



11/4/11

Wes-Kaapse Provinsiale Parlement  
Western Cape Provincial Parliament  
IPalamente yePhondo leNtshona Koloni

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

**REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ON AN  
OVERSIGHT VISIT TO GRABOUW DAY HOSPITAL ON 10 FEBRUARY 2015**

## **REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ON AN OVERSIGHT VISIT TO GRABOUW DAY HOSPITAL ON 10 FEBRUARY 2015**

The above-mentioned Committee, having undertaken the oversight visit to Grabouw Day Hospital on Tuesday, 10 February 2015, wishes to report as follows:

### **1. Introduction**

The Committee as part of its oversight mandate and complying with the Committee programme, resolved to embark on an oversight visit to Grabouw Day Hospital. The Committee undertook this visit to get a first-hand experience and assess the activities of this Hospital.

### **2. The delegation**

The delegation of the Standing Committee on Community Development included the following Members:

Botha LJ (DA)

Gopie D (ANC)

Lekker PZ (ANC)

Mackenzie RD (DA)

Makeleni P (ANC)

Marais AJD (DA) (Chairperson and leader of the delegation)

Wenger MM (DA)

The following parliamentary officials accompanied the delegation:

Daza B, Senior Committee Co-ordinator

Jamce N, Committee Co-ordinator

Barends A, Driver

### **3. Account of visit**

The main objective of the visit was to assess the activities of Grabouw Day Hospital. This visit is one of many visits that the Standing Committee on Community Development will embark on as part of its programme for the year.

### **4. Background Information**

Grabouw Day Hospital was established in 1995 and has a Community Health Clinic (CHC) and Community Day Centre (CDC). The Community Health Clinic opens 24 hours per day, 7 days a week, at which a broad range of Primary Health Care services are provided. It also offers accident, emergency and midwifery services, but not surgery under general anaesthesia. This facility qualifies as a fixed facility. The Community Day Centre offers accident and emergency but not midwifery services or surgery under general anaesthesia and this qualifies as a fixed facility. The primary health care services in Grabouw Community Day Centre are rendered daily from Monday to Friday from 07:00 -16:30 and the midwife obstetric unit operates 24 hours per day, 7 days per week. In 2005, oral health and pharmaceutical services moved into the Community Day Centre and antiretroviral services were introduced and by then the Community Day Centre had huge challenges with infrastructure. The French Government donated R20 million to expand the facility, this included a Chronic Disease Unit. A prefab building was erected on the premises to accommodate the antiretroviral treatment services, this led to stigmatization of patients, fragmentation of services and strain on staff capacity.

Grabouw Community Day Centre offers the following services:

- a) A full package of Primary Health Care Services such as Acute Care, Chronic Disease Management, Radiography Services, pharmacy service, oral health services, mental health, school health.
- b) Outreach Services such as optometry, speech therapy, audiology, sonography, physio, occupational therapy, women's and child health, social services, and dietetics. These services are rendered on an outreach basis from Theewatersloof Sub –district Office in Caledon.
- c) Referral pathways such as community based services.
- d) Cleaning and Security Services are outsourced.

### **5. Findings**

- 5.1. High staff turnover in all categories of the hospital.
- 5.2. With regards to the appointment system, community members do not adhere to dates and some do not want an appointment system at all.
- 5.3. Current infrastructure / lay out of the Centre not conducive for enhance a very good patient flow.
- 5.4. The filing system of patient's folders is a big challenge.

- 5.5. The hospital has consultative health structure such as facility board structure because the law that regulates Health Committees is not passed so there is no Health Committee.
- 5.6. The number of security personnel in this hospital is not being reduced as alleged; instead the numbers will be increased. The Provincial Department of Health is busy with the Security Tender of Grabouw Community Day Centre.
- 5.7. Grabouw Community Day Centre also provides health services to the surroundings farming communities in Overberg Regional Council via three mobile clinics, but the plan is to reduce the Mobile Clinics and establish Health Posts Units in farms where nurses will visit the farms on certain days and provide health services to the farm workers.
- 5.8. Members were informed that the hospital was finding it difficult to reach Service Level Agreements for the establishment of Health Posts Units with farm owners due to farms that are owned by big Consortium Companies.
- 5.9. Child Mortality rate is very low in the Theewaterskloof sub-district.
- 5.10. There is only one permanent doctor, some doctors are on contract and work certain hours per day.
- 5.11. HIV infection rates are alarming in the region.
- 5.12. The hospital need a bigger record keeping area, currently the records area is too small.
- 5.13. The rehabilitation unit is outside of main building.
- 5.14. Parking area for staff members is not efficient.
- 5.15. Emergency Service's vehicles are using the same entrance as pedestrian patients and that causes congestion in the entrance.
- 5.16. The space for security is inadequate.
- 5.17. The Hospital needs space for helpdesk officer.

### **5.1. Achievements**

- a) Integrated comprehensive services under one roof.
- b) Improved waiting times since the establishment of help desk and queue marshal, waiting time related complaints has decreased.
- c) Well-functioning alternative dispensing sites in the community. This is well supported by the Central Dispensing Unit.
- d) Compete in change management programme and introduce quality circle.
- e) Low defaulter rate, high tuberculosis cure rate at 98% and high smear conversion rate at 96%.
- f) To improve customer service, the hospital use colour foot code, patients follow the respective foot colour to where they need to be in the hospital. The colour foot code help patients with directions.

## 6. Recommendation

The Committee recommended that:-

- 1) The Department of Health should consider upgrading Grabouw Community Day Centre to a 24 hour health facility.
- 2) More Xhosa speaking help desk employees should be appointed.
- 3) The Department should strengthen public awareness on HIV& AIDS to reduce the stigma within communities.
- 4) Filing system should be address urgent to avoid the long queues of patients waiting for folders.

The Committee requested the Department to provide a progress report on Health Posts Unit in farms once it has been established.

## 7. Conclusion

The Committee successfully concluded its oversight visit.

*AMaraix*

**MS AJD MARAIS, MPP**

**CHAIRPERSON: STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**