



## PRESS RELEASE

July 21, 2020

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

### Recruit/Training of Community Health Aides to Improve Care at Community Level & aid With COVID-19 Response

The Southern Regional Health Authority (SRHA), which administrates healthcare in Manchester, Clarendon and St. Elizabeth has recruited 174 new Community Health Aides (CHAs) and trained 196 existing ones in COVID-19 protocols, as part of the Authority's effort to provide improved care to the community and boost its COVID-19 response.

CHA's, who play an integral role in healthcare, are frontline healthcare workers, who function as patient advocates, and are seen as the "eyes and ears of the community".

SRHA Regional Nursing Supervisor, Nadine Johnson Griffiths explained that in addition to being trained to support Jamaica's COVID-19 response, the CHAs are being trained in areas to include: antenatal, postnatal, curative, rheumatic, mental health, environmental health, immunization, identifying symptoms of non-communicable diseases (NCDs) and other areas that will assist with providing care at the community level.

The new CHA's will support the existing staff in communities of Manchester, Clarendon and St. Elizabeth and will play an integral role in identifying the symptoms of COVID-19 and reporting suspected cases of the virus to the authorised health officials.

Nurse Johnson Griffiths explained that: "Their training prepares them to work with families in the community and to be able to identify problems and bring them to the attention of trained personnel. Therefore, they facilitate continuity of care through the provision of feedback and follow up."

The Nursing Supervisor added that the CHA's also assist with: "the dissemination of basic information on health and well being, the provision of support for maternal child health and family planning programmes; disease surveillance, communicable diseases, immunization, nutrition, first

(more)

**Chairman: Wayne Chen; Vice Chairman:** Michael Stern, **Board Members:** Dr. St. Aubyn Bartlett, Lorraine GreenMason, Marcus Greenwood, Stafford Haughton, Winston Maragh, Lennox Powell, Dr. Lloyd Reynolds, Albert Williams, **Permanent Secretary's Nominee:** Dr. Naydene Williams, **Regional Director and Secretary:** Michael Bent; **Regional Technical Director:** Dr. Vitillius Holder; **CEO, Mandeville Regional Hospital:** Alwyn Miller; **SMO, Mandeville Regional Hospital:** Dr. Everton McIntosh

**Mandeville Reg. Hospital**  
32 Hargreaves Avenue  
Mandeville  
Ph: (876) 962-2067/2744/1094  
Fax: (876) 625-8493

**May Pen Hospital**  
1 Muirhead Avenue  
May Pen  
Ph: (876) 986-2528/7708/6938  
Fax: (876) 986-2650

**Black River Hospital**  
45 High Street  
Black River  
Ph: (876) 965-2224/2212  
(876) 634-3700  
Fax: (876) 965-9294

**Percy Junior Hospital**  
Spalding P.O.  
Clarendon  
Ph: (876) 964-1181/2222/2322  
Fax: (876) 964-1548

**Lionel Town Hospital**  
Bustamante Drive  
Vere, Clarendon  
Ph: (876) 986-3226  
Fax: (876) 986-3373

**Chapelton Hospital**  
Chapelton P.O.  
Clarendon  
Ph: (876) 987-2215

**Manchester Health Dept.**  
Race Course Rd.  
Mandeville  
Ph: (876) 962-2288/7033  
(876) 625-3433  
Fax: (876) 962-2171

**Clarendon Health Dept.**  
1-3 Jackson St. Denbigh  
May Pen  
Ph: (876) 986-7869  
Fax: (876) 986-9713

**St. Elizabeth Health Dept**  
High Street  
Black River  
Ph: (876) 965-9174-5  
Fax: (876) 965-2701



aid, chronic non-communicable diseases, mental health, home visits, environmental health, health education and promotion and follow up of discharges from hospital.”

Picture 1



Existing CHA 's during a COVID-19 protocol training session recently.

