we pride ourselves for doing a sterling job for the community.

ANOTHER MASSIVE HCT CAMPAIGN



L-R Medical Manager Dr Hildi Nel with Lindokuhle Clinic Operational Manager Sister Babongile Cele during the massive HCT campaign event at the hospital

Bottom Picture: staffers EN Mbanjwa, Gugu Khawula and SN Shange

On 11 May 2011 a massive HCT campaign was held at the hospital. The campaign began from 08h30 til.

Five testing stations were prepared and participants were screened for blood pressure, Diabetes, Anemia, symptomatic TB and HIV/AIDS.

Mrs B.L Ngesi the hospital CEO was the first to be screened followed by all management team: Dr Nel, Mrs Ntuli, Mr Ramharakh Mr Prais and matrons.



General members of the community came in numbers to partake in the campaign including taxi drivers, learners and people who came to visit sick relatives. More than 400 people were tested and members of staff participation was overwhelming. The campaign continued until very late in the afternoon.

Staffers who were hands on worked tirelessly to see to it that all those who came to the stations were attended to promptly and efficiently. "Now that was the spirit of Batho, may we continue giving service delivery to our customers in a Batho Pele way"

I would like to thank all people who were involved from the planning stage up until the campaign materialized such as HIV consultants, operational managers, nursing personnel, Mr Madikizela from transport, workshop officials, Mr Mvuna, Ugu District office and PR interns.

ABOUT SPORTS



Big up to Netball and Soccer teams for bringing the trophy home and a big appreciation is forwarded to management for allowing us to participate on this tournament.



On the 25th March Murchison hospital netball team became the wellness champions of Ugu District. The purpose of the tournament was to emphasize the importance of healthy lifestyle. The ladies remains undefeated champions and would like somebody to give them a good challenge and break their winning streak. If your institution is up for the challenge do not hesitate to contact us

SERVICE DELIVERY/BATHO PELE WAY

Monthly nursing departments are screened for Batho Pele compliance using internal Batho Pele monitoring tool. This is an initiative to ensure that staff is service oriented. This initiative aims at deepening the understanding of Batho Pele as a service delivery policy, to motivate officials to go beyond the call of duty and to change the culture and attitude of public servants. Hence departments are expected to nominate monthly departmental champions among numerous activities to be done as to win the Batho pele champion title.

Below listed departments are those who were able to rise above all challenges and provided excellent service delivery to their patients.

January

- ◆ Female good hope –94%

February

- ◆ Female extension-90%

March

- ◆ TB-88%

April

- ◆ Male Good Hope Ward - 88%

May

- ◆ Casualty department - 84%
- ◆ Lindokuhle Clinic - 84%



Congratulations, sky is the limit, 100% is not a far fetched idea.

In memoriam of

- ◆ *Mr Chris Khuzwayo worked for Murchison Hospital as an Artisan Superintendent from 12 August 2002 and passed away in February 2011*
- ◆ *Mrs DN Dudeni, worked for Murchison Hospital as General Orderly from 6/06/1998 passed away on 16 April 2011*
- ◆ *Mrs V.V. Jingela, worked for Murchison Hospital from 02 September 2002 as a Nursing Assistant. She passed away on 07 June 2011.*

May their souls rest in peace and may all friends colleagues and relatives find strength in their memories.

Members of staff are welcome to forward interesting departmental stories. Watch out! Do not miss out on the competition in the next issue of hospital newsletter.

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