

Speech by KZN HEALTH MEC, DR SIBONGISENI DHLOMO on the occasion of the official opening of SIPHO ZUNGU CLINIC under MTUBA MUNICIPALITY

04 May 2011

Inkosi: Mr. G Mkhwanazi

Izinduna and ama Khansela eNkosi

Municipal Councilors present

District Manager – Ms Themba

Clinic Committee Chairperson and all the members

Malunga omphakathi ahloniphekile

It is both with sadness and great pride that we are converged here to honour a fallen hero, our lovable late Ward Councilor, Siphon Zungu who worked very hard to ensure that Khula Village gets the fixed clinic having been concerned that the area did not have appropriate access to adequate health care services.

We are very elated that in the community meeting held in March 2011 it was unanimously accepted that the facility be named in his honour.

Programme Director, the Siphon Zungu Clinic will serve to remind all of us and the generations to come that we should not have allowed a

respected and such a dignified leader in the ilk of Comrade Siphon Zungu to have been killed in our shores.

We are thus happy that the leadership and the community here have suggested; debated and resolved that Khula village Clinic be renamed to honour his leadership and be forever known as Siphon Zungu Clinic.

Our progressive government is proud to have contributed in this venture especially because we have spent a sum of **R9, 079, 000** in the construction of this facility that now benefits 14 000 people who reside in 22 Izigodi that surround it. Here we are talking of a very modern facility that has among other features the following:

- 6 Consultation rooms
- 4 VCT rooms

Maternity Section

- Labour ward with 1 bed
- Postnatal ward with 2 beds

Staff accommodation

- Bachelor flat X 3
- Shared rooms X2 with 4 bedrooms

Our President, Hon Jacob Zuma says we need to work together to ensure a long and healthy life for all South Africans. We thus call upon all the

people of **Khula Village** to come and utilize the services offered here at **Sipho Zungu Clinic** that include the following:

- Antenatal Care
- PMTCT & HCT
- Post Natal Care
- Family Planning
- Initiation of ARV's

We also want the community members to know that we have OUTREACH TEAMS that do monthly visits to this clinic offering the following services:

Eye Care services

Dental services

Diabetic team

TB Team

Physiotherapist

Occupational therapist

Dietician

We are also very appreciative of the fact that the clinic gets daily visits by the Doctor who comes from Africa Centre in Hlabisa.

As we speak Khula Village is now at par with other areas in as far as health care provision is concerned as it already has access to Planned

Patient Transport services available thrice a week for patients needing advanced medical care.

Our Mobile point service will also continue servicing the people who reside at Monzi which is 10km from this clinic where we see an average of 300 clients per month.

Ndabezitha, apart from all the improvements that the Government is initiating, there is also a responsibility for all the community members to embrace the ethos of healthy living.

The uMkhanyakude District has a high concentration of HIV –AIDS Research Organisations and to our dismay we are not noticing any behavioural change nor experiencing any drop in numbers of people infected with HIV.

Multi-drug resistant tuberculosis also continues to be a major problem, with the district having the highest number of cases in the Province; just in Hlabisa Hospital alone we are treating more than 100 MDR clients.

The above mentioned conditions require us to change the way we do things; it requires the political; religious and community leaders to work together in ensuring that people who show TB symptoms are screened and made to religiously adhere to treatment prescribed to cure TB.

It also requires all members to know their HIV status by coming forward for HIV Counseling and Testing.

It requires of us to treat the matter of **sugar daddies** as a scandal and categorize the issue of teenage pregnancy as a crime if perpetrated by men far older than these school going age girls. Right here at Khula Village, just last year alone we had 40 young girls whose academic lives were curtailed due to these life endangering unnecessary pregnancies:

Name of School	Teenage Pregnancies 2010
Silethukukhanya High School	20
Vezobala High School	18
Khiphinkunzi High School	2

As we conclude we want to recognise and appreciate the role played by all progressive organisations that have joined us in **PRIVATE PUBLIC PARTNERSHIP** ventures in this area especially:

- Africa Centre
- AMREF
- Mpilonhle
- Star for Life
- Mothers to Mothers

As various Government Departments, we also commit to provide on going support to all community initiated projects that are operating here at Khula Village, namely:

- Silwanendlala Garden Project – Gardening
- Sinethemba Women’s Club sewing, gardening
- Silethithemba Support Group- for clients on ART
- Traditional practitioner’s project run by AMREF – provides support to traditional practitioners.
- Khula youth in agricultural activities, sports.
- Manukelana Indigenous Nursery project
- Senzokuhle community care centre – deals with feeding scheme, orphans, vulnerable children and Home base care.

Keep up the good work and through good deeds keep the memory of Cde Siphosizwe Zungu alive.

I thank you.