

## **GG2099775 Melusi “Phela Hantle” Project**

### **Progress Report – August 2021**

“Education is the passport to the future, for tomorrow belongs to those that prepare for it today.”

#### **Total Number of Direct Beneficiaries**

Primary health care consultations and dispensing of medicine were offered at no cost to 228 (two hundred and twenty-eight) patients on site in Melusi. 858 (eight hundred and fifty eight) patients were screened within the community for Covid symptoms. For more details on the patients seen please view the attached COPC Gauteng Province summary statistical report for Aug 2021.

#### **Number of Maternal and Child Health Professional’s Trained**

Thirteen (13) community health workers and ten (10) fieldworkers were trained weekly within the community and as part of a weekly team meeting. Dietetic, physiotherapy and medical care students (10 across all disciplines) enrolled at the University of Pretoria were also included in learning activities as part of their service-learning within communities. The theme for the month of July was *Mental health and Psychological Well-being*. Topics covered include health educational advice and support as part of educational instruction and support of health care workers and mothers. Patients were educated in groups as they were seen at the clinic (228). The educational sessions were facilitated by environmental health officer, Rebaone Molebatsi, for the community health workers. The CHWs were in turn expected to facilitate small group training sessions outside and in the open air for patients that arrived at the clinic or that were seen at household level.

A special educational day was also hosted to celebrate World Breastfeeding Day on 5 August. Physiotherapy and dietetic students addressed: benefits of breastfeeding, expression of breast milk and how to maintain and support breastfeeding as well as introducing a complementary diet. A total of 16 mothers from the Zama Zama and Melusi informal settlements and from Daspoort attended the day.



Image 1: Mother's attending a breastfeeding training session

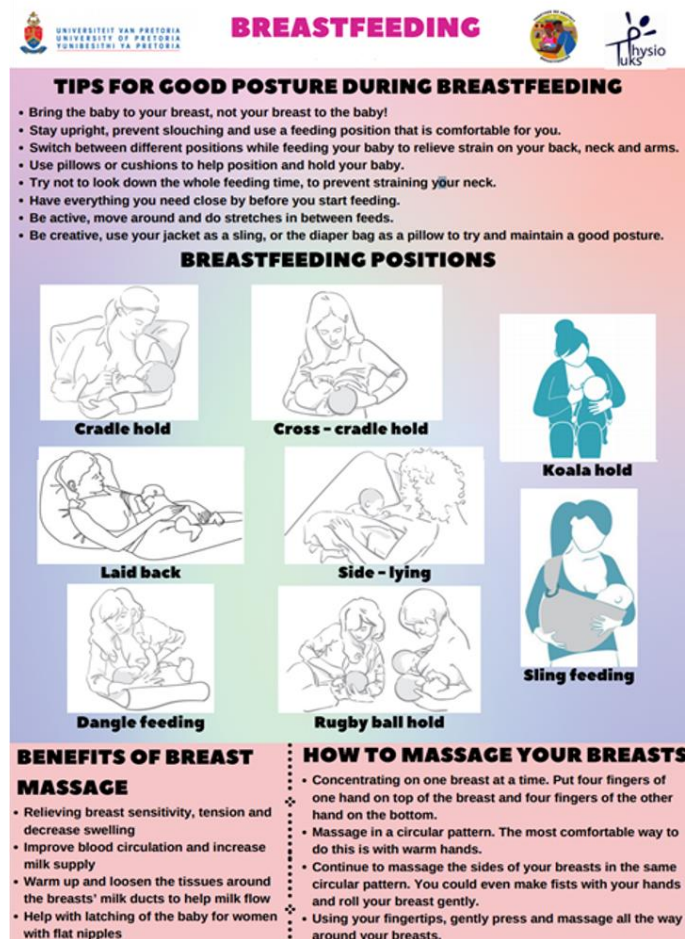


Image 2: Infographic shared with breastfeeding mothers



Image 3: Peer counsellor and community health workers interacting with the mothers.



Image 4: Daspoort COSUP clinic staff (counsellors and social workers) and Sister Doreen also interacted with the mothers before immunization started.





Image 5: Teachers attending the training

Teacher from all 15 early learning centres in Melusi were enrolled through the Global Grant for a course in early childhood development. This ECD course is accredited through the University of Pretoria and a training program offered by Judea Harvest Non-Profit Organisation. The course includes certification as an ECD teacher and a curriculum. In the local context most of the teachers have never been trained formally and this opportunity will have a major impact for the 240 children currently enrolled in their early learning centres. Over time upskilling the teachers will impact the learning of thousands of children.



Image 6 Teachers receiving the first curricula

## Nutritional Status Assessment and Interventions

Thirty-five (35) children consulted for a clinical condition and were assessed for their nutritional status at the health hub. Four (4) children were treated for respiratory infections. Thirty-five (35) received a catch-up dosage of Vitamin A and/or deworming. Two hundred and forty (240) children <5 received micro-nutrient supplementation at early learning centers in Melusi. Daspoort Poli-clinic is the referral clinic for Melusi patients to receive immunization.

Focused Dietetic visits were scheduled at a number of creches in Melusi.



Image 7: University of Pretoria dietetic students developed two recipe books for the formal and informal settlements based on storage, preparation and budget available to address metabolic syndrome as part of non-communicable disease treatment and prevention.



Image 8: A recipe book launched at a multi-disciplinary workshop at Daspoort Poli-clinic where Melusi chronic patients received treatment for hypertension, diabetes and other chronic conditions.



Image 9: MYDO Drama group Melusi

Volunteers from MYDO Non-Profit Organisation, one of the partners in the Melusi Health Program participated with the University of Pretoria dietetic students' MetX (Metabolic Syndrome X) Day. The drama group performed a play that emphasized the link between diet, weight and risk factors for health outcomes.

Training of mothers, fathers and community caregivers in early learning centers and at the local non-profit organization, MYDO, continued with a theme of healthy living and addressing chronic conditions and reducing risk factors.

#### **Number of mothers receiving ante-/post-natal care**

153 patients received contraceptives within the Melusi community at the healthhub. Pregnant mothers that are identified on site are referred for ANC (ante-natal care) to the nearby Daspoort clinic that has more services and resources.