

MEDIA STATEMENT

WEDNESDAY, 17 NOVEMBER 2021

GAUTENG HEALTH PLEASED WITH RATE AT WHICH ITS MENTAL HEALTH INSTITUTIONS ADDRESS VACANCIES

The Gauteng Department of Health (GDoH) said on Wednesday, it was pleased with the urgency within which public mental health institutions fill vacancies which ensures that there is limited disruption to services.

The onset of the COVID-19 pandemic has led to an increase in the number of community members who present at mental health institutions seeking medical help.

There has been an increase in the number of patients presenting with conditions including anxiety, depression and struggling with substance abuse.

Even though the burden on mental institution is high, facilities have coped well with the staff compliment available.

All the three mental health institutions in the province – Weskoppies Psychiatry Hospital, Sterkfontein Psychiatry Hospital and Tara H Moross Hospital – prioritise the filling of various categories of vacancies as and when there is an opening. Most critical positions in these institutions are filled.

The Department has noted a high turnover of nurses. This is due to natural attrition, seeking greener pastures and opportunities or retirement.

As of 16 November 2021 Weskoppies, and Tara Hospital had 43 and 15 vacancies respectively. These are for different categories of workers, however, the majority falls under nursing and administration staff category. On the other hand, Sterkfontein Hospital is currently working to fill 28 vacancies.

The recruitment process is underway to fill these vacancies.

Ends/

For more information, contact Kwara Kekana, Spokesperson of Gauteng MEC for Health: Gauteng Department of Health on 082 737 7227 or mediaenquiries.@gauteng.gov.za.

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