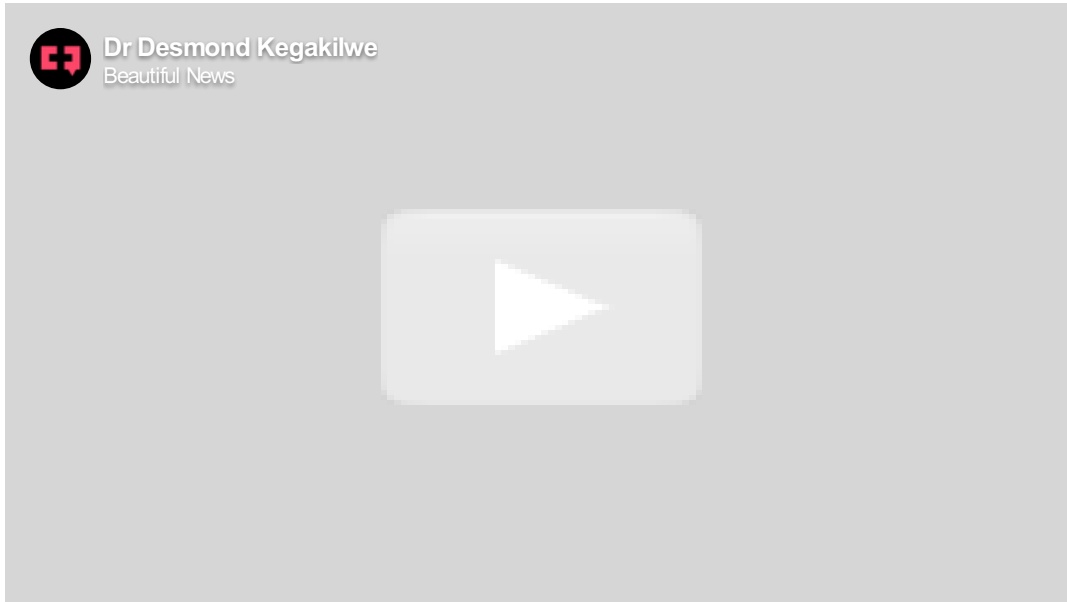


Lessons from Cuba

Instead of chasing financial reward and success in first-world countries, Dr Desmond Kegakilwe chose to come home and build his nation. South Africa's medical system needs 'stayers' like his professionals in all spheres of life who are not just talented, but selfless.



It's been a decade since Kegakilwe returned to South Africa. Unable to pay for his medical studies, he accepted a scholarship to pursue his dream in Cuba in 1998. While the communist state has controversial politics, one thing that the international community is unanimous on is its stellar healthcare system, which the World Health Organisation has described as a model for the rest of the world.

Nowadays he covers up to 300 kilometres per day in his job as chairperson for the Rural Doctors' Association of Southern Africa, which takes him to all corners of Mafikeng in the North West Province, the town where he was born. The roads are in poor condition, as are some of the 29 nursing clinics he visits to provide mentorship and share the expert skills he acquired abroad with the hope of improving HIV/Aids and TB clinical treatment issues.

Source: [Beautiful News](#)