



health

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Health
PROVINCE OF KWAZULU-NATAL

VRYHEID DISTRICT HOSPITAL

INQOLOBANE NEWS

STAY INFORMED

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YEAR END REVIEW AND CLOSING FUNCTION



THE HOSPITAL CEO MS N. F. NGEMA TAKEN WITH PS STHEMBISO ZONDO AND HOSPITAL STAFF DURING THE YEAR END REVIEW AND CLOSING FUNCTION.



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YEAR END REVIEW AND CLOSING FUNCTION

Year ends in general are characterized by reflections. Reflections help in identifying where one comes from and where they are headed. For Vryheid Hospital and Clinics staff and community, 2017 was not one of the greatest years. Vryheid was one area that was grossly affected by the drought. As a health facility, one would already anticipate the challenges of running such facilities amid those trying times as water is one of the integral parts in ensuring the smooth running of a health facility.

With the shortage of water staff had to stretch themselves beyond limits. Before they could perform any of their duties, they first had to find themselves carrying water from the boreholes and the tanks surrounding the Hospital.

Although it was not an easy task to do considering the distance as well as the weight from different wards and units, it was done consistently with less or no grumbling at all. Nurses and general orderlies went beyond the expected limit fetching water.

To celebrate getting over that terrible phase and other triumphs, Vryheid Hospital staff

held a year end review and closing function to thank the staff and to close the year in style. The very prestigious event was held at the Black Horses Events and Conference Centre on the 08th of December 2017. The event was graced by the presence of sister Hospitals, Partners as well as local stakeholders.

Addressing the staff, the CEO Ms N. F. Ngema strongly expressed her heartfelt gratitude for the team spirit displayed by the staff throughout the year especially since it was her first year as the Vryheid Hospital CEO.

She mentioned that the Hospital and Clinics were recognized for a lot of good things but she stressed that it had all been a team effort. She would not have been recognized had it not been for all the staff doing their part.

Speaking on behalf of the District Manager, Mr Mthembu from the Supply Chain at the District Office mentioned that Vryheid Hospital was one of the facilities in Zululand District that were putting the District on the map. He highlighted that Vryheid was shining in the areas of reporting and at being one of the reliable facilities that was excelling in vari-

ous programmes in Zululand District as well as the Province.

Stealing the show was the renown Pastor Sthembiso Zondo who kept the audience in stitches and left no stones unturned motivating the staff to rise above any obstacle.

He emphasized the importance of being **Accountable**, **Excelling** in everything they do at work, **Integrity** at all time, taking **Ownership** and **Unifying** people instead of causing division at the work place.

There was a great ambiance. People were happy, relaxed and had a fabulous time. They really appreciated the gesture of appreciation from the Management.

The Hospital Board also encouraged the staff to take things a notch higher and appreciated good reports about the Hospital and the clinics at Abaqulusi.

Entertaining the audience was the well recognized local group Bayethe as well as the well respected local DJ Thabang. Partners and the Hospital Board were there to celebrate with the staff. The day was a huge success.

YEAR END REVIEW AND CLOSING FUNCTION IN PICTURES



YEAR END REVIEW AND CLOSING FUNCTION IN PICTURES



YEAR END REVIEW AND CLOSING FUNCTION IN PICTURES



OPERATION MBO AT LOUWSBURG



Left to right: Ms N. J. Khumalo—DNM, Cllr B. Khumalo—Ward Councilor, Cllr Nhlabathi—Mayor Pongola Municipality, Nqobile Mbatha—PRO, Ms N. F. Ngema—CEO, Ms A. T. S. Sibiya—PHC Manager, Ms T. Buthelezi—DCST PHC

Christmas came early for the Community of Louwsburg, Ward 1 at Abaqulusi, in the form of maximized service delivery from various Government Departments. On a very chilly Saturday of the 14th of October 2017, Operation Sukuma Sakhe District Task Team led Abaqulusi Task Team to Louwsburg Ngotshe High School for a very successful Operational Mbo.

Various Government Departments were on site as early as 07:30 to render services to the Community of Louwsburg Ward 1 and the surrounding areas. As the leading Department, Health ensured that all the services that would mostly be found at the hospital were there onsite i.e. Dentists, Optometrist, Ophthalmic Nurses, Physiotherapists, Dietitian, Occupational Therapist, Pharmacy etc.

