

## **Principal's welcome remarks**

### **Inaugural HIPH graduation 22 October 2022**

Let me start by welcoming you all to our inaugural graduation ceremony our guest of honour Air Commodore (Dr) Jasper Chimedza The Secretary for Health and Child Care herein represented by Harare Provincial Medical Director Dr I Hove a public health specialist (Our Registrar will formally introduce him).

Dr J Chifamba

Mr Chimbwanda (Diamond Pharmacy)

My wife

Registrar – Dr I Mutingwende and HIPH team

Lecturers and technical staff here present

Our Parents and guardians

Journalists

All our invited guests

Lastly in a special way let we welcome all our graduands. You endured you persevered and today we are celebrating you as our first graduands of HIPH despite the challenges Covid-19 presented on your classes. You are all going to be engraved forever in the history books of HIPH.

Congratulations. We want to thank you all for the hard work and your families for their unwavering support through the journey.

HIPH is an institution of higher learning and research aimed at complimenting government efforts, advancing public health through training, research, consultancy and investing in informatics and innovation for health all in line with the demands of Education 5.0. The model is to build our public health systems from the bottom up through ensuring all key areas in our public healthcare has adequately skilled and professional assistants. The aim is to correct the inverted triangle that was highlighted by the skills audit that was done by the MHTEISTD. The trickle-down approaches we inherited has largely left us with weaker public health systems especially in the face of chronic brain drain. The trickle-down approach even as an economic principle has led the world into an unsustainable scenario where less than 1% has all the wealth and power.

As HIPH we want to acknowledge wide support received from the GoZ through the MHTEISTD and MoHCC, the pharmacy world and other healthcare practitioners,

councils, academic institutions and many more. Its only that we had planned for a small graduation (come Monday we have a lot of explaining to do).

For the future HIPH will produce more skilled healthcare assistants and higher up the ladder of professionals nationwide for advancement of public health in Zimbabwe and the rest of the global south. We are also investing in a state-of-the-art disease surveillance centre for modelling and predicting future disasters for planning, prevention, preparedness, and recovery. HIPH will also in line with the demands of our public health act in partnership with the MoHCC and other key stakeholders conduct annual engagements, symposiums and associated follow-up workshops on Public Health starting this November. To gather and publish information that can direct policy, research, training, and implementation of all activities/projects aimed at advancing public health.

Let me conclude by once again welcoming you all to this special event. To our graduands enjoy you day you have earned it through hard work and sleepless nights. Congratulations, Amphlope, Makorokoto.