



health

Department of
Health
FREE STATE PROVINCE

MEDIA STATEMENTS 2009

DECEMBER 2009

WORLD AIDS DAY

1 December 2009

The Free State's Provincial event will take place at the Zuka Baloyi Stadium in Thabong, Welkom and will start at 08h00.

The theme for World AIDS Day 2009 is:

I am Responsible,
We are Responsible,
South Africa is taking Responsibility.

The 16 Days of Activism for No Violence against Women and Children Campaign will also be covered during the WAD event.

All provincial departments, (agriculture, education) and other stakeholders or role-players will be involved and have stalls at the event.

Issued by: Department of Health, Free State Provincial Government
1 December 2009

Source: Department of Health, Free State Provincial Government
(<http://www.fshealth.gov.za>)

NOVEMBER 2009

TELEMEDICINE DEMONSTRATION

24 November 2009

The first telemedicine site was launched on 12 March 2009 at Botshabelo hospital. The project was amongst others introduced since the drain of healthcare professionals from peripheral areas to the more developed urban centres and difficulties in attracting and retaining qualified staff in peripheral areas puts an additional burden on the Department of Health's resource management.

Many of the peripheral healthcare professionals also find themselves isolated from their peers. The introduction of a telemedicine program enabled the department to:

- enhance service delivery and accessibility of healthcare
- upgrade the diagnostic abilities of hospitals and primary healthcare clinics, resulting in better quality of care
- provide access that is readily available for rural communities to specialist medical care
- education, training and capacity building in peripheral hospitals and
- health promotion opportunities for patients through mindsets.

The Telemedicine program also benefits our patients and members of the community directly and indirectly through reducing long queues at specialist clinics, reducing waiting periods via a booking system, better case management and limited administrative procedures.

Other benefits include decreased transport costs and accommodation costs for healthcare professionals and decreased overtime for drivers and escort nurses and limitation of patient overcrowding at hospitals and impact on the availability of staff at institutions. On the whole the system allows health workers to work more efficient and effectively.

An everyday clinic will be run at Batho clinic, with the difference that the consultation and prescribed treatment will be done by specialists from all disciplines at Universitas hospital. No special cases were selected to be screened at Batho clinic.

The Free State Department of Health invites media to a telemedicine demonstration to be held as follows:

Date: Wednesday, 25 November 2009

Venue: Universitas hospital, Batho clinic, Head Clinical Services boardroom, first floor

Time: 09h30

Enquiries:

Gela van Heerden

Tel: 051-408 1278

Fax: 051 408 1055

Cell: 082 381 9483

E-mail: vheerdenep@fshealth.gov.za

OCTOBER 2009

INVITATION TO MENTAL HEALTH GAMES DAY

20 October 2009

The mental health games day is hosted by occupational therapist Department of Health with the aim to introduce the lower functioning mental health care users of Bloemfontein area to a fun and eventful day, to provide the opportunity of experiencing joy and excitement out of their institutions.

Details of the event are as follows:

Date: Wednesday, 21 October 2009

Time: 08h30

Venue: National Hospital, Bloemfontein

Participating institutions are as follows:

- * Down syndrome children
- * Eden
- * Free State Psychiatric Complex
- * Pholoho School
- * Vrystaat Nasorgsentrum and many more

Programme:

Mental health games day: 21 October 2009

Venue: National Hospital, Bloemfontein

08h30 to 09h00: Registration
09h00 to 09h30: Welcoming and warm-up activities
09h30 to 09h45: Team divided to different activities
09h45 to 11h00: Activities
11h00 to 11h15: Warm down activities while points counted
11h15 to 11h30: Prize giving ceremony and closing

RSVP:

Siziwe Komanisi

Tel: 051 408 1275

Cell: 078 8179 213

E-mail: komanisis@fshealth.gov.za

JULY 2009

INVITATION TO MEC'S BUDGET SPEECH

21 July 2009

The MEC for Health Ms ES Mabe cordially invites you to a buffet lunch and to the departmental budget vote.

Details are as follows:

Buffet Lunch

When: 22 July 2009

Time: 11h30 for 12h00

Where: Rose Hall, Bram Fischer Building, (Glass Palace), Bloemfontein

Departmental Budget Vote, (Together with Social Development's Budget Vote)

When: 22 July 2009, 14h00

Where: City Hall, Bloemfontein

Enquiries:

Gela Van Heerden

Tel: 051 408 1278

Fax: 051 408 1055

Cell: 082 381 9483

E-mail: vheerdenep@fshealth.gov.za

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