

**Speech by KZN Health MEC, Dr Sibongiseni Dhlomo on the occasion of a delivery of a Mobile Clinic by Mobile Limited**

25 October 2016

Amakhosi aseNdlunkulu

Harry Gwala District Municipality Mayor – Cllr Mluleki Ndobe

Harry Gwala Health District - Mrs GLL Zuma

Mondi Head of Land - Mr M Makhathini

Provincial Director of Primary Health Care - Mrs Gcina NS Radebe

Basebenzi baka Mondl

Malunga omphakathi ahloniphekile

We profusely thank Mondl Limited for choosing health as a terrain for their social responsibility initiative.

We have a long started view that health is everyone's responsibility. As Government we cannot on our own solve the meander of health problems our communities are faced with.

We are thus very thankful to receive a Mobile Health Vehicle donated by Mondl – a donation that is so needed by our Department as means to close a gap in giving health services to workers; their families as well as communities.

We are also very appreciative of the fact that Mondl's contribution will lend a hand and make a difference to some of the challenges we are faced with in this district, which amongst others, include:

- Inadequate transport which limits access to some rural areas, some located at mountainous terrain as well as homes that are scattered all over.
- Staff attrition that has led to the closure of some mobile to communities especially those in farms and forestry
- Employment in farm settings being mostly seasonal and thus making it difficult for employers to release contracted employees to attend mobile points
- Some employers preferring services to be delivered at their workplaces

Today we are happy that Mondi has decided to get involved as a partner in the quest to improve access to health care and improve health outcomes for Mondi Contractor Employees and the surrounding communities.

This donation by Mondi comes at the very appropriate time as UBuhlebezwe sub-district has seen its population increasing from 106 396 to 114 525 after it had taken over Ndwebu Clinic from Ugu District.

The Mobile also adds to the three [3] that we have that are based at Ixopo clinic covering 43 points including Ndwebu and Mondi.

As partners we now have to inform you that our country is grappling with what our Health Minister, Dr Aaron Motsoaledi describes as the four highways along which South Africans are marching to their graves, naming as:

- A huge burden of HIV and AIDS and TB;

- A burden of Maternal and Child Mortality;
- An ever exploding burden of Non-Communicable Diseases; as well as
- Injury, violence and trauma.

Most of the above will remain a problem if our communities do not come forward for screening which is the only way in which a person can know his or her status in the ailments that are manageable if early detected.

Uppermost, we want our people to fully utilize the HIV Testing Services to also adhere to treatment as advised.

We also want all those on chronic medication but who are now stable to enroll on CCMDD list in order assist in the decongestion of our clinics.

We also call upon the Traditional Leadership to continue being involved and participating in promoting Medical Male Circumcision and being advocates of behavioural change within their communities.

For our youth especially the girl children, we want them to support the **Dual protection Campaign** aimed curbing unwanted pregnancies as well as sexually transmitted diseases including HIV and AIDS.

At the end of it all, we are calling upon communities to make use of all the health facilities made available to them, be it;

- Community-based / Ward-based structures through Operation Sukuma Sakhe
- Primary Health Care Clinics
- Mobile Primary Health Care Clinics and the Primary care services act as a point of entry into the health system for those seeking

healthcare. This level of care is encompassed within District Health Services and is offered by;

- Community-based / Ward-based structures through Operation Sukuma Sakhe
- Primary Health Care Clinics
- Mobile Primary Health Care Clinics
- Community Health Centres (CHCs) and
- District Hospitals

Our elderly also have a big role to play in delaying the onset of chronic diseases by participating in physical activity as means to promote Healthy Lifestyle.

Let us all make us of the services made available to improve our healthcare status.

Thank you to Mondi again

God bless