



## WORLD SIGHT DAY COMMEMORATION

The annual World Sight Day commemoration was a resounding success. This event was the highlight of the International Eye Care week that involved a number of activities.

The Guest Speaker, Councillor Fawzia Peer, Chief Whip in eThekweni Municipality. Councillor Fawzia thanked the Department of Health and St Aidan's Mission Hospital for offering such a valuable service to the people of eThekweni Municipality.

She also highlighted how people blessed with the gift of sight take for granted the challenges faced by the people with visual problems.

One of the speakers Mr John Foster spoke at length about the retinal problems and how people with such problems should look after themselves.

About 62 patients underwent cataract surgery. They were quite grateful of the outcomes as it saved them from imminent blindness. There were also about 365 people who had their eyes screened for a variety of eye problems. 138 people received glasses. All these services were done free of charge.

The crowds were entertained by the children from the KwaZulu-Natal Society for the Blind.

St Aidan's Hospital would like to thank the following



**Councillor Fawzia Peer (left) with Nursing Manager Mrs S.D. Pillay**

individuals and organizations for their immense contribution to the success of this event.

- ✦ Dr S. Singh – South African Optometric Society
- ✦ Mrs Rosh Subrayen – KZN Society for the Blind
- ✦ Dr K. Naidoo – ICEE

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## CEO'S CORNER

We have come to the end of another highly successful year and can be proud of overall performance in 2006. Part of our success can be attributed to the following events that have taken place throughout the year:

- ✦ The Launch of EAP
- ✦ World Sight Day
- ✦ Quality Assurance Day
- ✦ Staff Wellness Day

✦ Awards Day  
In the recent Patient Experience in Public Health Institutions Survey we were rated among the top ten hospitals in the province. We managed to get a 100% rating in a number of categories.

This, however, does not mean that we will rest in our laurels. We have already come up with some mechanisms to ensure that we improve where

we were lacking. Some of these measures are reflected in the 2006-2009 Strategic Plan and 2006-2007 Operational Plan.

We have successfully commissioned three disciplines viz: Urology, Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery as well as Ophthalmology. We are happy to declare that all the necessary structures are in place for the institution to run

effectively in attaining our Vision and Mission.

All this has been achieved through the dedication and hard work by the staff of the institution as well as our service providers.

I wish the entire St Aidan's family all the best over the Festive Season and hope you return rejuvenated and ready to face the challenges of 2007.

## PLAY PROGRAMME TAKING SHAPE



**Paediatric Ward and Rehab staff attending the play programme workshop**

The hospital play programme that was initiated by Mrs A. Sewpersad, Principal Social Worker, in June is developing in leaps and bounds. Its objective is to implement an educational and stimulation programme in the Paediatric Plastic ward.

The Centre for Children's Rights were instrumental in training 17

paediatric staff members, 1 parent, social worker and rehabilitation section staff to implement the hospital play programme.

Training would be ongoing with new trends and innovative ideas when using play as a stimulation and educational programme. Centre for Children's Rights also donated a bunch of toys to the paediatric ward.

Playing is one of the most important aspects for children who are in hospital. It helps the healing process and brings a degree of normality in a very different environment.

The power of play can also help in overcoming fear, apprehension and confusion that may be experienced by the child.

## REHABILITATION FACILITY LAUNCH



**Section of Rehab Gymnasium**

The Rehabilitation Gymnasium has been officially opened with much excitement of staff and patients.

Patients that require Rehabilitation can now receive their treatment in a comfortable and conducive environment. This facility is equipped with modern devices.

The Gymnasium is shared by the Physiotherapy and Occupational Therapy Departments and will be equipped with all the necessary therapeutic and media equipment. Our patients can be assured that they will receive high quality care.

We hope that this initiative will be utilized to its full potential and that it grows and develop into an efficient Rehab Centre. Credit goes to Jacob Mbhele, Chief Physio and Vinolia Jairaj, Occupational Therapist, for their efforts to make this venture a reality.

## QUALITY DAY

The holding of Quality Day marked the intensification of Quality Improvement and Accreditation programmes at St Aidan's Mission Hospital.

This year's event paid a special focus on the practical implementation of Batho Pele Principles with a particular focus on principle number 4 i.e. COURTESY. There were a number of activities engaged in to

conscientious on the importance of the long-held tradition of the hospital to treat patients with dignity and respect.

The arrival of the new Deputy Nursing Manager, Ms N.C. Sosibo, has given the programme a shot in the arm as she has been instrumental in strengthening its structures. She has displayed a lot of enthusiasm and passion in her role as the

Project Leader in Quality Improvement issues.

As according to the recent Client Experience Survey results St Aidan's Mission Hospital is rated among the top ten hospitals in the KZN DOH.

We aim to maintain and improve the standards we have set ourselves. That goal will be achieved with everybody's cooperation.

