



health

Department:
Health
PROVINCE OF KWAZULU-NATAL

UMKHANYAKUDE HEALTH DISTRICT

SIKHANYAKUDE

NEWS

STAY INFORMED

July-September 2018

WOMEN'S MONTH CELEBRATION FOCUSED ON WOMEN'S HEALTH



Women chanting slogans and songs against women abuse, District Director Ms. M.P. Themba leading.



KZN Legislature visits Umkhanyakude
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Hluhluwe clinic staff commended
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Cuban trained medical students welcomed back
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MEC Zikala urged women to participate actively in all government programmes

UMkhanyakude Operation Sukuma Sakhe Champion Hon. MEC for EDTEA Mr. Sihle Zikalala celebrated belated women's month on 7th September 2018 with women from all sub-districts. Women's month celebration was held at Khula Village, Ward 3 under Mtubatuba Local Municipality.

The theme for the day was "100 Years of Albertina Sisulu, Woman of Fortitude: Women United in Moving South Africa Forward". However the focus for Umkhanyakude was women's health, hence the event was spearheaded by the department of health. Women were encouraged to visit their nearest clinics and do tests for cervical cancer, breast cancer and many more other women related diseases. Furthermore, women were also educated about their sexual reproductive rights. Umkhanyakude District specialist on Women's health Ms T.M. Dlamini outlined the importance of breastfeeding; she indicated that breast milk alone is the best possible food and drink for a baby; and further stressed that breastfeeding helps babies grow normally and protects them from getting sick. Other baby foods do not give protection, and can cause illness if not made up and fed properly.

Hon. MEC for EDTEA Sihle Zikalala reminded women that they have a role to play in all sectors of the society; hence they must participate in all government initiatives and programmes.

The event was a huge success, women marched for 5km around Khula Village hailing slogans and singing songs promoting the strength and role of a woman in society and at the same time discouraging social ills such as abuse and killings directed to women.

Although this celebration took place in September, but South Africa in its entirety commemorates Women's Month in August as a tribute to more than 20 000 women who marched to the Union Buildings on 9 August 1956 in protest against the extension of Pass Laws to women. The Government of South Africa declared August women's month and 9 August is celebrated annually as Women's Day



Hon. MEC for EDTEA Mr. Sihle Zikalala informing members of the media about the purpose of the event



Ward Cllr S. Khumalo and Umkhanyakude District Mayor Cllr T.S. Mkhombo joined the women's celebration.



Umkhanyakude District Mayor Cllr T.S. Mkhombo addressing women



MEC Zikalala, Ward Cllr S. Khumalo, Induna Mkhwanazi and officials from government departments

Ntshongwe Clinic in Umhlabuyalingana ran a successful campaign through Sukuma Sakhe

Ntshongwe Clinic, one of Mseleni Hospital's deep rural PHC facilities in Umkhanyakude had its massive TB awareness campaign on 11th September 2018. The campaign was conducted through a collective effort of Umhlabuyalingana Municipality's ward 15 waroom championed by hard-working Cllr N.C. Mdletshe. This was a testimony that indeed the programme Sukuma Sakhe bears fruits when all sectors come together towards serving the people.

Sr J.S. Mnguni, Operational Manager for Ntshongwe Clinic outlined that the reason for the campaign was TB cases statistics that seemed to rise and she brought the matter to the waroom, where a collective decision was taken to run a campaign in order to create awareness to the people in the area. Health education was not only on TB, but it was also on the scourge of teenage pregnancy, breast and cervical cancers, HIV & Aids and more. PHC Manager Mr. M.P. Nxumalo grabbed the opportunity to flag on the programme **National Health Insurance** to the community as a gesture to empower citizens about the government forthcoming health plans.

Beside health department, there were also various role players in the campaign who came to the fore and provided education to the community members namely: South African Police Services, Department of Social Development, South Africa Social Security Agency, Masibumbane Christain Care Organization, Independent Electoral Commission, Traditional Leadership, Religious leaders and more other stakeholders.