The very eager community members from Dwasland, Banakile, Thekwane, Tholakele, Madamu, Nhlangwini, Gobeni, Xamu areas came in numbers and were very patient in ensuring that they maximize the opportunity presented to them. 2 NHI trucks stood there offering dental services with 3 Dentists from Vryheid Hospital attending to patients. The other one was offering Optometrist Services and was being used by an Optometrist

and 2 Ophthalmic nurses. Other very essential Departments were there i.e. Home Affairs, SASSA, Social Development, Sport and Recreation as well as Zululand District Municipality. The local leadership Cllr B. Nkosi as well as the Development Committee of the Area was there to ensure smooth running of the services. SAPS also ensure safety and security of everyone that attended.

Adding to the success of the event was the support from the Pongola Mayor who was there with her office to also render services as some of the clients were collected from Pongola area close to Louwsburg Area. The Hospital Board members were also visible onsite assisting. As part of the Operation Mbo, MMC clients were not left behind. EMS and HST played a crucial role in transporting the clients from different areas.

Time was of no essence. They were not in the hurry, and they were not even discouraged by the very cold weather conditions. Department of Sport and Recreation ensured that the young ones were entertained while waiting for their parents and Nongoma FM ensured that everybody had a wonderful time. The turnout was so huge that at the end of the day there were patients that had to be scheduled for another day.

OPERATION MBO AT LOUWSBURG IN PICTURES



LADYBIRD DAY CARE CHRISTMAS AT THE HOSPITAL



On Friday the 28th of November 2017, the hospital came to light with the children from the Ladybird Day Care Centre who came to present children from the Paediatric Ward with Christmas gifts. The young souls dressed in bright and beautiful elves outfits were accompanied by their teachers also dressed in elves and Father Christmas outfits. The ward was abuzz with excitement from both visitors and children in the ward. Paediatric ward was treated to songs, dance, toys and goodies.

ZDM MAYOR VISITS THE VRYHEID HOSPITAL



ZDM Mayor Thulasizwe Buthelezi giving a toys to the patients Mayor Buthelezi with the Senior Management

Zululand District Municipality hosted a Christmas Party for the children in Zululand District. The party was held on the 16th of December 2017. The Mayor of ZDM, Cllr Thulasizwe Buthelezi seeing that other children could not attend the planned Christmas Party decided to bring it to the

Hospitals in Zululand and Vryheid was one of the Hospitals who were lucky to be visited on the 21st of December 2017.

The Mayor came bearing toys and packets of goodies. As a Reverend he took turns to pray for the patients in their beds. The Mayor was accom-

panied by the Councilors from Abaqulusi as well as Senior Managements around Paediatric Ward.

There was an air of excitement in the ward. Patients and parents were very happy. The Management appreciated the visit.

WORLD AIDS DAY EVENT



Annually the 01st of December across the globe there is a commemoration of World AIDS Day to put in remembrance people infected and affected by the HIV and AIDS.

For 2017, Vryheid CDC staff led a mini campaign inside the Hospital premises where they were taking the messages of hope to the staff, inpatients as well as out patients in OPD, TB Clinic as well as CDC.

The activities included a march which was led by the CDC staff and joined by the staff from different service points around the Hospital.

The staff was carrying placards that had the messages supporting the theme for last the 2017 World AIDS Day which said, 'I have the right to know my status, Prevention is my responsibility'.

All wards were visited and staff and patients were encouraged to test and know their status as their right to Health. After that, the Hospital Chaplain Rev Mpanza led a candle lighting ceremony in CDC. Staff led by the Chaplain took turns in testing for HIV.



WORLD AIDS DAY
LET OUR ACTIONS COUNT
IT IS MY RIGHT TO KNOW MY STATUS.
PREVENTION IS MY RESPONSIBILITY

WORLD AIDS DAY

December 1, 2017




ENCUNTSHE HPS LAUNCH



Ms Rasi giving her speech



Audience listening to speeches.

Vryheid Primary Health Care has once again come under the spotlight for the launching of Encuntshe Primary School situated at Ward 5 at KwaMnyathi Area on the 02nd of November 2017.

Encuntshe Primary School makes a total of 15 clinics to be launched as a Health Promoting School which makes Abaqulusi the leading sub-district in Zululand with the highest number of HPS schools launched.

Ms G. Rasi from the Head Office and guests at the event were impressed as the children from Encuntshe School displayed adequate knowledge of healthy lifestyle in the activities of the day. She encouraged the men attending to ensure they test early for prostate cancer as it is preventable.

Different Government Departments under the OSS umbrella tackled the issues in respect of their Departments. The host Department of



The School Health Team taken with the Ward Councilor Mdititi Ntombela and Ms Mbaraga from District



Soul Buddies entertaining the guests

Education urged the support of the parents in ensuring that they take interests in their children's life. Observe changes and ensure their children's safety.

