

Lesotho National Federation of Organisations of the Disabled (LNFOD) and National Health Training College (NHTC) Sign Memorandum of Understanding to Advance Inclusive Health Care and Disability Rights

15 August 2025 – Maseru, Lesotho

The Lesotho National Federation of Organisations of the Disabled (LNFOD) and the National Health Training College (NHTC) have formalised their partnership through the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) aimed at promoting disability-inclusive health and strengthening the capacity of health professionals to address the needs of persons with disabilities.

The MoU, signed at NHTC premises in Maseru, marks a significant milestone in the collaborative efforts to integrate disability rights, gender equality, and inclusive practices into the training curricula of health workers. Under this agreement, both institutions commit to working together to enhance the quality of health care, improve accessibility for persons with disabilities in the health system, and promote the rights of persons with disabilities in Lesotho's health sector.

Speaking at the ceremony, **LNFOD's Executive Director, Mr. Rabasotho Moeletsi** emphasised the importance of the partnership in building an inclusive health care in Lesotho.

“This MoU is not just a document – it is a shared commitment to ensuring that future health professionals are equipped with the knowledge, skills, and attitudes to serve all members of our community without discrimination. Inclusion must start in the classroom if it is to be realised in our health facilities,” he said.

The **NHTC Director General, Dr. Mahlomola Kutuoane**, welcomed the collaboration, highlighting that it aligns with the institution's vision of producing competent, compassionate, and inclusive health professionals.

“By integrating disability and gender inclusivity into our training, we are preparing our graduates to provide holistic and equitable healthcare. This partnership will strengthen our curriculum, enrich our students' learning, and ultimately benefit the communities we serve,” she said.

The MoU outlines areas of cooperation including:

- **Curriculum development** to include disability and gender rights content.
- **Capacity building** for lecturers and students on inclusive health practices.
- **Joint advocacy** for policies that promote equal access to healthcare for persons with disabilities.
- **Research and knowledge sharing** on disability-inclusive health service delivery.

This collaboration comes under the broader framework of the *Gender and Disability in Practice (GADIP II)* programme, supported by Diakonie ACT Austria, which seeks to promote inclusive development in Lesotho.

By combining LNFOD's expertise in disability rights advocacy with NHTC's role in training the country's future health workforce, the MoU represents a step forward in bridging the gap between health education and inclusive service delivery.

About

LNFOD

The Lesotho National Federation of Organisations of the Disabled is an umbrella body representing organisations of persons with disabilities in Lesotho. It advocates for the rights, inclusion, and participation of persons with disabilities in all spheres of life.

About

NHTC

The National Health Training College is a leading institution in Lesotho dedicated to training health professionals, including nurses, midwives, laboratory technicians, and other allied health workers, with a mission to improve health outcomes nationwide.