Rape knows no race, age, gender or affluence. It crosses all boundaries. In South Africa a woman is raped every 17 seconds and at least 500 babies and children are sexually abused everyday. These alarming statistics of rape and sexual abuse of our children, mothers, grandmothers and sisters have urged Northdale Hospital staff TO DECLARE WAR AGAINST RAPE, and TO RAISE AWARENESS AGAINST RAPE OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN.

Northdale Hospital staff held a Black Friday March which was supported by SOS Children’s Home, Mountain Rise—Family Violence, Child Protection and Sexual Offences Unit (FCS) and National Prosecuting Authority (NPA). This March marked the importance of intersectorial collaboration in management of Sexual Abuse. Northdale Hospital Crisis Center has achieved this intersectorial relationship.

The march was concluded with a few speeches and multi cultural prayer. The value of women in Christianity, Islam and Hinduism.

Hospital staff was given information on how to report Sexual Offence cases by NPA representative. Constable Makhaza of Mountain Rise enlightened the crowd about a good touch and bad touch.

All survivors are reminded that it is important to report rape to the nearest police station, Social Development, teacher, or Health Care facility as early as possible, especially within 72 hours. If a rape survivor is brought to the Crisis Center within the 72 hours, a full medico-legal examination is done and forensic medical evidence collected and handed over to SAPS. Rape crisis counseling HIV Pre and Post test counseling, post exposure prophylaxis, emergencies contraception, STI treatment is given. Psycho-social support is also offered. Crisis Center works very closely with NGO’s thereby providing holistic care for our survivors.