

# HEALTH HERALD

Weekly Newsletter of the Ministry of Health and Wellness

## Jamaica's COVID-19 recovery rate up to 68%

COVID-19 recoveries continue to be a ray of hope for Jamaica with the island closing out the week ending Saturday, June 6 with a 68% recovery rate. This followed the release from care of 19 additional persons.

The 19 new releases increased the total number of persons released from care to 404 while the total number of confirmed cases went to 596, with the addition of one new positive.

The new confirmed case was a 41-year-old male of a St. Catherine address, who is a contact of a confirmed case. The case brought to 218 the number of cases classified as contacts of confirmed cases.

**The 19 new releases increased the total number of persons released from care to 404 while the total number of confirmed cases went to 596, with the addition of one new positive.**

In addition, the island had 96 imported cases; 27 local transmission cases not epidemiologically linked; 235 cases linked to a workplace cluster; and 20 that were under investigation.

Some 341 or 57% of the confirmed cases were females and 255 or 43% were males. They range in age from 2 months to 87 years.

Also up to Saturday, Jamaica's testing numbers were at 14,223. In addition to the 596 positives, there were 13,595 negatives and 32 samples pending.

**THE HEALTH HERALD, YOUR PLACE  
FOR NEWS, VIEWS AND INTERVIEWS  
FROM THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND  
WELLNESS.**

### In this newsletter:

Jamaica's COVID-19  
recovery rate up to 68%  
Page 01

Health Workers Recognised  
for Long Service,  
Commitment to COVID-19  
Response  
Page 02

Big-Up 'Balla'!  
Page 02

Qualcare's Nutritional  
Donation  
Page 02

### TAN A YUH YAAD

Especially if you are within a quarantined zone.  
Just ONE infected worker can put the lives of Families and Communities at RISK.



## Health Workers Recognised for Long Service, Commitment to COVID-19 Response



Some 27 health workers from the Percy Junor Hospital (PJH) in North East Manchester have been recognised and awarded for their longstanding service to healthcare and their outstanding commitment during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The workers were recognised by the Optimist Club of Spalding, Clarendon on Friday, May 29 on the grounds of the hospital. They were awarded for 20 years and more of outstanding service to public healthcare and for their dedicated and exceptional response during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Mr. Michael Bent, Regional Director for the Southern Regional Health Authority (SRHA), which administrates the PJH, lauded the Optimist Club for their kind gesture in recognising the healthcare workers and described it as timely and deserving.

"I want to salute the staff members at the PJH and those who have come in contact with patients with COVID-19. This pandemic has been shocking and frightening; however it has presented a number of opportunities in improving our capacity as a health sector," he said.

"Our physical infrastructure to manage infectious diseases has improved and our frontline healthcare workers are now [better] equipped to manage diseases of this type," Bent added.

***"I want to salute the staff members at the PJH and those who have come in contact with patients with COVID-19 ..."***

Member of Parliament for North East Manchester, the Hon. Audley Shaw, who supported the Optimist Club in awarding the employees, thanked the healthcare workers for their dedication and hard work, before and during the pandemic.

"We are experiencing a challenging time, but in every crisis there is an opportunity. [It is up to us] to seek out and find those opportunities. In the pursuit of excellence, one person can make a difference and you have demonstrated just that. In everything give thanks and try to be as positive as you can," Shaw told the awardees.

The Optimist Club of Spalding, Clarendon is part of the international organisation, Optimist International. In operation for some 101 years, the Optimist Club is a service-oriented organisation which does projects to enhance the development of young people and the community. The club has been involved in several projects at the PJH to improve service delivery.

## Big Up 'Balla'!



*Fashion Designer Lyndon "Balla" Johnson and the Management of the Kingston Public Hospital (KPH) on Thursday, June 4, distributed 100 handmade face masks to the cancer patients at the Radiotherapy and Chemotherapy Departments. Mr. Johnson said that the initiative is a collaborative effort with his friend, Faith McFarlane, who currently resides in Boston.*

*The Ministry of Health and Wellness joins with Senior Medical Officer at KPH, Dr. Natalie Whyllie, in expressing our sincerest gratitude to Balla and Ms. McFarlane for their generosity, on behalf of the patients, who are some of those most at risk for adverse response, if exposed to the coronavirus.*

## Qualcare's Nutritional Donation



**Qualcare Limited recently donated a 100 cases of Intrust Nutritional Shake to the Ministry of Health and Wellness. The shakes will be a part of the refreshment packages to be issued to repatriated Jamaicans aboard the cruise vessels docked in Falmouth, Trelawny as they undergo re-entry processing. Here, Head of The Health for Life and Wellness Foundation, Courtney Cephas, graciously receives the packages from Mrs. Danielle Wright, Consumer Manager at Qualcare Limited.**