

MEDIA RELEASE	Mandela Day 2023: PSA supports Community Health Workers
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The Public Servants Association (PSA) will commemorate Mandela Day 2023 on 18 July 2023, by reaching out to the Union's members employed as Community Health Workers across the country.

The PSA has honoured Mandela Day since inception, with various outreach programmes. In the spirit of Mandela Day 2023 namely, to take action, inspire change, and make every day a Mandela Day, the PSA will focus its efforts to alleviate some of the challenges faced by Community Health Workers, who render selfless services to disadvantaged communities.

The PSA, in collaboration with *Bramley Cosmetics* and *Metropolitan*, will roll out a nationwide initiative by donating 3 500 backpacks filled with essentials items such as a power bank, clipboard, pen and *Bramley* tissue oils to Community Health Workers. These workers perform a wide range of vital healthcare roles in communities. The PSA is, however, extremely concerned that the essential role of this group of workers is not valued, recognised, and addressed. Community Health Workers are utilised by government but are denied recognition as employees by means of their permanent absorption and related benefits.

The PSA greatly values the work of the country's Community Health Workers and recognises their sacrifices and circumstances. In recognition of the fact that Community Health Workers are paid only a stipend for their services, rather than receiving a substantive salary and benefits by a contract of employment, the PSA offers them a 50% reduced PSA membership fee to offer them protection and promotion of their unique rights and interests. These members also enjoy all PSA fringe benefits, including free funeral assistance and free membership of *PSA Club*, with discounts on a range of goods and services.

The PSA expresses sincere appreciation to the country's Community Health Workers who selfless services embody the spirit of Mandela Day every day!

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