Southern Regional Health Authority

Compassion | Accountability | Respect | Efficiency

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Percy Junor Hospital
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PRESS RELEASE

October 19, 2018
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

US $1 Million Upgrade for Chapelton Hospital in Clarendon

The Chapelton Community Hospital in Clarendon will be renovated at a cost of US $1 million. Ground was broken for renovation works on Thursday, October 18.

The renovation is being made possible by businesswoman and head of the charity organization, Push Start Foundation, Clarendon-born, Ms. Beverly Nichols.

The scope of work will include: new ceiling, walls, flooring; construction of four additional doctors' offices and a second ward to accommodate 15 beds, bringing the total number of bed spaces to 30. The hospital will also be upgraded to include a new minor operating theatre, expanded waiting area, improved bathroom facilities for men, women, patients and staff, expanded records area, new laboratory to improve diagnostic services, improved parking area and water storage facility and new electrical and plumbing works.

"I am setting up an endowment fund to help in the long term sustainability of this (Chapelton Hospital) institution. "Healthcare is not a luxury, it is a basic necessity for all humans" Ms. Nichols said.

The businesswoman added that she decided to focus on Chapelton Hospital so that it will better facilitate the underserved members of the communities, which includes: Chapelton, Rock River, Mullett Hall, Summerfield, Crawl River, Pennants, Frankfield, Crooked River and other communities.

Minister of Health, Dr. Christopher Tufton in expressing sincere gratitude to Ms. Nichols for her selfless donation, pointed out that it was important for the rebuilding of trust between the people and the communities and elected representatives in order to improve the relationships of partnerships.

(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 (Ag.):** Dr Vitillius Holder; **CEO Mandeville Regional Hospital:** Alwyn Miller; **SMO, Mandeville Regional Hospital:** Dr Everton McIntosh

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"Ms. Nichols had to have had a minimal at least, level of trust in the system to work that her US $1 million with an appropriate infrastructure, with the support of the American Friends of Jamaica, AFJ, (project managers), who are here to offer greater levels of accountability and transparency, which we welcome; if that trust and if that hope and commitment wasn't there then clearly this would be a non-starter. There are many other causes you (Ms. Nichols) could have supported, that's just the reality."

The Health Minister pointed out that he believes that the only way to address the scourge of ill-health in Jamaica is if the importance of partnership is recognized and each stakeholder is true to their part of the commitment.

"I believe this is a formula for success going forward in the future and that is why the Diaspora is so important. The politician is still very important and we must do what is necessary to ensure that that credibility is not only maintained but enhanced."

(more)

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Picture 1

Ground Broken for US $1 Million Renovation: Minister of Health, Dr. Christopher Tufton (2nd left), donor Beverly Nichols (3rd left), Member of Parliament for North Central Clarendon, Hon. Pearnel Charles (2nd right), SRHA Board Chairman, Wayne Chen (right) break ground for the renovation of the Chapelton Community Hospital at a cost of US $1million. Photographed also are: Mayor of May Pen, Cllr. Winston Maragh (left) and in the background, Regional Director (right-background), Michael Bent and Vice Chairman of the SRHA Board, Michael Stern.

(more)

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Picture 2

Health Minister Dr. Christopher Tufton (3rd left), donor Beverly Nichols (2nd left), MP for North Central Clarendon, Hon Pearnel Charles (left) and SRHA Board Chairman Wayne Chen unveil the sign of the site plan.

(more)

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Picture 3

Minister of Health, Dr. Christopher Tufton lauds Ms. Beverly Nichols for her donation of US $1 million for the renovation of the Chapelton Community Hospital and the establishment of an endowment for the maintenance of the facility.

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For more information contact:
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