

Speech by KZN Health MEC, Dr Sibongiseni Dhlomo on the occasion of the official opening of USUTHU CLINIC at Zululand District

08 September 2016

Silo Samabandla Onke

ONdlunkulu

Izinduna

District Manager – Mr Vilakazi

Benedictine Hospital CEO – Mr Dlamini

Usuthu Clinic Manager – Sister Ntsele

Chairperson and members of the Clinic Committee

Usuthu Clinic management and staff

Malunga omphakathi ahloniphekile

Bayede, it is with joy that today we are able to honour our obligation to officially open the beautiful and historic Usuthu Clinic.

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.

The history of this facility is a testimony for that as we know that its construction was an initiative of King Cyprian ka Bhekuzulu as far back as 1967.

Its official opening was also conducted by His Majesty Cyprian Nyanga-Yezizwe Zulu in 1968.

Today as we again converge here to open the New Usuthu Clinic we thank His Majesty the King, Zwelithini, ka Bhekuzulu

We are all excited that the total strong population of 11 595 citizens from *Kohlokolo; Hlabathini; Mdumela; Cencethu; Ndindithi; Phenyane; Ngoqongweni; Ncedomhlophe; Nsonyane; Mhambuma; Emjeni; Efoma and Kwa Bhengu* will never again prematurely die because they have this beautiful health facility which offer:

- 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
- Cervical screening
- 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

All these services are offered on a 24 hour basis.

Here we have also ensured the following:

- *The Doctor from Benedictine Hospital who visits the clinic twice a month and sees a maximum of 40 clients per day.*
- *Three mobile points for hard to reach areas.*
- *Health system trust, an NGO that visits once a month to help with ARV initiation and PMTCT Management*
- *Very functional Phila Mntwana Centres which are Hlokolo Phila Mntwana Centre; Phenyane Phila Mntwana Centre; Mhambuma Phila Mntwana Centre and Makhulumane Phila Mntwana Centre.*
- *15 Community Care Givers who conduct their business very professional, meeting every month and document minutes of their meetings at the clinic file*
- *Youth Friendly Service which assist in giving priority status to the vulnerable 15 to 24 age group. This will go a long way in curbing new HIV infections; unplanned pregnancies and illegal abortions.*

Bayede; we are also very proud of the achievements that have been made by this Clinic and trust that the management will build on what has been attained to move to a higher status. Here we recognise:

- *Ideal Clinic Realization and Maintenance of Silver Status in May 2016*
- *The 90 90 90 STRATEGY which showed great improvements in two indicators*

- *PHC Headcount screen for TB of 107 %*
- *This week's launch of CCMDD for Usuthu Clinic with a total number of 39 decanted to designated areas closer to their homes.*
- *The initiative to recall 287 patients for retest under the new guidelines of Universal Test and Treat*

Malunga omphakathi ahloniphekile; the health workers here asked me to plead with you to please bring children in for IMMUNISATION. They say this request is specially directed to guardians and Ogogo who are staying with the grandchildren whilst their moms are at work in the cities. Please ensure that before they leave, you have the **Road to Health Booklet** in your hand.

The Health workers also requested me to inform you that Usuthu Clinic serves as a centre that recruits for Medical Male Circumcision and that they would really appreciate to see statistics rising from **75 recorded since April 2016.**

Lastly, they told me that there are a total of 3 High Schools and 6 Primary Schools that are serviced by Usuthu Clinic and have only experienced **6 teenage pregnancies** from April 2016. Siyabonga Bayede indima Yomkhosi Womhlanga iyabonkala!!

I thank you