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Bulletin



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HEALTHY LIFESTYLE IS A WAY OF LIVING THAT LOWERS THE RISK OF BEING SERIOUSLY ILL OR DYING EARLY

The MEC for Health Ms Sasekani Manzini launched the Healthy Lifestyle campaign under the broader theme “CHECKA IMPILO”. The launch took place at the City of Mbombela Municipality, Kanyamazane Stadium on 25 July 2019. The Department of Health’s mandate is to promote healthy life for all the people living in Mpumalanga hence the launch is intending to raise awareness on healthy lifestyle to influence behaviour change and improve their health in order to live healthier and longer.

The MEC Sasekani Manzini and Head:Health Dr Savera Mohangi were joined by more than 300 Gogo’s in Aerobics and football games. This is part of the call made by MEC Sasekani Manzini during her Policy and Budget Speech 2019/2020 launch a healthy lifestyle awareness campaign to encourage regular physical activities for healthy bodies with the aim at increasing the average of male and female life expectancy at birth to 70.

When addressing the participants Manzini said “A healthy lifestyle is a way of living that lowers the risk of being seriously ill or dying early, and is a valuable resource for reducing the incidence and impact of health, for coping with life stressors and for improving quality of life. Not all diseases are preventable, but a large proportion of deaths, particularly those from coronary heart disease and lung cancer, can be avoided”.

She further said Health is not just about the absence of disease, but it is also about physical, mental and social wellbeing. When a healthy lifestyle is adopted and encouraged, a more positive role model is provided for other people in the families.



2019 Comrade Marathon participants and MEC Sasekani Manzini.



Dr Savera Mohangi stretching before the start of aerobics



MPUMALANGA OFFICIALLY LAUNCHES ONCOLOGY SERVICES AT ROB FERREIRA HOSPITAL.

Tuesday the 27th of August 2019 marked a historic day for the Mpumalanga Department of Health when MEC for the Department, Ms Sasekani Manzini officially launched Oncology services at Rob Ferreira Hospital situated in Mbombela. The purpose for launching the services is to provide safe cancer care within the province and improve quality of care.

The Mpumalanga Department of Health identified a need for an oncology treatment center offering chemotherapy services within Rob Ferreira hospital which is one of the two tertiary hospitals in the province. The launch marked the beginning of a new era for the majority of cancer patients who used to travel long distance to Steve Biko Academic hospital in Gauteng which is more than 300km away.

When giving her keynote address MEC Manzini said “With the launch of oncology services, we have partnered with Wits University and we hope to transform the future of patients in Mpumalanga. Working together with a dedicated teams of oncologists and other key partners like Bristol- Myers Squibb, CANSA and Right to Care, we will drive the change that the community needs in terms of cancer care through continual learning, creative thinking and collective desire to positively impact the lives of every person touched by cancer”

Manzini further said “It is of utmost importance for the province to start establishing sub-speciality services in the province in order to:

- minimise the province’s dependency on Gauteng province as this further retards the province’s ability to carry its mandate to provide comprehensive services to the people of Mpumalanga. Currently patients who need oncology services are referred to various hospitals outside the province at great expense and it is an inconvenience to the patient and families.



Ms Mpho Mohale, Dr Savera Mohangi and MEC Sasekani Manzini at the launch of Oncology unit.



Oncology ward at Rob Ferreira hospital.



STRATEGIC PLANNING SESSION TO IMPROVES DELIVERY OF QUALITY HEALTH CARE

Mpumalanga Department of Health conducted strategic planning session from the 5 – 6 September 2019 at Greenway Woods, White River. It was a historic session where by Management of the Department and organised labour converge in one room to come up with strategise to improve the delivery of quality health care.

MEC Sasekani Manzini during her opening address said “I am calling all of you to work together and look at ways on how we can be a Department at work and not a working Department this is essential in making sure that we bring services for our people. Our approach and outlook should be that of service to Our People at all times and hence the principle of Batho Pele should be revived we should draw strength from this principle.

I am here to encourage all of us gathered here that we become a People-Centred Department and be committed to servicing our people with dignity. Our people are looking at us for service delivery we should deliver and not betray the trust of our people

Remember we are called public servants for the fact that we have to serve our people and hence we are not driven by making profits like those in the private sector but to serve the people of the country and the province”.



