

JPS Africa launches as independent NPO

JPS Africa has acted as the country office for Jhpiego, an international, non-profit health organisation, affiliated with The Johns Hopkins University, and dedicated to improving the health of women and families.



From L - R Jphiego Corporation President Dr Leslie Mancuso, Jhpiego SA Board Chairperson Prof. Stephen Hendricks, Jphiego SA Managing Country Director Mrs Ida Asia, and Department of Health Director of Drug-Resistant TB, TB & HIV Dr Norbet Ndjeka at the launch of JPS Africa on 3 December 2015 at the Westin Hotel in Cape Town.

However, the changing donor landscape and unprecedented success of the programmes in South Africa has led to JPS Africa becoming the first global branch to break away and form an independent entity called JPS Africa, which will continue the fight against HIV & AIDS.

With the support and in collaboration with the National Department of Health, it runs programmes that include multi drug resistant tuberculosis (MDR TB); voluntary medical male circumcision (VMMC); early warning indicators of HIV drug-resistance; and contraception and fertility planning.

"The transition from being a part of the global organisation to becoming independent has been challenging but also exciting. JPS Africa's skills and principles are grounded in the Jhpiego approach and we will remain a collaborative partner working throughout South Africa on critical public health matters," said JPS Africa MD/country director, Ida Asia.

"Looking ahead, JPS Africa aims to meet key, national targets set out in South Africa's National Strategic Plan and other

HIV/AIDS policy statements.

"We will strive to provide a comprehensive, rights-based approach to HIV/AIDS programming that is cognisant of the need for effective integration of services including TB/HIV, family planning, child health, human rights and gender issues."

For more information, go to <http://jpsafrica.org>.

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