

Faculty of Health Sciences Mobile Clinic handover Feedback

The Process to establish a mobile healthcare service in collaboration with the Free State Department of Health (FSDoH) started in 2015 with:

Consultation:

- Faculty of Health Sciences
- Mobile clinic suppliers
- Xhariep Health Service Management

Supplier visits:

- Cape Town
- Port Elizabeth

The vision and aims of the mobile healthcare serve are:

Vision

Enriching rural primary healthcare through health professions students in collaborative practice

Aims

- Innovative mobile health services for farming communities in collaboration with the Free State department of Health (FSDoH).
- Inclusive teaching and learning platforms for healthcare providers
- Healthcare providers equipped with essential competencies towards “Re-Futuring” of rural healthcare
- Collaborative community based research

The aforementioned consultations and visits enabled the Faculty to make an informed decision regarding the service and the resources needed: the vehicle selected should fit the purpose and the environment.

After the Faculty did its homework two concurrent processes commenced:

- The mobile clinic custom-fitted according to our specific needs in collaboration with Isuzu and their subsidiary Kanu

- The Service Level Agreement (SLA) outlining the relationship between the Faculty and FSDoH was drafted.

On 31 July 2018 the handing over ceremony was attended by:

- Free State MEC of Health
- Free State HoD of Health
- Rector of the UFS
- Director of Community Engagement
- Members of Faculty

The speeches of MEC Tsiu, Prof Petersen and Bishop Ramahlele spoke to our shared missions in enhancing regional rural primary healthcare. Collaboration not only between the different parties to the SLA but related to all community stakeholders was another strong theme emanating from all three speakers. During the ceremony the SLA was signed by MEC Tsiu, Prof Petersen, the HoD of Free State Health Dr Motau and Prof van Zyl (FHS Dean).

After the signing of the SLA was completed the keys was officially handed over to the dean and the MEC and rector cut the ribbon before guests were allowed to enter the vehicle.

This mobile healthcare service will align itself with the current mobile service offered by the FSDoH and will include the additions of Allied Health profession including an optometry service. This is a first of its kind service and aims to expose students to mobile primary healthcare on a rural platform.



Figure 1 The Faculty of Health Sciences Mobile Clinic in front of the Francois Retief building



Figure 2 The Free State MEC of Health , Me Tsiu delivering her speech in the foyer of the Francois Retief building



Figure 3 Prof Francis Petersen delivered speech in support of the mobile healthcare project and collaboration



Figure 4 Bishop Billyboy Ramahlele, Director of UFS Community Engagement



Figure 5 Signing the SLA document were (from left to right) Dr David Motau (HoD of Free State Health), Prof Gert van Zyl (Dean of the Faculty of Health Sciences), Free State MEC of Health honorable Tsiu and Prof Francis Petersen (Vice-Chancellor UFS)



Figure 6 Official handing over of the keys to Prof Gert van Zyl by representatives of Kanu, Mrs Sandla and Scholtz and from Isuzu SA Mr Williams



Figure 7 Free State MEC of Health honorable Tsiu and Prof Francis Petersen cut the ribbon to signify the beginning of this collaboration



Figure 8 A peek into the Faculty of Health Sciences Mobile Clinic