Some of the delegates at the strategic planning session.



MEC Sasekani Manzini addressing the strategic meeting



Mr Elias Mokwanaraising a point at the strategic planning plenary.



BARBERTON HOSPITAL ARE THE CUSTODIANS OF THE BATHO PELE PRINCIPLES

Barberton Hospital received recognition for the outstanding performance in providing Health Care Services and good Staff Attitude.

MEC for Health in Mpumalanga Ms Sasekani Manzini applauded and appreciated the dedication displayed by the staff members of Barberton Hospital for being good custodians of the Batho Pele Principles by putting people first and ensure that they are served diligently.

The token of appreciation was received on behalf of the hospital staff by the Chief Executive Officer, who expressed her gratitude for the recognition by the highest office in the Department and to the staff for being dedicated in providing health care services to the People. She further promised to be consistent in striving for excellence for the benefit of the people.



Barbeton hospital staff after accepting the appreciation certificate in the presence interfaith organisations



MPUMALANGA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH HOSTED THE NATIONAL ORAL HEALTH CONGRESS

The Mpumalanga Department of Health hosted a successful National Oral Health Congress from 17th – 18th December 2019 at Mbombela stadium. The Deputy Director General: Clinical Services ,Ms Sipho Motau welcomed all delegates accompanied by Dr Yuko from World Health Organization and Director: Non Communicable Diseases Ms Sarah Gumede. The National Oral Health congress is hosted by provinces on a rotational basis every year.

The congress started with an outreach programme whereby a team of (Dentists and Health Professionals) conducted health talks to four primary schools namely: (John Mdluli, Tenteleni, Mbokodo and Tsandzanani Primary Schools), focus was more on Oral health, nutrition and spectacles were given to those with visual impairment

Ms sipho Motau emphasized the point that “it is in your best interest to practice good oral hygiene. not only does it ensure a beautiful smile, but it is good for your health”. Delegates from the nine provinces and the international guests from the World Health Organization (WHO) graced the two day congress.



John Mdluli Primary School kid getting her teeth cleaned by dental specialists



Tenteleli Primary School kids after receiving tooth brushing kits



Mbokodo primary school kids learned more about proper brushing of teeth



HEALTH CARE QUALITY AND PATIENT SAFETY MINI ACADEMY WORKSHOP WAS A SUCCESS

The Mpumalanga Department of Health officials from all three districts met on the 28th August 2019 at Ngwenyama Lodge to attend Healthcare Quality and Patient Safety Mini Academy Workshop. Attendees were later awarded with Certification of attendance by the Head of Department: Dr Saveria Mohangi who was accompanied by Deputy Director General: Clinical Services. Ms Siphon Motau.

Addressing the gathering Dr Saveria Mohangi applauded the excellent work by Prof Pillay: University of Alabama Birmingham and Dr S Mabunda from Mpumalanga Department of Health for facilitating such a successful workshop. She encouraged officials to always ensure that quality health care is prioritised when rendering Health Care Services to the communities. Dr Saveria Mohangi further emphasized that quality was everything and it begins with everyone.



From left: Bheki Magagula, Prof Pillay, Siphon Motau, Dr Saveria Mohangi handing over certificates, Mr B Magagula.



Ms L Mkhathshwa receives certificate from Dr Skhumba Mabunda



Group picture: attendees of the Healthcare Quality and Patient Safety Mini Academy workshop



Dr Skhumba Mabunda handing certificate to Ms Sonto Dladla



DEPARTMENT AT WORK



MEC Sasekani Manzini donating blankets to elderly people



Premier Refilwe Mtshweni, MEC Sasekani Manzini and HOD Dr Savera Mohangi at Witbank hospital.



Miss Mpumalanga , MEC Sasekani Manzini and Mrs Globe Africa.

