

KZN HEALTH WOMEN LEADERS TALK ABOUT WHAT THEY WANT



HATS! HEELS! CLUTCH BAGS....

Yaass!!! It was all glitz and glamorous spectacle at the Departmental Women's Day event at Madadeni Provincial Hospital, Amajuba District.

DOH Women rocked up on the red carpet dressed to the nines to the Women's Conference which was organised by the Department for women senior managers from all districts to come together and celebrate the virtue of women. The atmosphere was euphoric filled with music, dance and highly motivating speeches.

Health MEC Ms Nomagugu Simelane –Zulu led her team of women leaders in celebrating the strength and tenacity of women in today's struggle against the prevailing socio-economic ills. She appealed to DOH women leaders to become true ambassadors of Brand Health in order to succeed in influencing the public to lead a healthy lifestyle. The call for the pursuit of health and wellness, delving into specific diseases that

attack women, reverberated throughout the packed hall of Madadeni Provincial Hospital.

There were also speakers of high note that shared a mouthful of life lessons with Departmental staff. In keeping with the Women's month theme "What Women Want" all the speakers drove the message home, touching on how women in the health sector can emulate the spirit of the women of 1956 in resolving a myriad of challenges that our society is grappling with today. There was a very good reception to positive messages that were shared with the staff and the hall was unanimous on charting the way forward with clear goals and timelines. With health being one of the 7 priorities that were announced by the president during the state of the Nation Address, the Women's Conference has further put more perspective on how women leaders need to collectively drive things in order to meet the desired outcomes in the health sector.

SPEAKER'S NOTES

MEC Nomagugu Simelane –Zulu

"We have requested the honourable Premier Sihle Zikalala and National Health Minister to intervene, at least we must get 60% of staff that is operational. The commitment received from KwaZulu-Natal Premier is that he is willing to listen to us as the Department, but he will need some few commitments. Head Office staffing does not need to be based in offices. According to the Premier Head Office has got so many workers, some of them will have to go and work in our health facilities."

Premier said to us, because we don't have sufficient money to employ nurses, porters, administrations and Doctors; we can't have a situation where the nurses will do administration and clinical duties."

"Premier asked for the Department to commit itself that it will reduce the number of workers working at Head Office; they will have to go to our health facilities to assist. I know I am not going to be popular by saying this, we have so many Doctors in our Head Office who are Managers, yes we do need them as Managers but they will have to go and assist in our health facilities, at least two hours."

Pastor Ndaba

"As a woman you need to start having conversations with yourself to reflect and reevaluate your goals in life. This is an inner conversation with yourself and a key aspect of building self-consciousness and development"

"It is a beautiful thing to be beautiful externally, but what is happening internally is important. Master you, feed you as a woman, fulfil yourself as a woman, and learn new things so that you will be well developed."



FEMALE LEADERS OF THE DEPARTMENT

The Department shines the spotlight on Female district directors within the KwaZulu-Natal

Department of Health to celebrate their roles in bringing healthcare to the people in the

province and their journey to success within the Department.

AMANDLA MAKHOSIKAZI!



MAKHOSAZANE THEMBA

UMKHANYAKUDE

How did you get where you are today, and who/what helped you along the way?

I applied and received my promotion after an interview held at Pietermaritzburg in 2009. I am grateful to the colleagues whom I worked with at different levels for their support and generally believe that commitment, passion and drive to see results has brought me here.

What does it mean to you to be a woman in 2019?

To be a focused, visionary, persistent and dedicated role player within a team. To have

an opportunity to contribute in improving service delivery, providing support and direction to those in need and putting the needs of others above yours.

How does it feel being a woman in a senior position?

Humbling ,challenging ,fulfilling

What have you learned about leadership?

You need to be imbued with principles of honesty ,integrity , be a good listener and communicator, a team player ,be available ,transformational ,disciplined and prioritise.

What advice would you give to young women who want to succeed?

1. They must understand and know what they want in life and know one's limitation.
2. Subscribe to the culture of the organization they are working for
3. Be a part of the community they are serving
4. Honour those in power and fellow colleagues



GUGU SHABANGU

DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF UMZINYATHI

How did you get where you are today, and who/what helped you along the way

It is God's grace, I put God first in everything I do and He surrounds me with good people. I have a very strong character I'm self-motivated and self-driven, the goals I set for myself I work hard to achieve them. The love of my Dad has made me press on in difficult situations. Support and love of my family especially my husband has put me where I am, he believes in me and has given me an opportunity to chase my individual dreams within a married life. Coaching and mentorship from a very supporting supervisor has grown my career.

What does it mean being a woman in 2019 to you?

It is a great feeling, this is the era where South Africa has prioritised woman in all spheres, there is great support

which is also supported by legislation. Opportunities are open for woman to explore different things in life and women of 2019 are out to grab them.

How does it feel being a woman in a senior position?

It is a challenging experience which needs commitment and dedication above all which need love of your clients and the people you are serving. It is overwhelming sometimes as there are competing activities i.e. family, career, friends, church activities etc. and you need to strike a balance and also have 'me' time to rejuvenate and move on.

Despite all these I'm enjoying myself. This is the best time of my life, being the youngest district director in KZN and probably in the country I receive so much love and support from senior colleagues.

What have you learned about leadership?

I have learned that you have to

be a servant before being a leader, put people before you and encourage the team to perform to their optimum. In leadership you lead in front and provide direction so that you have followers, walk beside to get a feel and understanding of your team and you lead behind to build other leaders.

