

Message from KZN Health MEC, Dr Sibongiseni Dhlomo on the occasion of project handover for the construction of EZIMWINI CLINIC in the Mkhambathini Municipality

19 July 2011

Thank you Rev M Radebe for the uplifting prayer

Inkosi LD Mkhize

Izinduna ze Nkosi

KZN Health Head of Dept - Dr Sibongile Zungu

Mkhambathini Municipality Mayor – Cllr TE Maphumulo

Councillors present

Community Leaders

UMgungundlovu Health District Manager – Mrs. May Zuma Mkhonza

Representative of Khayakazi Construction Company

Malunga omphakathi ahloniphekile

Today we come here to congratulate the residents of this ward on the positive outcome of their request to have a clinic here.

Ndabezitha, we are also acknowledging the patience and high level of understanding demonstrated by the community here as we all know that the application for the clinic was first posted in 1996.

Following on all Government procedures, the provision of a clinic for this was approved to proceed in 2002 and submitted to the Department of Works to proceed with planning.

Hopes were correctly raised when in 2003 the then MEC for Health, Dr Zweli Mkhize came here for the sod turning.

Ndabezitha, since then there have been numerous impediments resulting in the delay of delivery of this project.

The first one emanated from lack of clarity with regards to the availability of water supply to the clinic as well as questions around electricity grid.

The second impediment came as a result of reluctance or lack of capacity within the KZN Department of Works to carry out set projects. As such in 2006 Department of Health withdrew a number of projects from the Department of Works and appointed Ithala Finance Corporation as the implementing agent. Ezimwini Clinic was amongst the projects handed over.

A new architect was appointed to this project and the plans were presented at the Jointed Plans Approval Committee (JOPAC) on September 03, 2007 where it was recommended that plans be reviewed so as to come up with an appropriate facility that would cope with growing needs of an expanding populace.

Ndabezitha, the change in the brief could not be approved until Ithala Bank provided the cost implications of the change. The provision of this information was delayed.

Again; ladies and gentlemen, the delays experienced resulted in a number of projects being withdrawn from Ithala Bank and given to the Independent Development Trust, (IDT), as the new implementing agent.

In March 2009 IDT was briefed on the Ezimwini project and an alternative method of construction was approved (light steel framework) in an attempt to speed up infrastructure delivery.

Today we are thus happy to finally hand over this **R13, 1 million** project to **Khayakazi Construction Company** that has undertaken to carry out the task in 15 months.

The positive side of all these delays is that the community will now be receiving and bigger and modernized clinic consisting of the following:

- Small Clinic
- Nurses Accommodation
- Ablutions
- Guard House

- Electricity
- Walkways
- Storm water Channels
- Water tanks
- Parking
- Courtyard
- Fencing

In the meantime the Department of Health will continue offering Mobile Clinic Services at the following sites:

- Power's court Hall
- church
- Gcewu Secondary School and
- Powers Court Primary School

Since this clinic falls on the borders of eThekweni and uMgungundlovu Municipalities, we are still discussing the referral routes between Edendale Hospital and Prince Mshiyeni Memorial Hospital which is just 37 Kilometres away.

We also undertake to intensify the school health programme already in place with our teams visiting schools to do screenings.

Meanwhile our focus on PRIORITY HEALTH PROGRAMMES in this area continues as here at u Mkhambathini Municipality, since the beginning of the year we have achieved the following:

- No. of clients pre- test counseled (including TB clients) males and females (excluding antenatal clients) = 2782
- No. of clients tested (including TB clients) males and females (excluding antenatal clients) = 2168
- No. of Clients tested positive (male and female) = 294 (13.6%)
- No. of clients initiated on ART since Jan 2011 = 106
- Total number of ARV Clients On treatment =574
- No. of antenatal clients pre test counseled for HIV = 361
- No. of antenatal clients tested for HIV = 330 (91.4 %%)
- No. of antenatal clients tested HIV positive (new) = 64 (19%)
- % HIV positive pregnant women on dual therapy= 100%
- HIV PCR test of babies born to HIV positive mothers = 80 (deliveries are conducted at Edendale Hospital)
- HIV PCR test of babies positive = 0
- Total number of antenatal visits before and after 20 weeks = 341
- % of pregnant women visiting ANC clinic before 20 weeks= 167(48.9%)
- No. of women attended post natal care within 6 days of delivery = 83
- No. of babies who were seen within 6 days of delivery = 108

- Women 30 – 59 years screened for cervical cancer = 175

Tuberculosis Control

- TB Tracer Team = 3
- Bacteriological Coverage = 97.3%
- Smear Conversion = 81.2%
- Cure Rate = 93.7%
- Defaulter rate = 0%

TB/HIV Co-infection

- No. of TB clients tested for HIV = 87
- % TB clients tested positive for HIV = 44%

Non – Communicable Diseases

- Diabetes Mellitus clients put on treatment = 19
- Hypertensive clients on register = 78
- Mental Health visits all ages = 272

With the expanded health care services coming our way, we hope to work together in dealing with the quadruple diseases plaguing our beautiful Province.

I thank you