

Poor management: WF Knobel Hospital

Members will recall that the PSA raised concerns about the inefficient management at WF Knobel Hospital in Moletjie where infrastructure neglect, inadequate working equipment and human resources capacity were highlighted. Sadly, the hostile relationship between Hospital management and union representatives did not help, which led to the suspension and ultimately dismissal of union representatives.

The MEC recently visited the Hospital where she found it not to be in good condition, which led to her adopting the Hospital and visiting again on 3 February 2021. She delivered 16 infusion pumps, 2 suction machines, 5 baby scales, 4 CTG machines, 70 bath towels, 2 data scopes, 5 mounted ENT sets, 30 clinical coats, maternity case records, road to health booklets, and a stethoscope, amongst others. The efforts of the MEC are appreciated although there is much to be done. It is clear to the PSA that the CEO is failing to ensure that basic issues are attended to in the Hospital. It would not be necessary for the MEC to adopt the Hospital and visit weekly with the District and Head Office team if the CEO was executing his duties in the correct manner.

Members will recall that union representatives were dismissed and the PSA submitted an appeal on behalf of the dismissed representatives. The response is still awaited. Subsequently, the PSA wrote a letter to the appeal authority, notifying her that the affected officials will report for duty on 1 March 2021 as the appeal process could not be finalised for a period exceeding three months. The struggle for the emancipation of workers continues.

The remaining representatives and members are urged to continue standing for their rights and ensuring that a safe working environment is created in compliance with the OHSA. Unresolved problems can be escalated to the PSA Provincial Office. Members can contact mike.mkhize@psa.co.za / Paulina.moloto@psa.co.za / queen.seema@psa.co.za or send a Whatsapp to 082 880 8957.

GENERAL MANAGER