

## Provision of masks: Ha-Mutsha Clinic

The PSA was alerted that employees are struggling to access masks at Ha-Mutsha Clinic in Vhembe District. This situation forces employees to procure own masks to protect themselves when executing their duties. It must be noted that the employer has an obligation to provide health workers with N95 masks in terms of safety protocols.

The PSA swiftly engaged the Clinic Manager to urgently raise the matter as the health and safety of members cannot be compromised. Employees are empowered by COVID-19 regulations and the Department of Employment and Labour Directive to refuse to work in an unsafe working environment. Members are advised to exercise caution when executing their duties and not risk their lives if the employer is not complying with safety protocols. The provisions of personal protective equipment (PPE) and social distance observation are non-negotiable and no intimidation will be allowed.

The engagement with the manager resulted in workers being provided with masks. The PSA pleads to all members to stand for their rights and demand the provision of PPE before they can do their work. If the matter cannot be resolved with the institutional management, it should be escalated to the district or head office, or to the level of the MEC. Where necessary, the PSA will not hesitate to engage a Labour Inspector for intervention.

Members across the Province are urged to constantly assess their working environment and to report any non-compliance immediately to [queen.seema@psa.co.za](mailto:queen.seema@psa.co.za) or Whatsapp to 082 880 8995.

GENERAL MANAGER