

FOR PSA MEMBERS: GAUTENG DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

24-02-2025

Update: Johan Heyns Community Health Centre, Van Der Bijl Park

The Johan Heyns Community Health Centre (CHC) in Vanderbijlpark has been facing significant issues, including a lack of running water and electricity, making it unsafe for operation. The facility was temporarily closed on 17 January 2024 owing to these hazardous conditions. The Sedibeng Health District has been working to address these issues, and the facility was reopened on 29 January 2024, after the electrical fault was resolved. However, concerns about the building's overall condition remain, and a long-term solution is needed.

Gauteng Health agreed that the building is unsafe and also decided that there is a need for a hospital in the area and a CHC. This now resulted in the total refurbishment of the building that will be done in phases over three years. Construction work is about to start but the PSA halted the processes as the employer had planned to only move staff on the level where construction is being done, whilst staff working on the floor below will still be in the building. PSA shop stewards were informed during an OHS meeting in early February 2025 that construction on the fifth and sixth floors will begin in mid-February.

In a follow-up occupational health and safety (OHS) meeting, the PSA demanded that all employees vacate the building before any construction work begins. The employer agreed to revisit the evacuation plan and provide a new proposal as soon as possible to move staff and resume construction work. The PSA will update members as soon as the Union has received the new evacuation plan from the employer.

Employees who want to join the PSA can visit the PSA's website, send an email to ask@psa.co.za, or contact PSA Provincial Offices.

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