



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 Junior 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

June 1, 2017

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Healthy Marriages, the Antidote for Domestic and Societal Violence-Regional Technical Director

A 2015 report published by the United States Department of Justice from the analysis of data over a sixteen year period, has revealed that married women are significantly less likely to experience intimate partner or domestic violence when compared to single women in other types of domestic arrangements.

This report, which is in keeping with studies done in the United Kingdom and Canada, was highlighted by Regional Technical Director of the Southern Regional Health Authority (SRHA), Dr. Michel Coombs at a Town Hall Meeting focused on domestic violence on Wednesday, May 31 at the Mandeville Baptist Church in Manchester.

"The report further indicated that single mothers in households with children, are more than ten times more likely to experience intimate partner violence when compared to households with married adults with children" Dr. Coombs informed the audience.

He added that: "The fourth United States National Incidence Study on Child Abuse and Neglect, revealed that children of single moms cohabiting or in a visiting relationship with a male who is not the children's biological father, are 17 times more likely to experience physical or sexual abuse, than children living with married biological parents, in particular their married fathers".

The Regional Technical Director who is also founder and Chair of the National Association for the Family, pointed out that a 2005 report published in the Journal of Pediatrics, indicated that a child living with a single mom in a relationship with a male who is not the child's father, is almost 50 times more likely to die from inflicted injuries than a child living with their married biological parents.

Dr. Coombs argued that in Jamaica, with traditional marriages on the decline, and cohabitation on the increase, resulting in 85% of births being (more)

Chairman: Wayne Chen; Vice Chairman: Michael Stern **Board Members:** Marcus Greenwood, Krishan James, Stafford Haughton, Lorraine Green Mason, Lennox Powell, Dr Lloyd Reynolds, Winston Maragh, Dr St Aubyn Bartlett, Dr Lundie Richards, **Directors: Regional Director and Secretary:** Michael Bent; **Regional Technical Director:** Dr Michael Coombs; **CEO Mandeville Regional Hospital:** Alwyn Miller; **SMO, Mandeville Regional Hospital:** Dr Everton McIntosh



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 Junior 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

to unmarried mothers, family structure and instability are undoubtedly fueling the scourge of domestic violence plaguing the society.

"Based on these statistics, there is need for Jamaica's national response to such violence, to go beyond punitive measures for perpetrators, education, detection, treatment and support for victims, to promoting healthy parental marriage, especially among its youth. This would be a key protective factor and strategy to break the intergenerational cycles of family violence, which from compelling evidence, fuels violence in the wider society. A violence free society begins with violence free homes" Dr. Coombs explained.

The public forum, an event under the SRHA's 'Good Health Begins at Home' programme was held under the theme of the Jamaica Constabulary Force's initiative 'Love me to Live. Don't Love me to death'. It incorporated the involvement of the SRHA, the Jamaica Constabulary Force, the Manchester Health Department, the National Parenting Support Commission, the Child Development Agency, youth groups, the Mandeville Baptist Church and other churches in Manchester.

Concerns and recommendations were documented and will be forwarded to the relevant authorities.

(more)

Chairman: Wayne Chen; Vice Chairman: Michael Stern **Board Members:** Marcus Greenwood, Krishan James, Stafford Haughton, Lorraine Green Mason, Lennox Powell, Dr Lloyd Reynolds, Winston Maragh, Dr St Aubyn Bartlett, Dr Lundie Richards, **Directors: Regional Director and Secretary:** Michael Bent; **Regional Technical Director:** Dr Michael Coombs; **CEO Mandeville Regional Hospital:** Alwyn Miller; **SMO, Mandeville Regional Hospital:** Dr Everton McIntosh



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

Picture 1



Constable Danielle Chevannes (right) and District Constable Marcel Brown re-enact types of domestic violence during the town hall meeting.

(more)

Chairman: Wayne Chen; Vice Chairman: Michael Stern **Board Members:** Marcus Greenwood, Krishan James, Stafford Haughton, Lorraine Green Mason, Lennox Powell, Dr Lloyd Reynolds, Winston Maragh, Dr St Aubyn Bartlett, Dr Lundie Richards, **Directors: Regional Director and Secretary:** Michael Bent; **Regional Technical Director:** Dr Michael Coombs; **CEO Mandeville Regional Hospital:** Alwyn Miller; **SMO, Mandeville Regional Hospital:** Dr Everton McIntosh



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 Junior 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

Picture 2



Dr. Michael Coombs makes a presentation on "Public Health Response to Domestic Violence".

(more)

Chairman: Wayne Chen; Vice Chairman: Michael Stern **Board Members:** Marcus Greenwood, Krishan James, Stafford Haughton, Lorraine Green Mason, Lennox Powell, Dr Lloyd Reynolds, Winston Maragh, Dr St Aubyn Bartlett, Dr Lundie Richards, **Directors: Regional Director and Secretary:** Michael Bent; **Regional Technical Director:** Dr Michael Coombs; **CEO Mandeville Regional Hospital:** Alwyn Miller; **SMO, Mandeville Regional Hospital:** Dr Everton McIntosh



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

Picture 3



Assistant Superintendent of Police, Cherry Codner (right) speaks to the audience about various aspects of domestic violence.

-30-

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

Chairman: Wayne Chen; Vice Chairman: Michael Stern **Board Members:** Marcus Greenwood, Krishan James, Stafford Haughton, Lorraine Green Mason, Lennox Powell, Dr Lloyd Reynolds, Winston Maragh, Dr St Aubyn Bartlett, Dr Lundie Richards, **Directors: Regional Director and Secretary:** Michael Bent; **Regional Technical Director:** Dr Michael Coombs; **CEO Mandeville Regional Hospital:** Alwyn Miller; **SMO, Mandeville Regional Hospital:** Dr Everton McIntosh