



health

Department:
Health
PROVINCE OF KWAZULU-NATAL

UMGENI NEWS

December 2012

BECAUSE SOMEONE CARED THERE IS A SMILE



W

e have come to the end of another year. It is amazing how time flies and the years fold into one another. It has been an exciting opportunity to lead this institution but it would not have been possible without dedicated staff and colleagues in the EXCO Team.

They have buckled down to the task at hand with Mr. Mathobela providing excellent financial stewardship, Mr. Ncobela steadying the Systems ship, Mrs. Zondi overseeing Nursing with all its challenges (and there have been many). Mrs. Marquardt provided quality direction,

Mr. Latha did a great job as HR manager in the time he spent with us as well. Thanks must be extended to Mr. Rausch and his team at Maintenance for working for such a long period without an Artisan Superintendent. The support staff have provided strong assistance and the team will grow stronger as time goes on.

My thanks goes out to all those members of staff who give their all above and beyond the call of duty. However some staff members would do well to learn a thing or two from those who don't watch the clock or the job description when service delivery is required.

Your patience with the on-going excavations and infrastructure developments namely the water reticulation system, the refurbishing of Saamtap, the moving across to

E ward and now the additional excavations for the new generators is highly appreciated in light of the fact that no patients were endangered through all these

activities. Additional infrastructure developments are planned for the various wards and the pharmacy in the new financial year. Please remain committed to the Core Standards exercise as all these initiatives are for the benefit of the patient which is the main reason for our being here. I would like to wish you a very Happy Christmas and a prosperous new year. Remember that we celebrate this season to honour the Birth Of Jesus so behave in a manner that would honour him through this time and you will be safe, secure and full of joy!

Mark Green: Acting CEO

FESTIVE MESSAGE FROM THE ACTING CEO



Mr. Mark Green (Acting CEO)

“highly appreciated
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Silwa Nezifo, Silwa Nobubha, Sinika Ithemba

CHRISTMAS PARTY :2012

Friends of Umgeni (FOU) has once again fulfilled its motto which says *“Because somebody cared, because somebody did something, a child smiled and was comforted”*.

This organization has continuously been working together with the management of Umgeni Hospital for the betterment of the Mental Health Care Users (MHCU) at this institution.

That has been achieved by doing the following:

- * Providing amenities that are not provided by the government.
- * Promoting social and recreational activities.
- * Assisting with funding for outings, parties and special events such as Christmas and Easter.

Mr. John Tungay (Chairperson) together with the members and Sew What organization has organized a marvelous Christmas Party for this year. The Saw What Shop in Howick has been collecting shoe boxes for Christmas gifts for all MHCU's. To encourage Howick Community to donate boxes notices were published on local newspaper e.g. Village Talk so that their project can be a success. On the day of the event (05 December 2012) it was a day filled with happiness to them seeing themselves as they achieved their goal and also to the MHCU's. A big thank you to Occupational Therapy Department.

If you are interested in joining Friend Of Umgeni or you would like to donate for MHCU's, you can contact :

Mrs. Bev Habermann:

Tel: 033 347 5825, Fax: 086 512 7733

Email: admin@fou.za.net



MHCU's welcoming our Christmas fathers (FOU)



Our 4 Christmas fathers

TEAM BUILDING EVENT

On the 23 November 2012 there was a Team Building Event for Umgeni Hospital Staff in Howick Indoor Centre.

It was the 1st time for this institution to organize such an event. Team Building Event is crucial for an organization to have since it helps to develop greater sense of cooperation and trust among the team.

The purpose of the event was to:

- * Strengthen existing relations among fellow colleagues and build new professional relationships based on trust,
- * Improve communication skills,
- * Learn to compromise,
- * Motivate staff to work as a team

“Interactive exercises, team assessments, and group discussions enable groups to cultivate this greater sense of teamwork”.

Games that were played were the following:

Icebreaker games:

Dream vacation, Shoe Game and Toilet Paper

Games

- Pad Locks , Wellington Acid
- Blind Fold and Orienting

On the arrival all members were instructed to take one shoe off, put it in a box. Then they had to pick one shoe from the box which will determine who will be in the group. NO one was to pick his/her own shoe.



Team during the introduction

Silwa Nezifo, Silwa Nobubha, Sinika Ithemba

Games

Toilet Paper (Ice breaker)

The member had to introduce him/herself and to break the tension of not knowing each other since the participants were from different sections. Members were told to roll a piece of toilet paper. Afterwards everyone was told to give information about themselves according to the sheets of paper they torn off.

