

MEDIA RELEASE **Mbabane Clinic: PSA condemns Free State Department of Health's failure**

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The Public Servants Association (PSA) condemns the failure by the Free State Department of Health to provide proper ablution facilities to employees and members of the community, following the closure of the Mbabane Clinic two weeks ago.

The Clinic was closed following a complaint lodged by the PSA with the Motheo District Manager regarding water leaks. This complaint was brought to the attention of the District Manager in November 2021 but was not attended to. The problem became worse after the area experienced heavy rains over the past two weeks. This situation could have been avoided had the Department acted when the matter was first brought to its attention.

The PSA subsequently reported the matter to the Department of Employment and Labour to investigate the Clinic's non-compliance with health and safety regulations, which resulted in the closure. The Department has now resorted to providing old mobile clinics, in the form of busses, with no ablution facilities for employees and members of the community. In addition, these mobile clinics are constantly late, resulting in members of the community having to wait in the cold weather without the necessary facilities.

This is another embarrassment where government has failed dismally in fulfilling its obligations to provide a proper and safe work environment for its employees and efficient services to the community. The PSA calls on the Free State Provincial Government to intervene and ensure a speedy resolution in this matter.

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