King Cetshwayo District Newsletter February 2020 to July 2020

Ekhosombeni Lamajita First of it’s kind in the Province held in Esikhuleni

MEC for Health, Ms Nomagugu Simelane-Zulu and King Cetshwayo District Mayor, Ms Nonhle Mkhulisi observing very competitive board games that were played on the day.

GROWING KWAZULU-NATAL TOGETHER
Ekhosombeni Lamajita Outreach Programme is a brain child of the KwaZulu Natal MEC for Health, Ms Nomagugu Simelane-Zulu, this outreach programme is aimed at raising awareness on social issues pertaining to men in townships. The statistics indicate that men do not use health services to the fullest. This programme is aimed at taking comprehensive health services to men living in townships and also to sensitize them on the role these men need to play in their communities in different aspects of social ills, such as drug abuse substances, rape, teenage pregnancy, crime, and gender based violence.

As the lingo is saying Ekhosombeni Lamajita, it suits males that are in a township setup. This kind of a programme was the first to be held in the Province on Saturday, 29 February 2020 at Esikhaleni Township the under City of uMhlathuze Municipality, which is under King Cetshwayo District. This outreach programme was led by Department of Health partnering with City of uMhlathuze Municipality and King Cetshwayo District Municipality and all other government departments like Social Development, SAPS, Arts and Culture, Sports and Recreation and District Non Governmental Organizations. The overall objective for embarking on outreach programme targeting township men is to encourage Amadoda to lead healthy lives, and to raise awareness on their sexual and reproductive health including HIV prevention, treatment, care and support, including the importance of male medical circumcision, in a bid of improving health outcomes. The focus is on preventive, promotive, curative and rehabilitative approach through the implementation of an integrated, comprehensive and effective community based services. It was also aimed at encouraging men to lead a healthy lifestyle by sticking to a good balanced diet and by taking care of their bodies through physical exercise and training.

This programme is to be rolled out taking the a township street bash approach where one of the streets in the township is blocked, play big sound and other exhibitions. On the day Health services were provided on the blocked street sides, this is done to allow other sporting and recreational activities to take place on the street. Youth ambassadors provided motivational talks on the day to share with young men and braai meat was on offer for all on the day, The day was a real success irrespective of bad weather conditions, men got to receive health and other services on site whilst getting to participate in different recreation activities and entertainment. Amajita and different leaders and senior managers participated in street soccer games, board games like Umlabalaba, playing cards and chess. This has proved that when services are brought where people are, it yields to positive impact on uptake of the highly needed services.
Covenant Fellowship Church International (CFCI) boosted the fight against the Novel Corona Virus

The local church of Esikheleni Community, Covenant Fellowship Church International (CFCI) prophet and prophetess Dhlomo together with the members of the church has done a remarkable thing at Thokozani Clinic, Esikheleni under King Cetshwayo District by donating 20 000 surgical masks. In this pandemic that our country is facing people like Apostle Mandlenkosi Collin Dhlomo and his church members are the most needed people in our communities nowadays. The people who helps the community to fight against this Novel virus our country is up against are the most appreciated ones.

As we are fighting against something that is this tremendous, we all need to work together so that the number of the people affected will not be too extreme in such a way that will cause more deaths other than recoveries. What the prophet and the prophetess, the members of the church, the business community within the church, and the church leadership wanted to show the people is that together there is more that can be done to fight this virus. KwaZulu-Natal Health MEC Ms Nomagugu Simelane-Zulu has thanked the Covenant Fellowship Church International (CFCI) for the tremendous donation of surgical masks as another way of fighting the virus that has affected our country since March 2020 till to date.

MEC Simelane-Zulu who was present during the handover of the masks said that “we really appreciate the role of the church, there is not a single Government in the world that can win a war as such as the one we have, against the pandemic as this one, on its own. The church is one sphere of society that is closest to the people. We therefore urge other church leaders to draw from this example set by prophet and prophetess Dhlomo, and find ways to get involved and fight this pandemic.” All we have to do is to work together as communities not letting only the government and health care workers to be the only ones who are trying their best to keep this virus under control.

The MEC’s visit at Esikheleni under City Of uMhlathuze was also about ensuring compliance of Esikheleni residents towards COVID 19 guidelines and protocols. MEC Simelane-Zulu was accompanied by Her Worship Councillor N Mkhulisi, King Cetshwayo District mayor and Councillor M. Mhlongo City of uMhlathuze Mayor. As leadership they visited Esikheleni mall and engage Esikheleni residents and did awareness on Covid19. On the day Department of Health provided mass screening. The safety of the community is in the hands of the individuals residing within the community. Prophet Dhlomo said to the community members that “So this is the offering from the church, the church is right there involved with you. We feeling the pain that is there.”
Community Based Model Health Services delivery at your door step trough QOQO ekhaya programme

King Cetshwayo Health District responded to the call by KwaZulu Natal MEC for Health, Ms Nomagugu Simelane-Zulu, Department’s Community Based Model putting emphasis on the ward based Health system which is the provision of services at a community and household level. As we strive to reach a preventive stage with an approach of Primary Health Care and community health being the nucleous of the health system.

