SOUTHERN REGIONAL HEALTH AUTHORITY

3 BRUMALIA ROAD, MANDEVILLE, MANCHESTER, JAMAICA WI
TEL.: (876) 625-0612-3, 962-9491 or 962-8232 | FAX: (876) 962-8233 | WWW.SRHA.GOV.JM

Mandeville Regional Hospital
32 Hargreaves Avenue
Mandeville
Ph: 962-2067/2744/1094
Fax: 625-8493

May Pen Hospital
1 Muirhead Avenue
May Pen
Ph: 986-2528/7708/6938
Fax: 986-2650

Black River Hospital
45 High Street
Black River
Ph: 965-2224/2212
634-3700
Fax: 965-9294

Percy Junor Hospital
Spalding P.O.
Clarendon
Ph: 964-1181/2222/2322
Fax: 964-1548

Lionel Town Hospital
Bustamante Drive
Vere, Clarendon
Ph: 986-3226
Fax: 986-3373

Chapelton Hospital
Chapelton P.O.
Clarendon
Ph: 987-2215

Manchester Health Dept.
Race Course Rd.
Mandeville
Ph: 962-2288/7033
625-3433
Fax: 962-2171

Clarendon Health Dept.
1 Muirhead Avenue
May Pen
Ph: 986-4548/7869
Fax: 986-9713

St. Elizabeth Health Dept
High Street
Black River
Ph: 965-9174-5
Fax: 965-2701

PRESS RELEASE

March 15, 2017
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Health Staff Lauded for Safeguarding Ministry's Most Valuable Fixed Assets

At a recent Awards Ceremony for the drivers and maintenance personnel of the Southern Regional Health Authority (SRHA), the important role that these personnel play in safeguarding the most valuable fixed assets of the Health Ministry was highlighted and lauded.

Speaking at the ceremony on Thursday, March 9 in Mandeville, Regional Director of the SRHA, Mr. Michael Bent said the team has an awesome responsibility in caring for the health sector's buildings, equipment, machinery and vehicles which operate constantly, and must be saluted.

Mr. Bent pointed out that several measures have been implemented in an effort to boost the capacity of the maintenance personnel and drivers including extensive training of these staff at the diploma level in Electro-Mechanic Engineering Maintenance to operate at international standards and the continuous training of drivers in defensive driving.

The Regional Director added that this department continuously pursues cost saving initiatives such as the conversion of two buses into ambulances saving $7.6 million; engagement of an in-house mechanic to service vehicles which has saved $2 million annually; in-house servicing of air conditioning units resulting in $3.9 million savings annually and the installation of two steam generators at the Mandeville Regional Hospital which is projected to save $2.75 million annually.

"It is initiatives like these and the commitment of our drivers and the maintenance team why we were able in 2016 to utilize these savings to procure two additional ambulances to our fleet. It is through your dedication and commitment that we were able to use some of those savings to procure small equipment for the facilities" Mr. Bent said.

He added that the commitment of the staff have also resulted in increased efficiencies of machines and vehicles noting that the Service Level Agreement target for downtime of these assets is 20 percent;

(more)

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however, the SRHA is achieving a downtime of below 15 percent which is commendable.

Keynote speaker and CEO of Renotkil (Initial) Limited in challenging the awardees to strive to be better at all times noted that excellence is not dependent on one's position but on one's mindset. He urged the celebrants to continue to build on their successes and achievements.

The Awards ceremony was staged under the theme, Excellence...A Continuous Journey" and recognized 23 Maintenance Staff and Drivers for their invaluable role in health care delivery in 2016.

Picture 1

Innovative Award: SRHA Fleet Coordinator, Mr. Robert Robinson receives a rousing applause and the Innovation Award from Marketing Manager of Jamaica Fiberglass Products Ltd, Mr. Steve Peart for converting 2 buses into ambulances which saved the Authority $7.6 million.

(more)

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Picture 2

Driver of the Year: Keynote speaker and CEO of Rentokil (Initial) Limited, Mr. Maurice Goldson presents the 2016 Driver of the Year Awards to Mr. Richard Nelson of the Manchester Health Department.

(more)

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Picture 3

Saluted: Drivers and Maintenance Personnel of the Southern Regional Health Authority pictured with their awards and certificates.

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For more information contact:
Latoya Laylor Brown
Public Relations & Advocacy Officer
Southern Regional Health Authority
Tel: 962-8232/779-2663
Email: latoya.laylor@srha.gov.jm

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