Dream Vacation (Ice breaker)

The participants had to tell the group about the countries they would love to visit and the reason for choosing that country or town.

Blind Fold:

A team had to select a member that will be blindfolded and be guided by the team mates through a maze, to complete it. The member had to trust them. The game was to build trust to each other as colleagues to accomplish work related tasks.

Orienting

The letters of the alphabets were hidden inside the Indoor Centre and the members had to work together trying to find the letters and formulate a word. The best team was a team that finished first.



Mr. Zuma rolling the toilet paper while others were watching



Betty Bema trying to open the pad lock

Games



Mr. Ndlovu guided through
out the maze

Mr. C. Dumakude (Clinical Psychologist
from East-Court Hospital)
who was a facilitator for the event
receiving a token of appreciation from
Mrs. N. Naidoo (Dietician)



Pad Lock

Members were to support their team mate by encouraging him/her when opening the pad locks . Pad locks were five and the keys were ten which made the game to be uneasy to the participants. The team member had to be quick as possible when opening the pad locks so as to beat another group. It was important for the team to encourage their team mate when participating on this game because they were relying on him/her to win the game.

Wellington Acid

A team had to select five people to participate on this game. All the members were on one side and all of them had to cross over the acid. (dedicated area to pretend it is acid)

The catch about this game was that for a team member to cross over they had to wear a pair of safety boots (used by all members) To be able to cross over the team member had to put a member on his/her back. A member was disqualified if any one falls into the acid.

The day was filled with fun one would realize the importance of working as a team (sense of belonging) to achieve the goals.

Thank you to Mr. C. Dumakude who was the facilitator and managed to keep the event on track. It is hoped that the event has ultimately had a positive impact on our primary goal which is to ensure quality service delivery to the patients



**SYSTEMS MANAGER
INTERVIEWED BY THE
PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICER**

Relations Officer (PRO): Mrs. A. Biyase

Systems Manager (SM): Mr. S.A. Ncobela

PRO: Thank you for making yourself available for this interview.

PRO: Can you tell our readers about yourself?

SM: I am Sibusiso Absolom Ncobela the fifth son of Mr. and Mrs. Ncobela.

When I was young they used to call me D because of my weight which made it difficult when I started to walk. I was born on the farm at Insingozi in Richmond and because of the apartheid era my home was burnt down and we had to relocate to KwaGengeshe still in Richmond.

I attended my primary education at Indaleni High Primary School and after that I went to Indala High school and unfortunately I could not proceed to do matric because of faction fights.

I started working and completed my Matric part time at Hillcrest Adult Centre called Dr. Allan Paton.

PRO: Tell us more about you work experience?

SM: In 1985 I joined the Department of health at Hillcrest Hospital as a grounds man and was transferred to be a scullion at the kitchen. After working for so many years I was promoted as a chef.

In 1998 I got a promotion to be a Food Service Supervisor

In 2007: I relocated to Montebello Hospital as Senior Systems Management Officer

In 2011: I was promoted to a post of an Assistant Systems Manager at Ladysmith Hospital

- In 2012: I joined this hospital as Systems Manager
When I was at Montebello Hospital I had achieved National Diploma in Public Management. Currently I am waiting the final result for B-Tech Degree in Public Management.

PRO: Since you have worked for the department of Health for so many years what are your plans for Umgeni Hospital when looking at the challenges?

SM: The first thing I Like to do for Umgeni Hospital is to re-orientate the workers so that they will be aware of the new challenges facing government, prescripts and impact of globalization. One of the Priorities for National Core Standards is Cleanliness, I will work hard as a Systems Manager together with outsourced companies to be compliant and to maintain that and I would like to deal with few items well before I promise another thing because I do not want empty promises .

PRO: What do you think is your role at Umgeni Hospital and how would you achieve them?

SM: Systems is like a heart of the Hospital therefore it is my duty to make work easier for other Segments e.g. the meal for patient must be nutritional balanced .

I will contribute towards keeping the Hospital Clean.

PRO: Is there anything you like to say in closure?

SM: Ooh yes, thanks for your time and wish you all the best. I would like to say this "for a manager to be successful it needs to keep good relations with workers and firm on the other hand".

I am a person who gives strategic direction to the employees and I am always defending policies of the government even if I am under pressure. Through my experience and knowledge I will be able to make this hospital conducive for all meaning staff and management

PRO: Thank you for your time and may you achieve all that you have aimed to achieve while you are in this hospital.



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