

Speech by KZN Health MEC, Dr Sibongiseni Dhlomo on the occasion of the launch of a Universal Mobile Bus to cover MOLWENI

28 November 2014

Programme Director

Ndabezitha – Inkosi RF Mthembu we Mthembu Traditional Authority

Amakhansela neziNduna zeNkosi

Ward Councillor – Cllr Sithembiso Mchunu

EThekwini Health District Manager – Ms Penny Dladla

Molweni Clinic Management and Clinic Committee Members

Committed and hardworking Government Employees from all Depts.

Members of the Media

Malunga omphakathi ahloniphekile

Ndabezitha; our presence today is about good news of presenting a Mobile Hospital to be utilised by communities residing where who at the moment do not have access to a fixed clinic. We do this under the Theme: “Bringing Health Services Closer to Communities and Making PHC Re-Engineering a Reality in Readiness for NHI”

Programme Director, it is worth mentioning that our government led by President Jacob designated delivery of quality healthcare a priority status and gave us as a Department a responsibility of ensuring the realisation of its vision of **A Long and Healthy Life for All South Africans.**

As the KZN Province, we have to work hard harder than other Provinces as we are regarded as the epicentre for HIV and AIDS; Tuberculosis

(TB); high maternal and child mortality, as well as an alarming and ever-increasing incidence of Non-Communicable diseases.

It is thus in that spirit that the delivery of this all important Mobile Hospital should be understood. Our mission is to ensure that communities in all corners of our Province do have access to quality healthcare.

Here at eThekweni District we have identified areas that always present themselves as having a High Service Demand. It is these areas for which the Mobile Hospital is targeting:

- ✓ Greater Inanda: Qadi, uMzinyathi, Amaoti, Bhambayi, Bester Informal Settlement; KwaMashu sections L and M
- ✓ Phoenix
- ✓ Kennedy Road Informal Settlement
- ✓ Southern parts of Chatsworth;
- ✓ Kwa Ndengezi;
- ✓ Mpumalanga; as well as,
- ✓ Kwa Dabeka; Molweni and Ngcolosi area

Ndabezitha, for the whole of EThekweni District, we will identify Mobile Points with high population densities where will be station the Mobile Hospital for a period of over a 1 WEEK. The operating Model will consist of 2 Mobile Trucks, PHC Truck and Medical Male Circumcision Truck.

In the provision of healthcare, our strategy has 3 streams i.e.:

- Specialist Family Health Care Teams consisting of District Based Clinical Specialist (doctors and Specialist nurses) who provide clinical expertise and support to District and PHC services;
- School Health Teams who revitalise and revive Health promotion in Schools, and
- PHC Outreach Teams who provide a Ward Based Primary Health Care approach focusing on prevention and Promotive health and household interventions

In support of all the above, we have added these Mobile Hospitals are here to greatly assist in the realisation of our President's efforts of ensuring that all South Africans know their status and that they are screened early before treatable and manageable diseases escalate to chronic levels.

These Mobile Hospitals are ready to be deployed in all informal settlements; areas under the jurisdiction of Amakhosi and anywhere where our people are. They come with qualified personnel and equipped to offer a full comprehensive Primary Health Care [PHC] Package as they have:

- 3 consulting rooms
- Waiting area
- Reception
- X-ray Machine
- Ultrasound
- B/P and Blood Sugar Machine
- Gene expert machine that will be installed later

Alongside this Mobile Hospital, there is also an **MMC Truck** which we brought in because MMC intake in this area is very low, as our statistics indicate that only **106** men have come forward for the service. This MMC Truck will come in handy, as it now comes to your doorstep, fully equipped with the following:

- Reception
- 4 beds
- Diathermy machine and other equipment for doing circumcision

Programme Director, the KZN Department of Health is now ready to offer a full package of Primary Healthcare anywhere, be it mountains; valleys; informal settlements and even at pension pay points. This Mobile Hospital is ready and geared to provide for the following **Services:**

- Minor ailments
- HIV Counselling and Testing
- TB Screening
- Medical Male Circumcision
- Child Health care services
- Eye screening
- Oral health
- X-Ray services
- Ultrasound
- Cervical Cancer Screening
- Ante Natal Care

- Post Natal Care
- Chronic Services

In all our efforts here we also ensure that our people are provided with guidance and advice on how to live healthily as South Africa does not only face the challenge of the spread HIV/ AIDS and TB infections. Our health system is also overburdened by high numbers of people affected by Non Communicable Diseases such as Heart Disease and Stroke; Diabetes; Cancer and Chronic Lung Diseases.

Truth of the matter is that almost all the NCDs are largely preventable and that we all have it within ourselves to be free of these Non Communicable Diseases. We wish everyone to know that by eating healthily, exercising and keeping fit and not smoking and abusing alcohol; we can all live longer and healthy lives.

Let us all never lose sight of the very key objective which is about a **Long and Healthy Life for All of Us**. The time has come for all of us to take ownership of our health.

I thank you