

MEDIA RELEASE	PSA urges full staffing, budget implementation, and mental-health prioritisation amidst Mpumalanga Department of Health campaign
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The Public Servants Association (PSA) commends the Mpumalanga Department of Health's *Cheka Impilo* campaign, for the critical role in promoting preventative healthcare and proactive wellness management across all districts of the Province.

The campaign's focus on regular screenings for HIV, TB, sexually transmitted infections, hypertension, diabetes, and other non-communicable diseases is a vital intervention that directly enhances community health outcomes. The PSA recognises the dedication and resilience of healthcare workers who continue to engage communities, often under challenging conditions, to ensure that residents receive timely guidance and access to essential services.

Whilst the campaign demonstrates positive momentum, the PSA underscores the urgent need for structural support to ensure sustained effectiveness. It is imperative that all budgeted positions in the Mpumalanga Department of Health are filled without delay to provide continuity in service delivery and eliminate operational bottlenecks that compromise healthcare outcomes. Under-resourced facilities and unfilled posts directly impede the ability of public servants to deliver quality services, placing these employees and communities at risk.

Equally critical is the prioritisation of public servants' mental health and well-being. The PSA insists that structured support programs, wellness initiatives, and adequate resources be made available to employees, particularly frontline healthcare workers, to mitigate burnout and occupational stress. The provision of safe working conditions, ongoing professional training, and equitable resource allocation are non-negotiable elements to sustain the effectiveness of wellness campaigns such as *Cheka Impilo*.

The PSA further calls on the Mpumalanga Department of Health to expand outreach to underserved rural communities, ensuring that preventative healthcare interventions reach the most vulnerable populations. Effective implementation requires collaboration, accountability, and strategic resource management to guarantee that the gains achieved by the *Cheka Impilo* campaign are preserved and amplified.

The PSA is committed to support initiatives that safeguard public servants and the communities they serve. Full staffing, robust resourcing, and prioritisation of mental health are essential to strengthen service delivery, enhance community well-being, and sustain high-impact healthcare interventions across Mpumalanga.

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