



UKWANDA CENTRE FOR RURAL HEALTH & ANOVA HEALTH
INSTITUTE
PRESENTS THE
7TH ANNUAL RURAL HEALTH RESEARCH DAYS

BUILDING HEALTHY COMMUNITIES
7th Annual Rural Health Research Days

It gives us great pleasure to invite you to register for the 7th Rural Research Days on the 18th and 19th May 2017 hosted by the Ukwanda Centre for Rural Health & Anova Health Institute at the Worcester Campus of the University of Stellenbosch. You are also invited to submit abstracts for consideration for inclusion in the programme.

Background and theme

One of the goals of the Rural Research Days is to encourage scientific research habits to be used in, for and with rural communities. Scientific habits can help people in every community to deal with problems by using evidence, quantitative considerations, logical arguments and measure of quality.

Together as scientist, health professionals, educationalists and community members we are confronted with various socio-scientific dilemmas, scenarios or problems that need to be addressed in order to build healthier communities. We use systematic process to generating knowledge; the better we get in these processes the better our science and the better we can be in solving health problems.

The theme of this year's rural research days is: **Building Healthy Communities**. The theme allows room for presentation of a broader range of research topics, as well as debate and discussion that we hope will be challenging.

Issues that we expect to be included are, for example:

- "Building Healthy caring communities together": how do we describe, define and measure "health caring communities"? How can we build together?
- The many facets and role players in a healthy community...
- The foundation of a healthy community ... The first 1000 days
- From dreams to practice ... stories of success
- The ups and downs of health communities... lessons learnt

Programme format:

The Rural Health Research Days at Ukwanda is not your typical health conference:

- It is a gathering of engaged people exploring creative avenues to present new scientific knowledge to health care workers, other professionals, students and community members.
- It is also the avenue for these same stakeholders to bring their problems and observations to the scientific community for further exploration.
- For others it is the time of the year to take stock and to be updated on research done, research in progress and research planned.

The days consist of:

In order to make provision for health care workers in the services to attend

Thursday, 18 May 2017, will have a focus on Epidemic control and the community, new and ongoing research on HIV and our continued fight against Tuberculosis and related topics.

Friday, 19 May 2017, the focus will be on community health care and general health care

We trust that this would allow health care workers to select a day, if they can't attend both days, to fit their schedules and interest. A more detailed programme will be made available closer to the event.

- **Plenary sessions** with invited speakers introducing new scientific knowledge or challenging the audience with observations about health problems. The aim is for new knowledge to drive implementation and for discussion to spark new research.

- **Oral sessions:** the program organisers receive a wide range of abstracts from a wide audience and the focus is to accommodate the abstracts by organising them according to theme, but also according to intention. The purpose of some of the abstracts is to report back on research done in the rural communities, some focus on the results of research done in similar setting with the aim to bring possible solutions, and others report back on a strategy or project to highlight observations made and lessons learnt.
- **Poster presentations:** this is the opportunity for anyone, particularly frontline health workers, students and novice researchers to bring issues related to health to the meeting in the form of a poster followed with a short explanation of the poster.
- **Workshops:** This is more interactive session and provides the opportunity for discussion and debate between a panel of experts and the audience.

Guidelines for abstract submission:

Abstracts can be submitted for consideration according to the following guidelines:

Please provide the following information:

Abstract title:

Preferred presentation: poster or oral presentation or workshop

- Author(s):
- Presenting author:
- Author's mobile number:
- E-mail address for nominated author:
- Short bio of presenting author:

Submission of abstract content: (Limited to 300-500 words).

- Format 1: Abstracts that report research findings and research in progress:
 - Background: The description of the problem or the hypothesis, the study objectives
 - Methods: Study methods used or approaches taken
 - Results: Specific results in summarised form.
 - Conclusions: Statement about the main outcomes
- Format 2: Abstracts for reporting on strategies/projects should contain the following statement:
 - Background: Short statement summarising the issue(s) addressed by the abstract
 - Methods: A brief description of the project, experience, program, or observation
 - Results: A brief description of the results or lessons learned
 - Conclusions: A brief statement of the next steps/ recommendations.

Please add the following information:

- Permission to hand out the abstract in the format it was submitted as part of the program.
- Brief description linking your work with the rural research days and the themes