

Eastern Cape health conference - have your say

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There has been a lot of talk about health system reform, including the National Health Insurance (NHI) system. But the voices of ordinary people who use the government clinics and hospitals every day are missing. The Black Sash, University of Cape Town Health Economics Unit and Health-e are hosting the first provincial health conference in Port Elizabeth to make sure the voices of communities are heard.

Why do we need to overhaul our health system? What is NHI? How do we want the health services to change? What can we do about it?

We are specifically inviting people from health affiliated organisations in the Eastern Cape to discuss how the health system should be changed so that it meets the needs of ALL South Africans.

The Eastern Cape workshop is one of a series of provincial workshops to be held in every province, aimed at:

- providing information about the health system challenges and explaining options to improve the health system;
- giving civil society organisations the opportunity to share their vision of how the national health system should be improved, and what they would prefer to see;
- reporting back on people's choice to Parliament and the national discussions about health policy.

The Black Sash aims to make submissions to Parliament and other forums that are part of the health systems reform process based on the workshops. But we undertake to protect the identities of workshop attendees.

There is still limited space available for 10-15 persons SPECIFICALLY from Health and health –affiliated organisations. Please fill in the forms above and send it back to the Black Sash as soon as possible. We will inform you on 1 May 2010 whether your application has been successful.

<http://www.health-e.org.za/news/article.php?uid=20032757>