



QWAKAZA BETHESDA NEWS

Informing staff and our clients

BETHESDA HOSPITAL

FROM A MISSION ESTABLISHMENT TO A DISTRICT HOSPITAL

Bethesda Hospital was founded in 1937 by the Methodist Church. It is now run by the Provincial Government, as a district hospital with 230 beds authorized, 196 usable beds. The institution is situated 18km off N2 of Mkuze in Ubombo rural area-on Ubombo mountain overlooking the Northern Maputaland planes.



Bethesda Hospital during Missionary era-1930's

The work includes both primary and secondary level medical care. We serve a population of approximately 100 000 people in an area of about 1500 square kilometers. There eight residential clinics and two mobile clinic teams that visit 28 points every two week cycle. The medical staff use 4x4 vehicles to visit residential clinics weekly. TB and other infectious diseases are prolific, as are malnutrition, HIV related disease and malaria. There is a minimal risk at the hospital itself because of elevated altitude. The spraying programs have decreased the incident dramatically.

Maternal and child care health HIV & AIDS, TB & poverty alleviation are priorities so great deal of time and effort is being spend on improving our clinics services and health education. We teach Primary health care nurses and have a very active HIV/AIDS team, which has a growing home based care and AIDS orphan programme. They also won the Impumelelo Award for their dedication to improvement.

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Special points of interest:

- ? Plans for year 2005 to March 2006.
- ? Promotion of Physical Health Activities
- ? Know the next date for social activity

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Challenges that are facing the hospital in-terms of service delivery

Critical areas with impact on service delivery. There has been a number of issues that have been and still affecting the hospital's performance in-terms of reaching patients. Most of the areas were, size of the wards and non segregation in-terms of diseases or illness. The overcrowding in wards, reason being bed occupancy rate.

Infrastructure, roads to Jozini/ Makhathini areas inaccessible during the rainy seasons. Budgetary constraints, problem being strategic plan not really informing the budget process. Clinics such as Mkuze and Madonela are not user friendly, because of the physical structure..... continues page 2

POOR INFRASTRUCTURE HAS A NEGATIVE IMPACT IN REACHING CLINICS AND MOBILE UNITS

Poor infrastructure is a major challenge in accessing key areas in terms of service delivery. Reaching clinics at some points is so difficult, more especially during rainy seasons, shortage of transport, break down of hospital vehicles and cost of vehicles repairs contribute a significant impact. These issues are directly or in directly have a major impact on hospital's service of delivery.

If one can compare the roads from the cities and the ones from the rural areas there is a huge gap. Contrary, the demand is too high in the rural areas. People from the country side are facing more challenges such as poverty, illiteracy and unemployment .



Road to Mhlekazi Clinic is too bumpy and gravel, this makes access to clinic very difficult

All of these challenges makes the hospital's job to be difficult to perform at its level best.

Security services at clinics, is another issue that still needs to be addressed by the hospital. Inaccuracy of data (at all levels still a challenge). Legacy of the past, within this contest there are many issues that still needs to be addressed at all governmental levels. Shortage of medical equipment, doctors, staff are also the contributing factors.

All these challenges are not only affecting Bethesda alone, it is a crisis that the government is aware of . The Management of all institutions are busy addressing challenges.

IMPROVEMENT WITHIN THE HOSPITAL WARDS



New developments that have taken place inside hospital wards aiming at improving working conditions and care service

From left, is Female Ward, with good looking facilities. On the right, is Male Ward, with it's dedicated staff helping the patients.



HOSPITAL MANAGER'S NOTE OF ENCOURAGEMENT .

Iwould love to welcome and congratulate the introduction of our newly developed news letter. I Strongly believe that this news letter will act as a communication tool in addressing all issues, events and matters of interest within the hospital.

It is so hard to witness challenges that are hindering our dedication and



commitment in giving great service to our clients, but I believe that working together for a common purpose we can over come all these challenges. We are all aware of the challenges and problems that are affecting our hospital. Without, a proper focus we can not address these mat-

ters accordingly. I'm fully aware about all of these challenges.

As the management we are working tirelessly to formulate mechanism and strategies of overcoming these issues, such as shortage of staff, shortage of medical equipment, and non segregation in terms of diseases or illness.

"TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE IT"

LAUNCH OF VUKA SOUTH AFRICA 'MOVE FOR YOUR HEALTH' CAMPAIGN.

BACKGROUND

This is a national and global initiative promoting physical activity as part of a healthy life style for all. South Africa has been mandated by the World Health Assembly to celebrate Move For Health.

AIMS

Firstly, is to facilitate the development of sustained physical activity initiatives, policies and programmes via network involving all stakeholders. Encourage man and women, children and youth to participate in regular physical activity. Increase participation in physical activity through events, sports organizations and other socio-cultural forums. Promote healthy behaviors and life style to address health related issues through physical activity.

WHERE?

Programmes can be instituted at any place.

WHO?

NGO's, Governmental departments, sport, community based of faith based should integrate and coordinate planning for the Move for Health Day. Private companies, schools, local and community groups should be invited to participate in the celebration of the campaign



On the 10 of May, Bethesda Hospital Manager Mrs. P.S. Khumalo officially launched the campaign. She was addressing staff members about the importance of *Move For Your Health initiative*. She encouraged the staff to be involved on different activities within their working environment and any place where people live, learn, and play. For sustainability, events and activities should span from May 2005 to March 2006 in line with global networking



From left is Nozipho Khumalo a Social who gave address on EAP, outlining how staff member can be stress free through participating the physical activities. On the right is Katie Pereira, a Dietician who gave sensitive outline and importance of eating balance meals. She stressed the need for vegetables and fruits in each an every meal of the day.



On the left is Venessa Pinheiro talking about the importance of daily exercise, moving your body at least 20 minutes a day can assist in developing strong muscles. It can also assist to boost immune system and create a healthy mind.

On the right is HIV/AIDS coordinator Sir Zenzele Nhleko-During the launch he spoke about t importance of a safety and protected sex, he encourage the use of condoms if a person is sexually activity. He also gave a comprehensive lesson on living positive and healthy life with an HIV virus.



Bethesda Hospital

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**STRIVING FOR SERVICE
EXCELLENCE**

'TO ALL STAFF MEMBERS, IF YOU HAVE ANY INTERESTING STORIES OR INFORMATION TO SHARE WITH US, YOU MAY CONTACT: THE PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICER, NKULULEKO QWABE, ON THE ABOVE MENTIONED ADDRESS'.

OUR VISION

To deliver affordable, efficient and effective good quality health care in Bethesda Sub District.

OUR MISSION

To render compassionate inpatient care and outpatient services based on the PHC approach, while providing continuing education, admin support, technical support and referring patient needing high level of care.

CORE VALUES

Open communication

Transparency

Consultation

Commitment to performance & service excellence

Change and innovation

WINTER WARMTH CAMPAIGN

SIZIXOXA NGEZITHOMBE IZINDABA EZITHOKOZISAYO E-BETHESDA



Hospital Manager Mrs. P.S Khumalo talking to community members who were to receive free blankets from S.A Red Cross Air Mercy Service and East coast Radio, Rotary & Gift of the Givers. On the left, are community children who received the blankets.



**'SIBUSISIWE ISANDLA
ESIPHAYO KUNE
SAMUKELAYO'**



On left is Matron S. F Mthimkhulu Nursing Manager, with DJ Damon Baird of East coast radio. On right is KZN Health communication-Mbali Thusi, Mrs. PS Khumalo and Trish Riss from S.A Red Cross Air Mercy Service

