

**Speech by KZN Health MEC, Dr Sibongiseni Dhlomo on the occasion of the official opening of Ndlozana Clinic, at Nongoma in Zululand District**

**17 September 2013**

Programme Director

Ndabezitha – Inkosi Bhekintinta Eugene Zulu

My Colleague – MEC for Social Development – Hon Weziwe Thusi

Izinduna and Councillors

Zululand Health District Manager – Ms Daphney Memela

Managers from Social Development and Nongoma Municipality

Abasebenzi beMnyango kaHulumeni kuwo wonke amazinga

Malunga omphakathi ahloniphekile

Ndabezitha, it gives us a great pleasure to come here as representatives of the Government led by Hon President Jacob Zuma to say to you what was promised is now ready to be handed over to your people.

The community here has for a very long time relied on a mobile clinic for its health needs. We at this moment wish to thank Mr. Mthembu who acted as a Chairperson and Mr. Mncube, his deputy for being part of the Committee that made representation on behalf of the community and requested a fixed clinic.

**NDABEZITHA; UHULUMENI UYALALELA, BESE EYAPHENDULA**

Programme Director, it was just last year June when we started with the construction of this beautiful clinic. It took us just a year to build and finish this **R12 523 418.70** worth of a project. To be precise, it was in June 2012 when we started and by end of June this year, we were done.

### **IMISEBENZI KAHULUMENI IYABOLAKALA**

The 13 000 strong community members of Nqala; Masokaneni; Ziqhume; Ngolotshe; Okhalweni; Ntuthukweni; Sgangani; Mcibilindini; Msasane and Hlathelidumayo today have a clinic of their own.

Our caring Government is saying to all of you that here we now have a beautiful clinic that will ensure that pregnant mothers are taken care of; their babies get immunised and the community at large lives healthily and longer.

Programme Director; allow us to explain that as the KwaZulu Natal Government we have given the life and health of both women and children a priority status hence beginning of the month together with our former Premier, Hon Dr Zweli Mkhize, we launched the **PHILA MNTWANA PROJECT**.

At this juncture, can I ask all the CCG's that operate in this area to stand up as I want to thank them for the sterling work that they do in compassionately caring for our people and ensuring that Phila Mntwana campaign succeeds.

Ndabezitha; Phila Mntwana is a project that is run mainly by the Community Care Givers and operated from the War Rooms. Everything offered and promoted in this project can be derived from this Clinic, namely:

- Ukuhlolwa kokukhula komntwana [Growth Monitoring]
- Ukubhekwa isifo sendlala [Screening for Malnutrition]
- Ukunikezelwa ngamavitamini [Supply of Vitamin Supplements]
- Ukuvikelwa kwesifo sohudo
- Ukugqugquzelwa kokuncelisa ubisi lwebele [Promotion of Breast Feeding]
- Ukuhlolwa isifo sofuba [Screening for TB]
- Ukudluliswa kwalabo abadinga usizo olungaphezulu kosekwenziwe
- Ukubhekwa kwezingane ezisengcupheni yokutheleleka ngegciwane lesandulela ngculaza

We then make a special appeal to all the leaders of this area, that includes Councillors; the Clergy; Amakhosi and Izinduna that they need to **ensure that all pregnant women attend Antenatal Care**. It is the only way in which we can guarantee that all babies that get born HIV negative and healthy.

Let us also allow and support all women over the age of 30 to be screened for cervical cancer under the **Phila Ma** initiative.

I also appeal that we work together to end the scourge of HIV and AIDS by using our facilities **to know our HIV status**. Men must lead this campaign and appreciate that the war against the spread of HIV and

AIDS rest with Prevention. Condom use and treatment of STIs is the key!

Let us also use this facility to **test for Tuberculosis which is completely curable** but unfortunately continue killing people because they do not come forward for diagnosis.

We also make **a special appeal to men to embrace the clarion call made by His Majesty the King that they get circumcised**. There are many benefits in doing this that begin with knowing your status to growing as a real man who knows that women and children are to be loved and protected.

### **MAYISHINTSHE IMPILO YETHU KULENDAWO**

To members of the communities I appeal that we all work together to fight problems beseeching this community. I must indicate that it comes as a great concern to us that **in the last financial year 400 Teenagers gave birth in the facilities serviced by Benedictine hospital**.

It is also of great concern to us that this area still experience a high level of violence in the form of faction fights and taxi related strives. This clinic is provided here for your well-being and it would be very wrong if it now serves to cater for victims of violence that is unnecessary.

**SITHI AMADODA ANGAWENZA UMEHLUKO UMA EHLALA PHANSI EBONISANA**

At this point in time allow me to introduce to you our personnel who will be serving you in this facility. Please take note of the fact that we have provided them with Residence so that they can be available for emergency cases after hours.

- ⊙ 1 operational manager
- ⊙ 1 clinical nurse practitioner
- ⊙ 1 professional nurse
- ⊙ 2 enrolled nurses
- ⊙ 1 auxiliary Nurse
- ⊙ 2 lay counselors
- ⊙ 1 Clinic supporter
- ⊙ 1 general orderly
- ⊙ 4 Community Care Givers in Ward 11

To all the staff members here, I would like to impress on them that in the running of this clinic, they are expected to uphold the six **National Core Standards** in what we in the Province call; **'Make Me look like a Hospital'**. This entails adherence to the following:

- Infection Control
- Reducing long queues
- Availability of Medicines
- Security and Safety of Staff
- Cleanliness, as well as,

- Attitude of Staff

Let us all make use of this clinic to live longer and healthier.

Let us also ensure the safety of both our nurses and the clinic here.

I thank you.