According to the Sukuma Sakhe implementation model document, the desired outcome of the service delivery model is "the implementation of a comprehensive, efficient, effective, quality service delivery system that contributes to a self-reliant society in a sustainable manner.

For a society to be self-reliant it is important that its members are not passive recipients of services, but that they participate actively in local interventions which will have an impact on their lives," the document reads. "Through community participation, individuals are able to connect with each other and they will be better placed to make decisions in terms of their individual and collective effort".

Hence all Ntshongwe ward 16 community based stakeholders were actively participating during the campaign; they owned it as theirs as a result it yielded good results.



Hluhluwe Clinic staff commended for good work

Hluhluwe clinic held its Open Day on 3rd October 2018. The purpose of the session was to market its services and give information on the operations of the clinic to the community. Furthermore, hardworking staff members were also given certificates of good performance by Mseleni Hospital CEO Mrs. P.S. Khumalo; the clinic also currently holds gold status on Ideal Clinic programme. Hluhluwe is one the biggest & modern clinics in the entire district. Operational Manager Sister N.P. Mkhonto urged for cooperation from community and indicated that citizens own that clinic hence they must access all services rendered as they wish.



Left: Clinic Support Officer N.G. Cebekhulu being awarded a certificate of good performance. **Right:** Sr M.P. Nxumalo giving an award from Mseleni Hospital to Hluhluwe clinic Operational Manager Sister N.P. Mkhonto

Traditional leadership plays an integral role in service delivery



District Director Ms. M.P. Themba with Msovo Hospital management waiting for a meeting with Inkosi Mngomezulu

Traditional leadership form part-and-parcel of the stakeholders in Umkhanyakude since they are a little closer to the people. Hence the health district office and hospitals ensure that close, cordial, mutual and peaceful working relations are fostered between themselves and the traditional leadership because traditional leaders are more knowledgeable of the prevailing socio-economic situation in their areas than any other person.

On 28th September 2018, District Director Ms. M.P. Themba visited Inkosi yakwaMngomezulu in Ingwavuma near South Africa-Swaziland border to discuss the issues that relate to health services provided at Nkungwini Clinic. The district already has good relationships with all eighteen (18) Amakhosi led by their chairperson Inkosi Z.T. Gumede of Makhasa Traditional Administration.

Cuban trained medical students welcomed back

Umkhanyakude District Mayor Cllr T.S. Mkhombo welcomed twenty-five (25) Cuban Trained Medical students.

These doctors-to-be will make a huge difference when they finally come back to perform duties as doctors in umkhanyakude hospitals and clinics.

As for now they will go to different universities in South Africa for a year to finish up their studies. They are part of students who left for Cuba in 2012 to chase a dream of becoming medical doctors.



Above: Umkhanyakude District Mayor and S. Mdaka addressing Cuban trained medical students.



Left: Medical students with tribal leadership, mayors, counselors and management teams from department of health

Supervisors' skills sharpened

Umkhanyakude Health District Human Resources Development

Directorate held supervisors workshop on 30th September to 3rd August 2018. The purpose was to sharpen skills for supervisors from district hospitals different sections viz: food services, asset, finance, laundry and others. The action of overseeing and managing employees in district hospitals is crucial as it directly affects the quality of services health that are provided to patients. The workshop explored topics critical to developing effective management skills such as performance management, motivation, team development, interpersonal and communication skills, supervisory skills training and time management skills. Furthermore, supervisors were capacitated on skills like communication, conflict resolution, leadership, critical thinking, interpersonal skills, diversity and generational differences in the workplace, and problem solving.



Supervisors from all five (5) district hospitals who attended the workshop

Consultative Open Day at Nkundusi clinic



Hlabisa Hospital CEO Mr. K.Z. Dlamini and Ward Cllr J. Khoza



Umkhanyakude Health District Director Ms. M.P. Themba addressing the community of Nkundusi on health matters

UMtubatuba Local Municipality ward 8 Cllr Jetro Khoza with District Director for Health in Umkhanyakude Ms. M.P. Themba on 10th October 2018 interacted with community of Nkundusi on health matters. The discussion was a consultative effort to give community members a chance to voice their opinions about the local clinic.

