



Southern Regional Health Authority

Compassion | Accountability | Respect | Efficiency

3 Brumalia Road, Mandeville, Manchester, Jamaica WI

Tel: (876) 625-0612-3 / 962-9491 / 962-8232 | Fax: (876) 962-8233

Website: 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

February 20, 2019

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Health Staff Trained in Early Stimulation to Improve Development of Children

15 Community Health Aides (CHA) from the Southern Regional Health Authority (SRHA) have been trained and certified under the "Reach Up" Early Stimulation Programme, which provides support to parents to improve the development of children.

Formulated based on 20 years of research, the programme is being facilitated by the Ministry of Health in collaboration with the Caribbean Institute for Health Research, UWI. The programme utilizes a curriculum where the CHA's support parents by providing a stimulating environment for children and facilitate interacting and learning through home visits.

The CHA's who work in the parishes of St. Elizabeth, Clarendon and Manchester graduated on Friday, February 15 at the Ridgemount Church Hall in Manchester, after two weeks of intense training in several areas including listening, understanding and responding to children's actions and toy making.

"This programme targets children from birth to three years based on the fact that the first five years in a child's life is the most critical in determining the outcome of their cognitive and socio-emotional development and by extension how well they develop for the rest of their lives. During the ages of birth to five years the brain is developing very fast and what happens to the child and how they are treated by adults in their lives affects how the brain develops" Public Health Nurse from the Porus Health District in Manchester, Maxine Isaacs explained.

She added that the research revealed that effective early childhood intervention allows children to perform better in schools, are happier, have higher intelligence quotient as an adult, have better mental health and demonstrated less violent behavior.

Keynote speaker and Senior Public Health Nurse at the Manchester Health
(more)

Chairman: Wayne Chen; Vice Chairman: Michael Stern **Board Members:** Marcus Greenwood, Krishan James, Stafford Haughton, Lorraine GreenMason, 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



Southern Regional Health Authority

Compassion | Accountability | Respect | Efficiency

3 Brumalia Road, Mandeville, Manchester, Jamaica WI

Tel: (876) 625-0612-3 / 962-9491 / 962-8232 | Fax: (876) 962-8233

Website: 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

Department, Carlette Thompson described the programme as having the potential to transform the society in several ways.

"Imagine a society with the relationship between babies and parents is so cemented that all individuals feel more secure. Many of today's adult problems stem from insecurity developed in the early years of a child's life. If we cement good relationships between persons from the start we will have more persons who are more secure, better accomplished, able to achieve many milestones and are more confident and capable of learning" Nurse Thompson added.

She urged the graduates to practice what they have learnt and teach others the importance of early positive stimulation in children.

Picture 1



The graduating class who are excited to practice what they have learnt.
(more)

Chairman: Wayne Chen; Vice Chairman: Michael Stern **Board Members:** Marcus Greenwood, Krishan James, Stafford Houghton, Lorraine GreenMason, 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



Southern Regional Health Authority

Compassion | Accountability | Respect | Efficiency

3 Brumalia Road, Mandeville, Manchester, Jamaica WI

Tel: (876) 625-0612-3 / 962-9491 / 962-8232 | Fax: (876) 962-8233

Website: 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



These Community Health Aides demonstrate some of the strategies and techniques learnt in the early stimulation programme.

(more)

Chairman: Wayne Chen; Vice Chairman: Michael Stern **Board Members:** Marcus Greenwood, Krishan James, Stafford Haughton, Lorraine GreenMason, 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



Southern Regional Health Authority

Compassion | Accountability | Respect | Efficiency

3 Brumalia Road, Mandeville, Manchester, Jamaica WI

Tel: (876) 625-0612-3 / 962-9491 / 962-8232 | Fax: (876) 962-8233

Website: 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

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

LionelTown 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



Health Education and Promotion Officer from the St. Elizabeth Health Department, Michelle Smith (left) presents a certificate of completion to graduate and Community Health Aide from the Spalding Health Centre, Pansy Wilson.

-30-

For more information contact:
Latoya Laylor Brown
Public Relations 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 GreenMason, 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