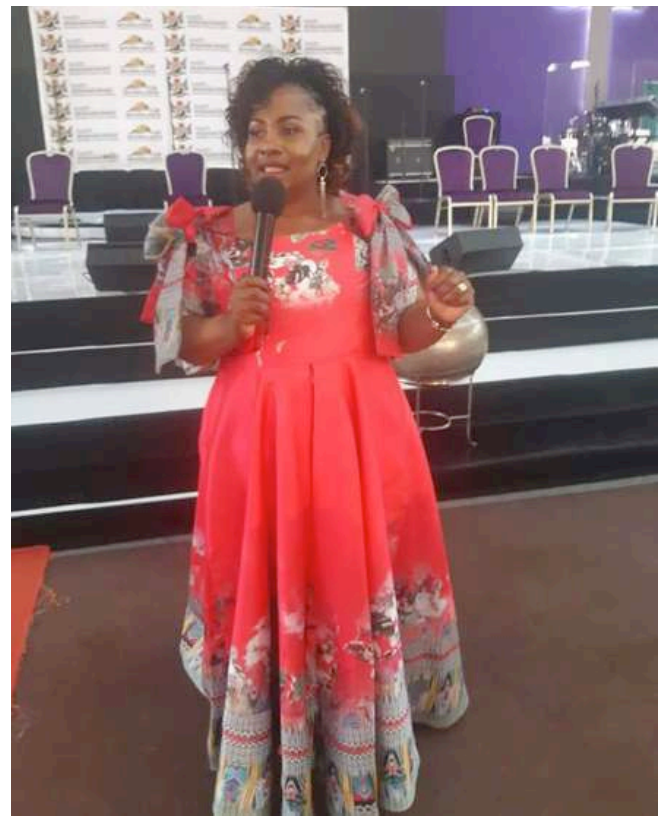
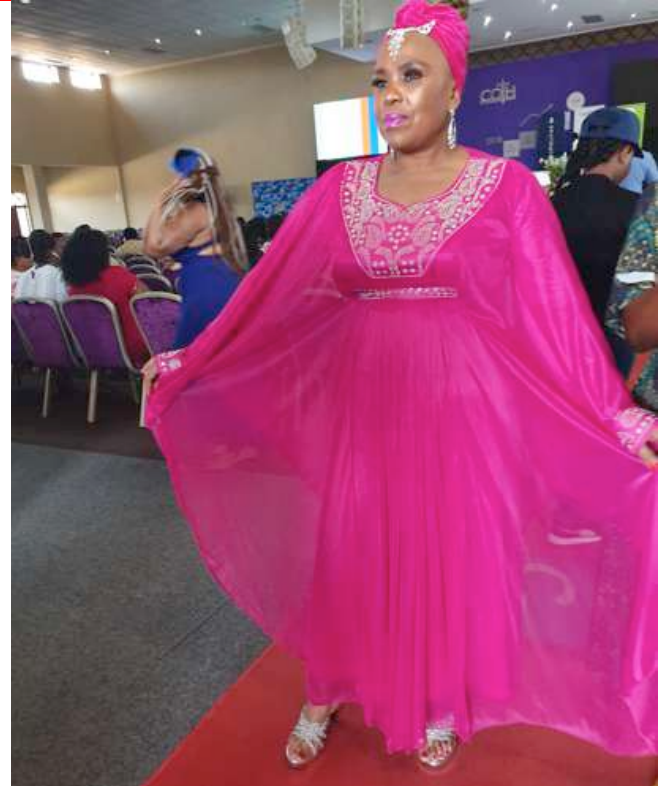


Gogo is Happy after receiving spectacles from MEC Sasekani Manzini.



MEC'S RED CARPET

In pictures Attendees of the MEC Red Carpet held at Church on the Hill



CLOSING WOMENS MONTH IN STYLE ON THE RED CARPET

On 30th August 2019, the Mpumalanga Department of Health closed the women's month on a high note by conducting a programme that seek to recognise and promote gender equality in the work place. The MEC for Health in Mpumalanga, Ms Sasekani Manzini hosted more 1500 women from all departments at Church on the Hill near Kamagugu in the City of Mbombela as VIP's in the MEC's Red Carpet Annual Health Dialogue event.

The dialogue covered topics such as Women and Violence (Dealing with rape by my father and Dealing with abuse by husband), Women's Health (Experience of being diagnosed and living with HIV and Cancer), Reality of depression and Reality of polygamy by Makhumalo Mseleku.

