Feedback: Special Provincial Multilateral - Community Health Workers (CHWs)

The PSA and the Gauteng Department of Health held a special meeting on 10 April 2025. The meeting was regarding the unbearable working conditions of CHWs in Gauteng and the following decisions were taken:

Redeployment of CHWs

The contracts of employment of CHWs were initially a fixed-term contract and then their contracts of employment were changed, and they were employed on a permanent basis. Before and after their permanent appointment, they were subjected, supervised, and controlled by officials from the Department of Correctional Services. It was resolved that all CHWs are now going to report under the management, supervision, and control of the Health District Chief Directors in the Health District Services Offices.

CHWs danger allowance

There are CHWs who are currently reporting at Correctional Centres and are not receiving a danger allowance like all other governmental officials based at Correctional Centres. It was resolved that all CHWs are going to be removed from Correctional Centres and will be based at facilities under the Health District Services Offices.

CHW uniform

Part of the conditions of service of CHWs includes provision of uniform. The employer has failed to ensure due diligence to supply uniform for CHWs every year. It was resolved that Supply Chain Management at Central office will assist with procuring uniform before the end of May 2025.

Working tools and safety of CHWS

The working tools that CHWs need to execute their duties hinder service delivery. Safety is also a hindrance in service delivery. It was resolved that the Gauteng Department of Health will liaise with the Office of the Premier to increase visibility of Safety Wardens in areas where CHWs are working.

The PSA will continue to monitor progress on the above-mentioned resolutions and further developments will be monitored.

Reuben Maleka
<u>GENERAL MANAGER</u>