What advice would you give to young women who want to succeed?

Set realistic goals for yourself, believe in yourself, have passion of what you do, surround yourself with good and focus people, work hard to grow your career and treat challenges as stepping stones, humble yourself and trust in the Lord with all your mind, body and soul. Celebrate your achievements and feel good about it

TRADITIONAL MEDICINE PRACTITIONERS WORKING HAND IN HAND WITH MODERN MEDICINE

In 1978 the World Health Organisation (WHO) recognized the role of traditional practitioners as important allies in achieving "Health for All". In South Africa, African Traditional Medicine Week is commemorated on 26-31 August annually to raise awareness on this mode of medicine.

"ensure the efficacy, safety and quality of traditional healthcare services and to provide for the management and control over the registration, training and conduct of practitioners, students and specified categories in the THP profession. The Act defines four categories of THPs, namely diviners (sangoma), herbalists (inyanga), traditional birth attendants (ababelethisi) and traditional surgeons (ingcibi)."

Prior to the formalization of traditional medicine, people were found to be accessing both tradition and modern forms of medication which was problematic. For instance, previously an HIV patient could be taking anti-retroviral treatment from his local clinic and then pause it after being referred to a traditional form of medication and thus defaulting, putting his life at risk.

Today the KZN Department of Health trains traditional healers

to know the symptoms of chronic illnesses such as HIV, TB and diabetes and to refer patients to their local health facilities thereafter. This collaboration between the traditional and modern forms of medicine has also brought medical consultations close to the people since there are more traditional healers than clinics or hospitals.

Moreover, this partnership does not simply glorify the triumph of modern medicine over the former but understands that there are medicinal revelations to be learnt from traditional healers too. The referral system is currently being reviewed to allow a two way flow. Presently, there are herbs that are being researched at the University of KwaZulu-Natal's traditional medicine laboratory.

In 2007 the South African Institution formed the Traditional Health Practitioners Act which aimed to create a regulatory framework to

INVENTIONS THAT SHAPED THE WORLD: THE DIAPER/ NAPPY

Marion Donovan born in 1917, in Fort Wayne is our female inventor of the week. As a post-World War II housewife and mother of two in Connecticut, Donovan would make good use of the ingenuity that she had observed in her youth.

Frustrated by the thankless, repetitive task of changing her youngest child's soiled cloth diapers, bed sheets and clothing, she decided to craft a diaper cover to keep her baby – and the surrounding area – dry. Donovan sat down at her sewing machine with a

shower curtain and, after several attempts; Donovan completed a waterproof diaper cover.

Unlike the rubber baby pants that were already on the market, Donovan's design did not cause diaper rash and did not pinch the child's skin. The soon-to-be famous female inventor subsequently perfected her invention, adding snap fasteners in place of the dangerous safety pins that were commonly used. Donovan named her diaper cover the "Boater" and explained that "at the time I thought that it looked like a boat." When no manufacturers would even consider her invention, Donovan struck out on her own, and the Boater was an unqualified success from the day it debuted at

2019 NATIONAL ANTENATAL SENTINEL HIV AND SYPHILLIS SURVEY

The National Antenatal Sentinel HIV & Syphilis Surveys started in 1990 and to date 27 surveys have been conducted in South Africa (SA). The surveys are conducted in the 53 health districts of SA every alternative year with the last one in 2017.

The general objective of Antenatal Sentinel HIV & Syphilis Survey is to determine the distribution of HIV and syphilis infection among pregnant women attending public health antenatal clinics at the national, province and district levels, categorized into demographic factors and age of the participant.

The results for the last survey in 2017 can be accessed

using this link:

http://www.nicd.ac.za/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/Antenatal_survey-report_24July19.pdf

The survey will be conducted together with the National Institute for Communicable Diseases (NICD). The main co-ordinators from the KZN province will receive their 1 day training on 5 September 2019 and return to train the relevant district staff throughout the province from 16 – 27 September 2019.

All the survey logistics (specimen tubes and forms) will be delivered directly to the sentinel sites (clinics) and thus clinicians are urged to please ensure that the correct address has been sent to the provincial coordinator.

Saks Fifth Avenue in 1949. Donovan received a patent in 1951.

Her next project was a fully disposable diaper, for which she had to fashion a special type of paper that was not only strong and absorbent, but also conveyed water away from the baby's skin. Donovan took her finished product to every large manufacturer in the country, but once again she found no takers. Incredibly, everyone she talked to told her that the idea was superfluous and impractical. It was not until nearly a decade later, in 1961, that Victor Mills drew upon Donovan's vision to create Pampers®.

In keeping with her innovative heritage, this "mother of invention" explored numerous ventures that were completely

unrelated to her diaper improvements. She earned a total of 20 patents in her lifetime and also received an Architecture degree from Yale University in 1958. Although Donovan's extraordinary life may go largely unnoticed by the public, this famous woman inventor deserves the undying gratitude of new parents around the globe.

Source:
<http://www.women-inventors.com/Marion-Donovan.asp>



GALLERY

WOMEN'S DAY PARADE - ETHEKWINI DISTRICT



GALLERY

OPERATION SUKUMA SAKHE (OSS) - HARRY GWALA DISTRICT



GALLERY

WOMEN'S DAY AT MURCHISON HOSPITAL - UGU DISTRICT





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