



# UMTHOMBO WASEKOMBE NEWSLETTER

The Official Newsletter for Ekombe District Hospital  
Issue no. 7

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## EDITOR'S COLUMN

Kwabanye bethu unyaka ka 2008 ubemuhle kwabanye akubanganjalo. Noma kunjalo akumele silahle ithemba, lokho okungasiphathanga kahle akusenze ukuthi siqine kakhulu kunakuqala. Okumele sikwazi ukuthi uma sifuna ukuba ngabanqobi kumele sibe nezinselelo, eziyosenza ukuthi siqine. UNkulunkulu ngenke asishiye masazi ukuthi uhlale engakithi ngaso sonke isikhathi.

Njengomhleli waleliphephabhuku ngithanda ukubonga ukusebenzisana okuhle ngonyaka ka 2008 phakathi kwami nabaphathi beSibhedlela kanye nozakwethu. Ngiphinde ngifisele abaphathi beSibhedlela kanye nozakwethu uKh- isimuzi omuhle kanye noNyaka ka2009 onezibusiso. Okokungcina okungenzeki ebantwini kuyenzeka kuNkulunkulu.

**Philani Mhlungu**

### Vision

Provision of Health care services that enable the people of Ekombe Area to achieve optimal health status.

### Mission Statement

Ekombe Hospital is committed to providing effective & efficient Health care service that promote Health, prevent illness and restore dignity, based on Primary Health approach through the District Health System.

### Core Values

- Trust built on common understanding
- Respect and dignity
- Courage to challenges and change
- Open communication and transparency
- Commitment to perform.

# WORLD AIDS DAY

Njengoba sazi ukuthi umhlaka 01 December usuku lwe-World AIDS Day, nathi njengeSibhedlela saseKombe salugubha lolusuku. Lapho khona esasikhumbula khona asebasishiye emhlabeni ngenxa yesifo sengculazi. Kwakukhanyiswe amakhandlela kufakwe ama-Ribon abomvu. Saqala endlini yokudumisa nokuyilapho khona uHAST Co-ordinator, E.N. Buthelezi asikhonza khona ngezwi lokusiqinisa nokusinika isibindi.

Emuva kokuthola izwi kanye nomkhuleko sadlulela emagumbini eziguli. Sasingena igumbi ne-gumbi kudunyiswa kukhulekwa kunikezwa imiyalezo ekhuthazayo ephinde inike ithemba. Sithanda ukubonga uHAST Co-ordinator nethimba lakhe ngokuhlela lolusuku. Siphinde sidlulise ukubonga ozakwethu ngeqhaza abalibamba kulolusuku ekutheni lube yimpumelelo. Siyabonga kakhulu uNkulunkulu anibusise.

Abasebenzi baseSibhedlela bekhuleka egumbini leziguli



Abasebenzi becula endlini yokudumisa

## POLIO & MEASLES IMMUNISATION CAMPAIGN

Ekombe Hospital took part in the Polio and Measles Immunisation Campaign which was on the 01– 05 December 2008. Polio is an illness that causes sudden weakness/lameness of the limbs and sometimes death in children. The polio virus can be passed easily from one person to another. The polio virus affects mostly children below 5 years. It can be prevented by immunisation with polio drops at birth, 6 weeks, 10 weeks, 14 weeks, 18 months and 5 years of age.

Polio causes sudden weakness or inability to use a leg and/or arm. In children who are too young to walk, the mother may notice that one of the legs appears floppy and weak. Polio can be prevented. A deformity caused by polio cannot be reversed – it is there for life. A child is fully protected against polio if he/she gets all prescribed vaccine doses at the correct ages. Immunisation is free at all Public health facilities. Immunisation is the most precious gift that we can give to our children.

Measles is the most dangerous of all childhood diseases. The first sign is a high fever followed by a blotchy red rash all over the body. It is also accompanied by cough, a runny nose and red eyes. Measles can cause dangerous complications, such as infection of the lungs, blindness and death. Measles is caused by a very small germ called the measles virus. It cannot be seen with the naked eye. It is spread when a child with measles coughs or sneezes. Children who suffered from measles cannot get it a second time. Most children who have been immunised against measles at the right age will not get measles.

Young children, who survive measles are weakened by the disease and may later die from malnutrition or other illnesses. Measles is also an important cause of mental retardation and blindness. A quarter of all deaths from measles occur before the age of one year. Measles in older children usually occur as outbreaks, when large groups of children get measles at the same time. The risk of a measles outbreak is higher when groups of children gather together for example in crèches day care centres. Measles can be prevented through vaccination. South

Africa's Immunisation Policy requires that all children have a record of immunisation against measles or documentation of exemption for a specific reason. In South Africa children are given measles immunization at 9 months and repeated at 18 months



C.B. Makhoba giving Polio and Measles Immunisation drop to a child

## ABET CLOSING FUNCTION

Kuthiwa ngesiZulu imfundo ayikhulelwa, naseSibhedlela saseKhombe kunjalo. Lokho kufakazelwa ngabanye babasebenzi asebekhulile ngokweminyaka abazimisele ngokuthi babuyele esikoleni.

Some of the staff members who could not write and read can do both now due to ABET Programme which is helping previously disadvantaged people. Once again ABET had positive impact because learners can get themselves better employment opportunities.

On the 26 November 2008, we held a closing function for ABET where we witness some of the things that I have mentioned above. There was entertainment in the form of music and stage play which was exciting.

We would like to say to ABET learners that its not late irrespective of the challenges, the sky is the limit. To Miss Nelly Zwane, HRD thank you for your co-



ABET learners waiting patiently



P.P. Mathebula and Mr Dunge dancing



ABET learners performing

## FAREWELL FUNCTIONS



Mr Siphon Sibiyi covered with a duvet



Mr J.M. Khumalo receiving his gift

It's been a sad year when it comes to staff members and some members from management leaving us for greener pastures. Anyway we had to say goodbye and wish them all the best in future. Some of the staff members had been with the institution for a long time, meaning we are losing people with vast experience.

We had a farewell function for Mr S. Sibiyi, Finance Service Officer, Mr J.M. Khumalo, Human Resources Manager and Dr Nkosi, Chief Medical Officer. We would like to thank you for your dedication and commitment to the institution and community at large. We will really miss you and may God be with you.



Mrs N.V. Ndlovu and Mrs C.B. Makhoba enjoying their meals



Dr Nkosi receiving his gift

## SPORTS

Ekombe Hospital Soccer Team took part in a Soccer Tournament which was held in Richards Bay. The Tournament consisted of teams from different Health Districts. Ngwelezana Hospital were overall winners of this tournament after beating Ekombe Hospital on penalty shoot outs.

Our soccer team came home not empty handed because they won a trophy, which they presented to the Hospital Management on the 11 November 2008. Regardless of the challenges we faced while participating in the Uthungulu Health District Tournament in July 2008, we managed to close 2008 on the high note.

We would like to congratulate our soccer team for all their hard work and commitment. Keep it up guys



Team Captain, Jabulani Ngobese handing over a trophy to the CEO, Mrs N.P. Ngcobo



Team Captain, Jabulani Ngobese thank everyone for the support they gave to the team



Management team and staff members celebrating

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