## EDITOR'S QUIP

As the flash in the pan this year has come and gone. Like every day, week or month it has left different marks in the minds of different people. Some of us will remember it as the year of sadness as we had bad experiences like losing people who were valuable to their lives. Some will always value it as the year in which we made remarkable strides in terms of our personal lives and

careers. Whatever the case might be this is the time to take stock of what happened during the past year and plan for the year ahead. It is of no use to dwell on what has already happened but what really matters is what you learn out of it. Our past experiences should be the mirror through which we look at ourselves and decide what areas we need to

improve on. It so often happens that around this time we take resolutions as to how we intend to make changes that will make our personal lives better. Perhaps, for a change, next year we may consider not only thinking about our personal well being but what value we may add to other people's lives. This may refer to what we will do for our families, friends, colleagues and

each and every human being we come into contact with. May we all have an enjoyable Festive Season and get into the New Year with revived hope and enthusiasm.

Take care.

Please submit your newsletter contributions to:

[zwide.ndwandwe@kznhealth.gov.za](mailto:zwide.ndwandwe@kznhealth.gov.za)  
or call:

031 314 2255

## QUOTABLE QUOTES

"It is dangerous to be right on matters on which the established authorities are wrong".

**Voltaire**

"No person can be a leader unless he takes genuine joy in the success of those under him".

**W.A. Nance**

"The fellow who thinks he knows everything is especially annoying to those of us who do".

**Harold Coffin**

"The most damaging phrase in the language is: 'It's always been done that way'".

**Grace Hoper**

## LAUGHTER THE BEST MEDICINE

### REST AND CHANGE

A patient whose doctor advised him to get away to the seaside for a rest and a change came back after a week, and went to report to the doctor.

"Well, did the rest and the change do you good?" asked the doctor.

"Not much", said the disgruntled patient. "The doorman got my change and the hotel got the rest".

### SAVE MY LIFE

A doctor has been attending to an old rich man for sometime, but it became apparent that the old man had not long time to live. Accordingly, the doctor advised his wealthy patient to put his affairs in order. "Oh yes, I've done that", said the old man. "I've only got to make my will. And do you know what I'm going to do with all my money? I am going to leave it to the doctor who saves my life."

### ON MY FOOT

A doctor infamous for his habit of hitting the bottle had a schoolboy in his consulting room.

As he staggeringly approached the schoolboy to give him an injection, the boy yelled out loud.

"What's the matter?" said the doctor crossly. "I haven't touched you yet".

### GOLF CRISIS

A dejected golf enthusiast was overheard telling his friend some bad news after consulting his doctor.

"My doctor has told me to give up golf".

"Why – because of your health?"

"No. He looked at my score card".

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LOVING CARE IS THE BEST  
 MEDICINE

## WORDS OF WISDOM

One day, a donkey fell down an unused well. The farmer felt that as the donkey was getting on in years – it would not be feasible to lift him out. So he left the donkey there to die. On hearing this, the donkey began to panic and tried to get out of the well.

At first he started thrashing around, resulting in the earth around him dislodging and falling to the ground. On seeing this, the donkey realized that if he could loosen enough sand/stones it will enable him to stand on the heap of sand, this giving him leverage to climb out of the well.

**Moral – there is always hope in any situation if only we learn to take time to try some means of overcoming and getting out of the challenging circumstances.**

## STAFF SCENE

### WELCOME

We wish to welcome the following new recruits to the staff of St Aidan's Hospital:

1. Ms N.C. Sosibo—Deputy Nursing Manager
2. Mr M.B. Ndlela-PHRO
3. Mrs S. Ncube-HRO
4. Mr S. Mbongwe-HRO
5. Mr T. Shezi-HRO
6. Mrs R.B. Khumalo-HRDO
7. Miss T.H. Ntshingila– FSO
8. Mr Z.T. Ngubane-FSO
9. Miss L.Z. Nkosi-Telecom Operator

### PROMOTIONS

Congratulations to the below Nursing Staff members that have been appointed as Unit Managers as at 1 November 2006:

1. Mr T. Kettleas—Female Urology Domain
2. Mrs L. Munthree—Uro Plastic OPD
3. Ms V. Byragee—Male Eye Domain
4. Mrs T.I. Moses—Paediatric Domain
5. Mrs A.N. Magubane—Male Plastic Domain
6. Mrs C.N. Mbongwe—Female Plastic Domain

### SPORTS UPDATE

Members of our netball team Gabisile Mdletshe and Itumeleng Taoana were selected to the squad that represented eThekweni Health District in KZN DOH games that were held in Richards Bay recently.

Even though the eThekweni District team was eliminated in the knock-out stage of the tournament, our girls gave a stunning performance and kept St Aidan's flag flying high.

In the same sporting note, we have an interesting recreation programme drawn up for next year. So you must keep watching this space.