In its six (6) key priorities, department of health in KZN promised: positive & caring staff attitude towards patients; cleanliness of the clinic buildings; safety of patients; infection and prevention control; availability of medicines and reduction of long waiting times. District Director Ms M.P. Themba urged community members to hold health workers accountable on the level of healthcare services they provide against the mentioned priorities.

One of Batho Pele principles that all government departments must honour is the art of *consultation*; this principles emphasizes that citizens must be consulted on services provided to them and how those services must be provided. Furthermore, Sukuma Sakhe's approach of collective work for government assist in speedy resolution of any community service orientated problem.

Umtubatuba ward 3 waroom found to be functional

On 28-29 August 2018 members of KZN Legislature visited Mtubatuba and Hlabisa Big 5 local municipalities to conduct oversight on functionality of Sukuma Sakhe warooms.



Cllr Khumalo providing a presentation of ward 3 waroom



Members of the KZN Legislature auditing records of ward 3 waroom as part of their oversight work

All government departments are expected to be visible in warooms in order to accelerate delivery of services to the citizens.

KZN Legislature members were led by MPL Honorable S. (K.K.) Nkosi. Mtubatuba Local Municipality Ward 3 led by Cllr Sya Khumalo received a pat in the back for best performance from members of the KZN legislature. Siphso Zungu Clinic in ward 3 was also commended to active participation in the waroom.

Service delivery monitoring and evaluation



Quarterly performance review session in progress

Umkhanyakude Health District uses monitoring & evaluation as one of its tools to measure the effectiveness of its health programmes. Deputy District Director: Planning, Monitoring & Evaluation Mrs. S.F. Mthimkhulu leads performance review sessions quarterly where all programme coordinators and district hospitals representatives account for the work done for that particular quarter. These efficient sessions play a vital role in ensuring that services rendered to the public are improved and challenges are detected early for attention.

Monitoring and Evaluation of Health Programmes provides the district with the requisite knowledge and skills to successfully evaluate, measure and observe health programmes with the aim of improving their overall performance.

The Department is guided by its vision of **"Optimal health for all persons in KwaZulu-Natal"**. The mission of the KwaZulu-Natal Department of health is to develop and implement a sustainable, coordinated, integrated and comprehensive health system at all levels, based on the Primary Health Care approach through the District Health System, to ensure universal access to health care.

Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) processes therefore enable the Department to monitor and evaluate its performance towards the achievement of its vision and mission. There is growing recognition that harmonized monitoring, evaluation and review is required to demonstrate results, inform public resource allocation and enhance the evidence base for interventions.

Successful implementation of a M&E system requires collaboration among all stakeholders. Program and Component Managers are at the forefront of monitoring, reviewing and reporting on their operational plans.

Fight against Malaria continues in Umkhanyakude



UMkhanyakude District is located in the Northern Region of KwaZulu-Natal Province in South Africa. The District is a frontier district bordering Mozambique and Swaziland, which leads to significant cross-border flow of population, and makes the district prone to cross-border epidemics, in particular malaria. Hence Malarial Control Programme officials run successful campaigns at Mozambique boarder and create awareness about the disease.

Did you know that a place called KwaPhuza in Manguzi people walk freely from Mozambique to South Africa and vice versa without producing an document which creates a burden in Umkhanyakude health facilities, especially as far as malaria is concerned.

Old Mutual sponsored healthy lifestyle programme



Old Mutual sponsored Umkhanyakude Health District healthy lifestyle programme with kit for Netball and financial education for employees on 22nd August 2018. Wellness generates many positive outcomes for employees and the department itself. Here are a few benefits to incorporating a wellness program in the workplace:



- Promoting a healthy lifestyle
- Relieving employee stress
- Promoting employee camaraderie

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