

Inspire. Transform. Win

UBUNTU INITIATIVE PROGRAMME

20 JUNE 2023

SOUTHERN SUN – ELANGENI DURBAN , SOUTH AFRICA
CIVIL SOCIETY BREAKAWAY SESSION



New HIV infections
Discrimination
AIDS-related deaths.

Profile: David Macana

- My name is David Macana, National TB Ambassador, Demand Generation Mobilizer for Ubuntu Program (Show Me Your Number Program) Ex-mineworker.
- I reside in a small mining town called Stilfontein, the township is Khuma, I worked in the mines for a period of 12 years, where I started working underground as a Miner Assistant, working with explosives.
- I survived TB three times in my lifetime, with the 3rd time it was extremely difficult. I was in the hospital for a period of 09 months. In the 07th month, it was only when I was diagnosed with TB Meningitis which was isolated at that stage, and such isolation brought a sense of stigma and discrimination a lot to me. Through the support of my family and friends and adhering to 18 months of treatment which the first nine months, I took many pills every morning. At that time I was working in the Safety Department of the mine, where my work was to record daily injuries on duty, I also took part in the awareness programs planned by the mine. In 2015, I left the mining industry with the intention to pursue other opportunities.



Background

- It was that I saw the necessity for me to join a community forum, my intention was to advocate TB and Silicosis as when I left the mine, I was embarking on a program about Silicosis.
- We registered a Non-Profit organization (Excellent 2030 Projects) whose amongst its objectives are to give:
 - Basic Care to ex-mineworkers and their immediate families,
 - TB and Silicosis awareness
 - Skills development to ex-mineworkers
 - Other gaps that we aimed was to engage stakeholders to do outreach, stakeholders such as:
 - Mineworkers Provident Fund to assist ex-mineworkers with their outstanding benefits,
 - Medical Bureau of Occupational (MBOD), to do Benefit Medical Examination (BME) and compensate those who qualify to be compensated.
 - And Rand Mutual to address ex-mineworkers with regard to injuries they had.



Scope & Objectives

- The program aimed to curbe TB infections among ex-mineworkers, encourage healthy living styles for those patients of Silicosis and provide solutions to healthy lifestyles by working with partners. The database we had of ex-mineworkers around the communities we operate, led us to cross-path with SMNY which at that time it was doing TIMS(TB in the Mines).
- We collaborated with SMYN (under Ubuntu Initiative) as it had the upper hand in screening, linkage, and referral to health facilities around and was able to invite other partners.
- Ubuntu assisted numerous number ex-mine workers with their queries about Injuries as Rand Mutual came on board to address such queries sustained whilst working in the mine.



Introduction

- **SHOW ME YOUR NUMBER (SMYN)**'s primary goal is to combat HIV/AIDS and Tuberculosis (TB) through the implementation of human rights methods.
- By employing a multifaceted approach to achieve its goals, SMYN focuses on reducing the incidences of new HIV and TB infections, eradicating stigma and discrimination associated with these diseases, and promoting social cohesion.
- One of the key strategies employed by SMYN is leveraging the sports, arts, and culture platform to raise awareness.



Introduction

- Working with men and young boys in the mines (Class IX) and steel and metal factories (Class XIII), the Ubuntu initiative seeks to ensure that males, regardless of socio-economic status, have access to comprehensive healthcare services and support.
- Ubuntu engages in various activities such as:
 - Awareness campaigns,
 - Education/information sessions,
 - Prevention initiatives,
 - Advocating for policy changes,
 - Providing support services,
 - Collaborating with other stakeholders in the field of public health.
- It also empowers them to advocate for women and children's rights, by actively participating in the collective effort to reduce Gender-Based Violence (GBV).



Introduction

- **UBUNTU INITIATIVE** is one of **SMYN**'s flagship health programs. **Ubuntu** contributes towards the national wellness campaign (Cheka Impilo) in extending access to wellness screening and healthcare services to mine workers (class 4) and the steel and metals industries (class 13).
- **UBUNTU** further contributes to the National Health Agenda as determined by the UN Sustainable Development Goals, the health goals lined out in the National Development Plan and the National Strategic Plan on HIV/AIDS, STIs, and TB (2017-2022) and (2023 - 2028).
- **UBUNTU** has reached over 20 000 workers in the mining and metals.



Key Partners

- **RAND MUTUAL ASSURANCE**
- **NATIONAL UNION OF MINE WORKERS**



Stakeholders

- SANAC, PCA, and DCAs.
- Department of Health (Clinics).
- Municipalities.
- Mining and Steel Companies.
- Community Members in the mining and steel factory areas.
- Civil Society.



Program Offerings

- HTS & Wellness Screening such as:
 - HIV Counselling & Testing
 - TB Screening + ULAM
 - Glucose
 - Blood Pressure
 - BMI
 - STI Screening
 - Lost to follow up – track and tracing
- GBV
- Men's health podcast (**Ubuntu Enhancing Change**)
- **OSHA & COIDA**



Monitoring Evaluation Research and Learning

- **UBUNTU** has implemented the AI Healthcare Cloud Framework (AIHCF), a cloud-based healthcare software application, to manage patient data and provide comprehensive reporting.
- Our mobilisers are equipped with tablets to capture client data in the field where the screening is provided (real-time).
- The client's clinical information is captured and persisted in a database hosted in the cloud and is accessible from any location on a range of devices.
- The above ensures detailed dynamic reports that UBUNTU mobilisers share with the M and E team.



Monitoring Evaluation Research and Learning

- Daily reports, site registers, and client electronic signatures are used to verify clients captured on the system.
- Duplicate referral slips are used for referral of clients to health facilities for follow-up and treatment initiation.
- Teams comply with all requirements set by the Department of Health for reporting data.
- The collected data is reported to the National Nerve Centre at SANAC and regional Nerve Centers.
- As well, project stats are reported to the relevant districts.



Implementation Areas

- GAUTENG PROVINCE
 - City of Ekurhuleni Metropolitan
 - City of Johannesburg Metropolitan
 - Sedibeng District
 - Westrand District
- FREE STATE PROVINCE
 - Lejweleputswa
- MPUMALANGA PROVINCE
 - Nkangala District
 - Emalahleni District
- LIMPOPO PROVINCE
 - Greater Sekhukhune District
- NORTH-WEST PROVINCE
 - Bojanala District
 - Dr. Kenneth Kaunda District



"As we strive to achieve the 95-95-95 targets for HIV, let's not forget the critical role of TB control. By joining forces and forging partnerships across sectors, we can ACT decisively to prevent new infections, improve treatment outcomes, and end the HIV-TB co-epidemic. Together, we can make a lasting difference and create a world where no one is left behind in the fight against these intertwined diseases."

THANK YOU!