The ever so visible Ward 5 Councilor Mdititi Ntombela was also there alongside other community leaders and stakeholders for support. He appreciated being involved and being able to understand what Health Promoting School entails. He expressed his belief that Launching Encuntshe Primary School as HPS will yield positive results in the community and improve lives of people in the community.

Ms Mbaraga, the District ISHP and Family Teams Coordinator gave a background on the Programme Initiation with the Declaration of Alma Ata prior awarding the school for with the certificate. The HPS Team lead by Mr M. S. Ntombela was appreciated by the Principal and School Governing Body. The event was a success.

ENCUNTSHE HPS LAUNCH CONT.



Ms Rasi and Ms Mbaraga taken with the School Health Teams from different facilities.



Soul Buddies displaying their knowledge of Health Care in a stage play.

CARING ANGELS VISIT THE HOSPITAL

Caring Angels have really made a mark in the hearts of the staff at Vryheid Hospital for their consistent generosity especially towards the neonates with special interest on premature babies at the Hospital.

This group of Christian ladies from different churches in the community of Vryheid have been visiting the Hospital bearing gifts for the neonates.

For December, they did not just visit the post natal and labour ward. They decided to extend their generosity to the adult hospital patients as well as most were not with their families during the time of giving and love.

Staff were not left behind. They also got packets of sweets and goodies from the walking Angels amongst humans that have imprinted their footprints in our hearts.



UZALO CAPTAIN VISITS THE HOSPITAL



1. Captain Mthimkhulu greeting patients/fans in the ward.
2. Staff from Mason Street Clinic
3. Jabulile Sangweni (Mother of the Quadruplets) and Sr S. Buthelezi who delivered them together with the Board Member Mr Myeni.
4. Mason Street Clinic.
5. Taken with fans at the Clinic.
6. With staff from Male Surgical ward.
7. With Quadruplets



The birth of quadruplets amongst other things put Vryheid Hospital on the map. One saw more than the usual number of visitors coming to see the miracle babies.

On the 10th of October 2017 a very quiet Tuesday (except for the sound of the construction on site of cause), the hospital was shocked by the visit of Captain Mthimkhulu played by Sifiso Simamane of the popular SABC Drama Uzalo.

The excitement was so thick you could cut it with the knife. The Captain was accompanied by the member of the Hospital Board Mr J. Myeni and local group of Amaphantsula.

The aim of the visit was to see the Quadruplets but since he was in the Hospital Premises he took a chance to greet his fans in the wards and also made a chance available for the staff to take pictures with him.

One of the highlights of the visit was to congratulate Sr Simphiwe Buthelezi who delivered the quadruplets on the job well done.

What was to be a boring Tuesday turned into an exciting day in a split second. The group then proceeded to Mason Street and Thembumusa Clinics. Patients and staff were ecstatic.



FIGHT AGAINST KILLING OF PEOPLE LIVING WITH ALBINISM



The Traditional Health Practitioners from Abaqulusi Area and the surroundings in partnership with KZN Ezemvelo Wildlife held an event to fight the killing of people with albinism.

Having taken part in the KZN MEC for Health Dr S. M. Dhlomo's plight of fighting with illegal abortions, they have taken it upon themselves to include it in their campaigns as well as part of the affected community.

So on 18 October 2017, the day

where a march was held for the killing of people living with albinism, Department of Health was involved to explain the reasons why people end up with albinism.

This was to eliminate myths and misconceptions which end up victimizing people living with the condition.

Sr Ntombiyeshile Ngcobo Operational Manager from Mason Street Clinic as well as Ms Margarete Buthelezi from Zululand

Health District went to great lengths in clarifying the reasons for the lack melanin which was appreciated by the people living with albinism in attendance.

Included in the Memorandum that was submitted to the Mayor was the reminder that as Abaqulusi THPs they are still endorsing Dr Dhlomo's Fight against illegal abortions. The CTOP provider was also amongst Departmental staff that took part in the march.

10 COMMON MYTHS REGARDING PEOPLE LIVING WITH ALBINISM.

Myth: They are results of inbreeding or incest, that is, breed from closely related people, especially over many generations.

Fact: The body of people living with Albinism has little or no ability to produce the colour of the skin, hair and eyes. This colour is called "melanin". It is a genetic condition, which means it can be passed from parents to their children, but no studies have shown that this is a result of incest.

Myth: Albinism is a punishment or a curse from the gods or ancestral spirits due to wrongs done in the family.

Fact: Albinism is a genetic condition that is passed on from parents to children. Many people are carriers of this recessive gene. Albinism is not a curse.

Myth: Body parts of persons living with albinism make potent charms that can make people rich and successful.

Fact: This is not true. It is a myth spread by

witchdoctors in order to enrich themselves at the expense of others.

