

**STRENGTHENING SYSTEMS.
EMPOWERING HEALTHCARE.
SERVING COMMUNITIES**



**28 SEPT 2026
-
02 OCT 2026**

WEEK AT A GLANCE

 **Eastern Cape Department of Health**

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 **@easterncapedoh**



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This week the Eastern Cape Department of Health highlighted the importance of culture, collaboration, community health and accountable leadership.

At **Lilitha College of Nursing**, heritage, culture and pride were celebrated under the theme *"Our Heritage, Our Identity, Our Pride,"* emphasising the importance of preserving our diverse heritage and strengthening unity.

The **Hospital Twinning Initiative** between Somerset Hospital and Nelson Mandela Academic Hospital provided an opportunity for healthcare professionals to exchange knowledge, share best practices and explore practical solutions to strengthen health service delivery. The visiting team also toured the new Oncology facility and Bedford Orthopaedic Hospital.



In Mthatha, OR Tambo District, the **U=U campaign** brought together the Eastern Cape AIDS Council, ECDOH and stakeholders to share knowledge, challenge HIV-related stigma and promote treatment. Community members also accessed health information, screening and other services.

The Provincial Joint Budgeting and Planning Indaba 2026, held from 30 September to 2 October in Gqberha, brought together healthcare leadership to reflect on service delivery, financial performance, strategic priorities and resource allocation, with a focus on strengthening accountability and improving health outcomes across the province.

LILITHA COLLEGE OF NURSING HERITAGE DAY

02

Heritage Is More Than A Day, It Is A Legacy We Live Every Day. Lilitha College of Nursing, East London Campus, KuGompo City, celebrated heritage, culture and pride under the theme “Our Heritage, Our Identity, Our Pride.”

The celebration highlighted the traditions that unite us, the diversity that strengthens us and the importance of preserving our rich South African heritage.

The event emphasised that our diverse cultures should be celebrated beyond a single day, recognising their lasting impact and the importance of unity, cultural appreciation and pride in our shared identity.





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LILITHA COLLEGE OF NURSING HERITAGE DAY

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HOSPITAL TWINNING INITIATIVE NELSON MANDELA ACADEMIC HOSPITAL

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Stronger healthcare services are built through collaboration, shared knowledge and continuous improvement.

The Hospital Twinning Initiative between Somerset Hospital in the Western Cape and Nelson Mandela Academic Hospital creates an opportunity for healthcare professionals to exchange knowledge, share best practices and explore practical solutions to common challenges.

As part of the engagement, the visiting team also had an opportunity to walk through the new Oncology facility and Bedford Orthopaedic Hospital, gaining valuable insights into infrastructure, services and innovations supporting quality patient care and strengthening health service delivery.





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HOSPITAL TWINNING INITIATIVE NELSON MANDELA ACADEMIC HOSPITAL

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U=U KNOW THE FACTS, END THE STIGMA

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The Eastern Cape AIDS Council, Eastern Cape Department of Health and other stakeholders came together in Mthatha, OR Tambo District, for an impactful U=U campaign focused on sharing knowledge, challenging HIV-related stigma and promoting treatment.

The event also brought essential services on wheels closer to the community, providing access to health information, screening and other services. U=U reinforces that people living with HIV who maintain an undetectable viral load do not sexually transmit HIV, empowering communities through knowledge, treatment, support and compassion.



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U=U KNOW THE FACTS, END THE STIGMA

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PROVINCIAL JOINT BUDGETING AND PLANNING INDABA

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The Eastern Cape Department of Health hosted the Provincial Joint Budgeting and Planning Indaba from 30 September to 2 October 2026 in Gqeberha.

Under the theme “Strengthening Leadership, Accountability, Service Delivery and Health Outcomes Through Excellence, Innovation and Sustainable Health Systems,” the Indaba brought together hospital leadership, programme managers and Head Office executives to reflect on service delivery, financial performance, strategic priorities and resource allocation.

The engagement aimed to strengthen collective accountability and drive practical actions towards improved health outcomes across the province.





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PROVINCIAL JOINT BUDGETING AND PLANNING INDABA

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PROVINCIAL JOINT BUDGETING AND PLANNING INDABA

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