Ward Based Primary Health Care Outreach Team (WBPHCOT) consists of Community Health Workers allocated in a ward that is Enrolled Nurse and Professional Nurse responsible for individual ward. Community Health Workers have been rendering a host of services at the household level which include assessing clients; facilitating treatment for chronic and other ailments; identifying and tracing those who default on medication and referring them to nearest health facilities. This has yielded positive outcomes for pregnant women, early ante-natal booking at clinics which helps early detection of other conditions that might affect her pregnancy.

As King Cetshwayo District embarked on this monthly door-to-door initiative known as #QOQO- Sikhulekile Ekhaya, Health Care Outreach Teams from the whole district converge into one area of the district for a door to door comprehensive health service rendering programme which in a bid of improving health outcomes, by focusing on preventive, promotive, curative and rehabilitative approach. Before being disturbed by COVID 19 pandemic, two areas had already been visited which were areas under Ekhombe District hospital and areas serviced by Nseleni Community Health Centre.
Following COVID 19 pandemic surge in country and also in KZN the King Cetshwayo District office embarked on an accelerated strategy that was aimed at improving public knowledge on COVID19 and increase household screening and testing coverage. District health facilities were overwhelmed by the demand for screening and testing that needed to be done in order to curb the surge of the virus in our communities. The district office is a technical office but during the pandemic it translated itself into being an operational facility for health service provision. District office staff was grouped into workable teams to support City of uMhlathuze as it is the district’s densely populated sub district in King Cetshwayo. District office testing and tracing teams were established in April 2020 to screen, test, educate communities and trace positive patients to improve turnaround time in the management of positive cases. Identification of hotspots was a starting point and those hotspot included Shopping Malls and Taxi ranks, these areas became the primary target for screening and testing for COVID 19. During this period District office teams managed to test 5720 clients and this also assisted to identify high risk areas in uMhlathuze sub district. Other support during this period was received through National Health Laboratory Services (NHLS) who donated a mobile vehicle and human recourses to support the district. This mobile vehicle was to support the district in terms of turn around of results processing because it is fully equipped with necessary apparatus for COVID 19 sputum processing. Retail shops and Taxi operators were screened and tested and this exercise assisted the district to plan better in terms of resource allocation and problem areas.

COVID 19 Pandemic is everybody’s business

National Health Laboratory Services (NHLS) donated this mobile vehicle as part of support and it is a valued added resource to the district. A special gratitude to NHLS for the continuous support that is always felt in King Cetshwayo District.
Patients who are stable on chronic medication get registered on Central Chronic Medicine Dispensing and Distribution (CCMDD) but some still collect medication from the health facilities. Pick-up-points were appointed for patients to collect medication from, but for some areas, there were no pick up points available, hence the clients still have to go to the health facilities to collect their medication.

This is costly for some patients as they spend money to visit health facilities and spend time at the facility while waiting for their medication. The chronic medication bicycle delivery model aims at increasing accessibility to chronic medication as patients who register under the bicycle model will not have to leave their houses to get medication. Also, this model is aimed at decongesting health facilities thus improving safety of patients and reducing workload at the health facility. Bicycle model prioritizes facilities without pick up points and also the elderly patients who are already registered with CCMDD programme. Bicycles are identifiable with Department of Health contracted partner logo which is Pharmacy Direct and are equipped such that medicines are protected from being exposed to hot weather conditions. Bicycle riders also wear Pharmacy Direct uniform and name tags for better identification and safe guarding against criminal and fraudsters.

Under King Cetshwayo District, the distribution of bicycle per sub districts is as follows:

Under Mfolozi Sub District, Umbronambi clinic has been allocated with one bicycle and one rider allocated, under uMhlathuze Sub District, Ngwelezane clinic has two bicycles and one rider allocated at the moment. Nseleni Community Health Centre has two bicycles and one rider allocated at the moment, Khandisa clinic has one bicycle and one rider allocated, Mandlanzini has one bicycle and at a moment there no rider allocated, Phaphamani has one bicycle and one rider allocated and Thokozani with 1 bicycle with 1 rider allocated.

Under Nkandla sub district Chwezi clinic has one bicycle and one rider allocated, Mpondeni clinic has one bicycle with one rider allocated and Vumanhlamvu has one bicycle and one rider allocated. At Mthonjaneni sub district, Thubalethu has one bicycle and no rider allocated at a moment. Lastly under uMlalazi sub district, King Dinizulu clinic has two bicycles with no riders allocated at a moment and eNsingweni has one bicycle with no rider allocated at a moment. A process to recruit bicycle riders for all the areas is under way. This will increase adherence to chronic medication during these COVID 19 trying times and cost effective to the clients.
BREAST FEEDING MONTH

“WATHINTA IMBOKODO WATHINTA ABAFAZI”

“IT IS COOL TO BREASTFEED EVEN FOR A YOUNG MOTHER”