



FACT SHEET

The Nelson Mandela Children's Hospital is a legacy project of the late President of South Africa Tata Nelson Mandela. This project was initiated by the Nelson Mandela Children's Fund and has its origins in Madiba's desire to change the way society treats its children.

The Fund established the Nelson Mandela Children's Trust led by Mrs Graça Machel, Deputy Chairperson Ms Nana Magomola and CEO Sibongile Mkhabela. The Trust was mandated to build a Children's Hospital to meet the tertiary Paediatric healthcare needs in Southern Africa.

Upon the directive given by the Nelson Mandela Children's Fund, the project scoping phase commenced in 2005, with the completion of the prefeasibility in 2006 and feasibility studies in March 2008.

In July 2009, as part of his birthday celebrations, Mr Mandela undertook the site dedication on land donated by the University of Witwatersrand.

The business case process, which was undertaken from March 2010 and completed in July 2012, affirmed the dire need for specialist facilities; Africa only has four children's hospitals compared to 23 in Canada, 19 in Australia, 20 in Germany and 157 in the US.

Architects Sheppard Robson International (UK), Ruben Reddy and GAPP (both South Africa) finalised the design of the hospital in 2013. On 20 March 2014 the ground breaking ceremony took place, followed by bulk earth works on 22 April.

The Trust garnered support from all spheres of government including the President of South Africa, Mr Jacob Zuma, the Minister of Health, the Minister of Finance, the Premier of Gauteng, the MEC of Health in Gauteng as well as the City of Johannesburg.

The National Skills Fund provided R76 million funding for bursaries for training of paediatric nurses and fellows. Most of the R1 billion capital costs required for construction, equipment, training and skills development and accommodation, have been raised.

Construction of the hospital building (shell) was completed in June 2016. This achievement signalled the beginning of the commissioning stage, with the installation of equipment, along with the environmental design phase including: the interior design, landscaping, artworks and soft features.

On December 2, 2016, the Trust celebrated the completion of the hospital's construction. The next phase was getting ready for a phased-in clinical roll-out. This included finalising clinical protocols and programmes, staff training and induction, implementing business processes and evaluating safety and readiness before treatment starts.



The hospital received its first Radiology referral patients on 21st of June 2017. Since then outpatient and in-patient services in Radiology, Anaesthesiology, Pharmacy, Cardiology and Nephrology (Dialysis), Critical Care and Neurosurgery departments, have opened. We have also performed a number of Neurosurgical since May 2018.

Prior clinical training was received from NMCH partners SickKids International and Johns Hopkins International (JHPIEGO) and NMCH continues to receive such training in order to follow safe practices.

Training and Skills development is an important part of the hospital mandate as there is a shortage of Paediatric specialists. The National Skills Fund has donated R76 million towards the training of nurses and doctors for the hospital. over 260 nurses and 18 doctors have been trained for various sub-specialist fellows in line with the hospital requirements.

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About Nelson Mandela Children's Hospital

The Nelson Mandela Children's Hospital is a 200-bed world-class, specialist paediatric, academic and tertiary referral hospital, providing child centred, best-quality medical services to the children of Sub-Saharan Africa. Once fully operational the hospital will provide Cardiology and Cardiothoracic surgery, Nephrology, Neurosurgery, Orthopaedic and General Paediatric Surgery and Oncology services. The 200-bed hospital is integrated into the referral networks of hospitals throughout Southern Africa. Almost R1 billion was raised to build and equip the hospital, as well as train medical professionals. Visit www.nelsonmandelachildrenshospital.org for more details.

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