(more)

**Mandeville Reg. Hospital**  
32 Hargreaves Avenue  
Mandeville  
Ph: (876) 962-2067/2744/1094  
Fax: (876) 625-8493

**May Pen Hospital**  
1 Muirhead Avenue  
May Pen  
Ph: (876) 986-2528/7708/6938  
Fax: (876) 986-2650

**Black River Hospital**  
45 High Street  
Black River  
Ph: (876) 965-2224/2212  
(876) 634-3700  
Fax: (876) 965-9294

**Percy Junior Hospital**  
Spalding P.O.  
Clarendon  
Ph: (876) 964-1181/2222/2322  
Fax: (876) 964-1548

**Lionel Town Hospital**  
Bustamante Drive  
Veré, Clarendon  
Ph: (876) 986-3226  
Fax: (876) 986-3373

**Chapelton Hospital**  
Chapelton P.O.  
Clarendon  
Ph: (876) 987-2215

**Manchester Health Dept.**  
Race Course Rd.  
Mandeville  
Ph: (876) 962-2288/7033  
(876) 625-3433  
Fax: (876) 962-2171

**Clarendon Health Dept.**  
1-3 Jackson St. Denbigh  
May Pen  
Ph: (876) 986-7869  
Fax: (876) 986-9713

**St. Elizabeth Health Dept**  
High Street  
Black River  
Ph: (876) 965-9174-5  
Fax: (876) 965-2701

**Chairman: Wayne Chen; Vice Chairman:** Michael Stern, **Board Members:** Dr. St. Aubyn Bartlett, Lorraine GreenMason, Marcus Greenwood, Stafford Haughton, Winston Maragh, Lennox Powell, Dr. Lloyd Reynolds, Albert Williams, **Permanent Secretary's Nominee:** Dr. Naydene Williams, **Regional Director and Secretary:** Michael Bent; **Regional Technical Director:** Dr. Vitillius Holder; **CEO, Mandeville Regional Hospital:** Alwyn Miller; **SMO, Mandeville Regional Hospital:** Dr. Everton McIntosh



Picture 2



SRHA Regional Non-Communicable Diseases Coordinator, Dr. Yasine Hanna makes a presentation about COVID-19 procedures and protocols.

**Mandeville Reg. Hospital**  
32 Hargreaves Avenue  
Mandeville  
Ph: (876) 962-2067/2744/1094  
Fax: (876) 625-8493

**May Pen Hospital**  
1 Muirhead Avenue  
May Pen  
Ph: (876) 986-2528/7708/6938  
Fax: (876) 986-2650

**Black River Hospital**  
45 High Street  
Black River  
Ph: (876) 965-2224/2212  
(876) 634-3700  
Fax: (876) 965-9294

**Percy Junior Hospital**  
Spalding P.O.  
Clarendon  
Ph: (876) 964-1181/2222/2322  
Fax: (876) 964-1548

**Lionel Town Hospital**  
Bustamante Drive  
Veré, Clarendon  
Ph: (876) 986-3226  
Fax: (876) 986-3373

**Chapelton Hospital**  
Chapelton P.O.  
Clarendon  
Ph: (876) 987-2215

**Manchester Health Dept.**  
Race Course Rd.  
Mandeville  
Ph: (876) 962-2288/7033  
(876) 625-3433  
Fax: (876) 962-2171

**Clarendon Health Dept.**  
1-3 Jackson St. Denbigh  
May Pen  
Ph: (876) 986-7869  
Fax: (876) 986-9713

**St. Elizabeth Health Dept**  
High Street  
Black River  
Ph: (876) 965-9174-5  
Fax: (876) 965-2701

-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](mailto:latoya.laylor@srha.gov.jm)

**Chairman: Wayne Chen; Vice Chairman:** Michael Stern, **Board Members:** Dr. St. Aubyn Bartlett, Lorraine GreenMason, Marcus Greenwood, Stafford Haughton, Winston Maragh, Lennox Powell, Dr. Lloyd Reynolds, Albert Williams, **Permanent Secretary's Nominee:** Dr. Naydene Williams, **Regional Director and Secretary:** Michael Bent; **Regional Technical Director:** Dr. Vitilius Holder; **CEO, Mandeville Regional Hospital:** Alwyn Miller; **SMO, Mandeville Regional Hospital:** Dr. Everton McIntosh