Addressing the gathering MEC Manzini said "The abuse against women, transgender and LGBTQI people has reached the shocking alarming levels. The status quo has to change, and I strongly believe women must unite to fight against their abusers, and the conservative patriarchists".

The event was honoured by the presence of MEC Sasekani Manzini, Dr Savera Mohangi, Ms Siphso Motau, Ms Nanana Hlatshwayo and Mrs O Luphoko. Entertainment was provided by Preety Mhlongo, Fezile Moyo, Xoli Thabethe and bomake belitsango baseMbuleni.



From left MEC Sasekani Manzini, Mr Xoli Thabethe and Mrs Ofense Luphoko



THE MPUMALANGA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CALLS FOR URGENT ACTION TO ENSURE PATIENT SAFETY IN HEALTH CARE IN THE PROVINCE

Worldwide, millions of patients are harmed each year due to unsafe health care resulting in 2.6 million deaths annually in low-and middle-income countries alone. Most of these deaths are avoidable. The personal, social and economic impact of patient harm leads to losses of millions of rands countrywide that could have been directed towards service delivery.

The World Health Organization is calling for urgent action by countries and partners around the world to reduce patient harm in healthcare. Patient safety and quality of care are essential for delivering effective health services and achieving universal health coverage. Patient safety is prioritized as a global health priority and urging patients, healthcare workers, policy makers and health care industry to “Speak up for patient safety!”

The World Health Organization (WHO) is focusing global attention on the issue of patient safety and launching a campaign in solidarity with patients on the very first World Patient Safety Day on 17 September 2019. This day will be recognized annually worldwide as the World Patient Safety Day as was endorsed by the 72nd World Health Assembly in May 2019. South Africa, as a member state, has adopted this day.

Mpumalanga Province joins all WHO member states, in saying “No one should be harmed while receiving health care.” In support of this initiative, the Mpumalanga Department of Health conducted Patient Safety Workshops in all three Health Districts on the 17th ,18th and 19th September 2019 where health care workers at provincial, district, sub-district and facility level will participate.

The objective for these workshops is to inculcate a patient safety culture that promotes partnership with patients, encourages reporting and learning from errors, and creates a blame-free environment where health workers are empowered and trained to reduce errors.



Patient safety workshop at Gert Sibande District



Patient safety workshop commissions Nkangala District Commissions



Patient safety workshop Commissions Ehlanzeni District



NURSES HAVE A KEY ROLE IN THE DELIVERY OF PUBLIC HEALTH-CARE IN MPUMALANGA

Great excitement prevailed on the 13th September 2019 in Mbombela when the Department of Health hosted the 29th nursing graduation ceremony for all the nursing schools of Mpumalanga College of Nursing.

There were 620 graduate nurses whose dreams came true when they finally completed the requirements for their respective nursing qualifications. 266 were awarded Diplomas in General Nursing (Bridging), 140 got Diploma in Midwifery, and 180 student nurses graduated with the comprehensive Diploma in Nursing (General, Community & Psychiatric) and Midwifery.

Health MEC Sasekani Manzini was the guest speaker at this graduation ceremony and she spoke at length about the National Health Insurance. She indicated that the priority of NHI was achieving universal health coverage for all — meaning everyone and everywhere people must have access to quality health services they need, when they need them, without suffering financially.

“The National Health Insurance is here and will improve the lives of millions of our people who cannot afford health care,” said MEC Manzini.

MEC Manzini further said that nurses will must assist in turning the promise of universal health care into a reality.

“The NHI will make the public health care sector the employer of choice to all health professionals including yourselves. I want to promise you that the public health care will never be the same again with the NHI in place. Hence, I would like to encourage you to take up posts in the public sector and contribute in changing the public healthcare system.”she said



MEC Sasekani Manzini (4th from left) and Mpumalanga Nursing College Council

Number two from left: MEC SJ Manzini and Organized labour



MPUMALANGA CELEBRATED INTERNATIONAL AFRICAN TRADITIONAL MEDICINE DAY

The Mpumalanga Department of Health and partners celebrated African Medicine Week by exhibiting different kinds of Indigenous African Medicine in various towns in the province. The African Traditional Medicine week started on the 26-31 August 2019, and 31 August being marked on the Health Calender as the International African Traditional Medicine Day.