Myth: Drinking the blood of a person with albinism gives extra magical powers

Fact: This is not true. Persons with albinism are human beings like anyone else and do not possess any magical powers.

Myth: People with albinism are sterile.

Fact: This is not true. Persons with albinism are fertile and can have children like other people.

Myth: A person with albinism cannot have regularly pigmented children.

Fact: A person with albinism can give birth to regularly pigmented children if his/her partner is not a carrier of a similar recessive gene for albinism. The children may be carriers of the recessive gene but it will not be expressed in them.

Myth: People with albinism are not intelligent.

Fact: This is not true. Persons with albinism

are intelligent and also perform well academically like other normally pigmented people. There are teachers, lawyers, politicians and musicians who are living with albinism. Salif Keita is such one person living with albinism yet a world renowned musician.

Myth: People with albinism cannot see during the day but see well at night.

Fact: People with albinism have eyesight problems due to lack of 'melanin' pigmentation in the retina. They can see during the day and also at night, but they may either be short or long sighted and may need sight aids.

Myth: That the mother slept with a white man.

Fact: Children born with albinism may look 'white' due to absent or reduced pigmentation but are not products of cross race sexual relationships.

Myth: That people with albinism don't die, they simply vanish.

Fact: All people with albinism die like other normally pigmented people. There's no such thing as vanishing.

NEW FACES IN THE MANAGEMENT



If you have heard the concept "bamgqime engeqiwa ntwala" that is what Vryheid Hospital did to Ceza Hospital by absorbing Dr P. C. Mchunu (Ceza former Medical Manager). Dr Mchunu (**left**) joined Vryheid Hospital on a transfer from the 01st of December 2017. On his second day the 04th of December 2017, the Senior Management and Clinical Managers organized a light lunch just to let him know he is welcome at Vryheid Hospital.

The Senior Management as well as Clinical Managers had a lot of great things to say about his capabilities and his management style that they experienced working with him whilst he was still at Ceza Hospital. The shy ever smiling Dr Mchunu hopes to enjoy his stay at Vryheid Hospital

On the 01st of December 2017 the Senior Management accepted the appointment of the Deputy Nurse Manager Ms N. J. Khumalo (**right**). Ms Khumalo worked as the Assistant Nurse Manager for a long time at Vryheid Hospital. She is no stranger to the community of Abaqulusi as she is umsinsi wokuzimilela. Hope she will do exceptionally well in her new position.



From the 01st of November 2017, Ms A. T. S. Sibiya former PHC Supervisor commenced duties as a PHC Manager. Ms Sibiya (**left**) acted in the position of PHC Manager almost a year (11 months) after the exit of Ms Nhlanhla Masindane. The Management and staff wish her well in her new position and believe she will carry the arch diligently.

On the 01st of October 2017 the staff at Vryheid lost one of the youngest Operational Manager, Ms Hlengiwe Myeza (**below**) to Edumbe CHC. She assumed duties of the Assistant Nursing Manager. On the 19th of October 2017, a farewell function was held in her honour. Colleagues and Staff in her component expressed the pleasure of working with person of her caliber. She was portrayed as a very dedicated employee with high levels of intelligence which was evident from the fact that she was the youngest Operational Manager at Vryheid Hospital. In response Ms Myeza thanked the staff and her family for the support they gave her while she was at Vryheid Hospital. She mentioned that the experience she gained will surely take her far in her journey in life. Hoping she will represent Vryheid Hospital well at eDumbe.



MASON STREET CLINIC CLOSING FUNCTION AND AWARDS



BHEKUZULU CLINIC CLOSING FUNCTION AND AWARDS



SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

RAF NEW OFFICE IN VRYHEID HOSPITAL

The Road Accident Fund has recently opened its new Hospital Service Centre in the Vryheid hospital. The service centre is now operational. The centre is part of service delivery, bringing the much needed services to the community of Vryheid and the surrounding communities.

The office will assist qualifying road crash victims to register new claims, check their claims status, and assist with any other enquiries.

The office is operational from 7h45am till 16h00pm from Monday to Friday.

TAKE CHARGE. Claim directly with us.

Call us on **0860 23 55 23**.

Road Accident Fund. We Care.

CONTACT DETAILS

VRYHEID DISTRICT HOSPITAL

OFFICE NUMBER 02, ADMIN BUILDING

COSWALD BROWN STREET

P/BAG X 9371

VRYHEID

3100

Tel 034-9895929

Fax: 034-98009757/9800277

Cell: 0810382187

Email:

nqobile.mbhatha@kznhealth.gov.za

Website: www.kznhealth.gov.za/vryheidhospital.htm