DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH



PROVINCE OF KWAZULU-NATAL

CORPORATE COMMUNICATION SERVICES

Natalia, 330 Longmarket Street, Pietermaritzburg, 3201 Private Bag X9051, Pietermaritzburg, 3200 Tel.: 033 395 2220, Fax.: 033 3420429 thusim@dohho.kzntl.gov.za

TO: ALL MEDIA

DATE: 11 OCTOBER 2005

EMBARGO: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DEPARTMENT VISITS SCHOOLS

Throughout the week of the 10th to the 14th of October teams from the Provincial Department of Health will be visiting schools as part of the National School Health Week initiative. Different programmes within the KZN Department of Health are taking part in this week's initiative. These include Maternal, Child and Womens' Health; Nutrition; Rehabilitation and Disability; Health Promotion; Mental Health; Environmental Health and Oral Health

In consultation with the Department of Education a programme was put in place to visit 131 schools throughout the province. Teams which include health professionals and representatives from the different programmes will visit schools and promote healthy lifestyles among the learners.

Learners will be screened and assessed by a team of nurses and they will also be taught about the importance of personal hygiene, oral health and nutrition. Children who require further medical attention and treatment will be referred to the local health institution.

The teams will also address pupils on social issues such as HIV and AIDS, Mental Health, Substance Abuse and Child Abuse.

ENDS

For more information please contact Ms Lindiwe Khuzwayo on 083 393 9943 or Mrs Ester Snyman from Maternal, Child and Womens' Health Programme on (031) 332 2425 or Ms Janet Dalton on 083 457 1168.