The exhibitions aimed to show awareness and educate people more about Traditional Medicine in relation to the Modern Medicine. The occasion was honored by the National Director of Traditional Medicine: Mr Bruce Mbedzi and the Mpumalanga Traditional Health Practitioners Interim Council of SA member: Mr Mduduzi Phakathi.



Impungwe hospital conducting african medicine awareness



From left Mr Mduduzi Phakati , Ms Mmolefe Selokela and Mr Bruce Mbedzi



Bogogo displaying african medicine



TEENAGE PREGNANCY IS A SIGNIFICANT PUBLIC HEALTH PROBLEM IN LOW AND MIDDLE INCOME COUNTRIES

The MEC for Health in Mpumalanga Ms Sasekani Manzini on the 19 July 2019 launched an awareness campaign aimed to address teenage pregnancy, sexual & reproductive cancer and HIV and AIDS as part of the Mandela month celebration. The event was held at Tjakastad, in Alberth Luthuli municipality. Build up dialogue programmes started from the 09th-16th July 2019 involving parents, teenagers and the youth. The overall mission was to share educational information under the Theme; “OWN YOUR YOUTH, CLAIM YOUR SUCCESS”.

MEC Manzini said “Teenage pregnancy is a significant public health problem in low and middle income countries. It is a widespread phenomenon in South Africa, reflecting a pattern of sexual behaviour that puts teenagers at risk of sexually transmitted infections (STIs), HIV/AIDS as well as reproductive health cancers. Teenage girls often have older and more sexually experienced partners. They lack the power to negotiate safer sex nor use condoms due to socio-economic factors and are taken advantage of by older men, often called blesser”.

All teenage pregnancies, irrespective of the outcome, have adverse consequences for the girls, parents and communities. Teenage pregnancy alone is dangerous, it is the leading cause of death for adolescent girls. Adolescent girls are more likely to have long and obstructed labors due to their smaller size and immature pelvic structure. This does not only increase the risk of death but it also increase the risk of developing fistula, premature delivery, still birth, fetal distress birth asphyxia, low birth weight. Babies born to teenage mothers are also far more likely to die than those born to older women

Teenage pregnancy is also identified as a determinant for school drop-out of girls. The untimely pregnancy of teenage girls is ranked as the most common reason for teenage girls to drop out of school.



Chief Albert Luthuli Executive Mayor Cllr Daniel Nkosi with MEC Sasekani Manzini.



Parents dialogues on teenage pregnancy at Tjakastad.



MEC SASEKAKANI MANZINI ENGAGES HEALTH WORKERS AND ORGANISE LABOUR



MEC Sasekani Manzini and Ms Nanana Hlatshwayo interacting during the workers engagements session



Ms Zale Madonsela listening to messages of the day .

The MEC for Health in Mpumalanga, Sasekani Manzini was again on the road visiting all districts to engaged health workers and organize labour, the primary motive of the meetings, was to engage health workers in the districts, with a purpose of encouraging them to continue to strive for excellence in the provision of adequate health care services and to strengthen relation in the interest of patients.

Addressing the workers Manzini said “I would like to appeal to all of you as health care workers to uphold this principle of Batho Pele, which dictates that we put our people first when providing services, and saving lives in our health facilities. As health workers we need to make sure that the people that come through our facilities receive the highest level of service and care. Our people should go home healed by the quality of service provision before the medication we provide. This shall give them a major psychological breakthrough. This is why I am calling upon all of you to be committed health workers and as I have highlighted that yours is not a job but a services to our people. This service to our people requires all of us to put our hands on deck and fold our sleeves in making sure that our calling of saving lives is realized”

The MEC also urged Health Workers, Communities, Organized Labour, Corporate and other Health Partners and Stakeholders to rally and embrace the National Health Insurance (NHI), which serves as a great equalizer to social inequality. “Let us forge ahead and realise healthcare justice in our lifetime. The NHI is overwhelmingly supported by the majority of our people, and through the hard work of all health care professionals, the NHI will surely yield positive results for the benefit of the people.



MPUMALANGA PLACE OF THE RISING SUN

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