Ngwelezana Tertiary Hospital recently launched Men and Women Forums on the 28th of August 2015 at its staff residence hall. The aim was to make these forums known and understood by the staff members of Ngwelezana hospital. Staff members were informed about the importance of these forums and how both they must operate.

The hospital was visited by three guests including Mr. M. Ndlovu (The Chairperson of the Provincial Men’s Forum KZN DOH), Ms. Z Gumede (Employee Wellness Practitioner UThungulu Health District) and Mrs. M.M Mchunu (former employee of department of health and a pastor).

Mr. Mvelo Nzuza (the HR Manager) opened the event and welcomed everyone present. He informed them that they all must play an active role not only during the launch but even after the launch in order for the forums to succeed and be sustainable.

Both the men and women forums will be made up of employees chosen by staff members, the processes of choosing the representatives had already been done before this event. During meetings issues and challenges affecting both genders will be discussed. Good ideas and advice will also be shared amongst the committees. Personal and social issues can end up negatively affecting service delivery this is why these forums must be in place and active.

Mr. Ndlovu informed staff members that the initiative of this forum comes from the office of the Premier of KZN and it is a requirement that all institutions should have it. He therefore thanked the staff for attending the event and said their presence was very important.

Mr Ndlovu said that men and women need each other at work, no workplace can be run by one gender. He further stated that all of us have different backgrounds and issues which must be attended to.

Ms. Z Gumede from UThungulu District followed and gave females a tip whereby she encouraged women to utilize personal lockable diaries as a form of personal healing where they would write everything that bothers them and lock it for privacy. She stated that this will help as most women are afraid of confronting people when they are not happy or feel mistreated.

Ms Gumede introduced Mrs. Mchunu who was going to motivate the audience about life and how to treat each other. Mostly she directed her communication to women, saying respect and love for themselves and the community must be re-enforced.

Mrs. Mchunu entertained the audience through her powerful talks, where she mentioned that an acronym for the word WOMAN stands for Worker, Organizer, Manager, Adviser and Negotiator for their families, colleagues, communities and friends. During her motivational speech, Mrs. Mchunu also entertained the crowd by sharing jokes which kept the crowd laughing.

The Hospital choir entertained the audience by their energetic performance.

The members of both men and women forum committees were introduced to staff members.
**DURING THE LAUNCH OF MEN'S AND WOMEN'S FORUM**

Left: Mr. Celani Zincume leading the prayer during the opening of the event.

Below: From left Mr. Mvelo Nzuza (HR manager); Miss Mbalithi Sithole (Nursing Manager); Ms. Zethu Gumede (EAP uThungulu Health District) and Mr. Mlungisi Ndlovu (Chairperson of Provincial Men’s Forum KZN) During the event.

Above: Ngwelezana staff members who were attending the launch of men’s and women’s forum listening to the speakers attentively.

Above: Another Programme Director of the event was Mr. N.A. Mthembu who was kept everyone awake and concentrated.

Above: Sr Tembe was one of two programme directors and has a voice of an angel when she sings.

Above : Mr Nzuza (HR Manager) welcoming event attendants.
Above: beautiful ladies, the women’s forum committee members included representatives all components (the chairperson, deputy chairperson, secretary and deputy secretary and additional members)

Above: Mr. M. Ndlovu addressing staff members about how men should behave at home and in the workplace. Men should protect and respect those close to them

Above: Miss Z. Gumede from uThungulu District Introducing one of the guest

Above: Ngwelezana Hospital Choir giving us a very nice performance

Above: Attendants during the event

Above: the men’s forum committee members include the chairperson, deputy chairperson, secretary and deputy secretary and additional members