



HEALTH
KwaZulu-Natal

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TO: ALL MEDIA
DATE: 8 SEPTEMBER 2006

OPERATION SMILE FREE CLEFT LIP/PALATE SURGERY

The KZN Department of Health, together with Operation Smile and the Star Smile Fund, will be providing corrective facial surgery to children and adults who have Cleft Lips or Cleft Palates.

Cleft Lips and Cleft Palates are holes in the roof of the mouth and lip that have caused the lips not to fully form.

Surgery will commence on Monday, 11 September at Ngwelezane Hospital in Empangeni and will be conducted by local and international volunteers. Media is invited to attend a press conference at Ngwelezane Hospital to witness the start of "Smile Mission", which is a week of surgeries that could change the lives of many people Cleft Lips or Cleft Palates. Details for the press conference are as follows:

DATE: 11 September 2006
TIME: 13h00
VENUE: Ngwelezane Hospital, Empangeni

Photo opportunities for before and after pictures of the children and their families will be facilitated after the press conference or prior to it by appointment. Interviews with the medical volunteers can also be scheduled.

For more details please contact Moira Gerszt on 011-783-4177 or
moiraq@smilefund.org.za.

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