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Chapelton Hospital to be Renovated: Limited Services to be Offered

Minister of Health, Dr. Christopher Tufton has announced that the Chapelton Community Hospital in Clarendon will be renovated at a cost of J\$ 23. 7 million. The renovation project began on Monday, December 4, 2017 and will last for a period of six months.

Speaking in Clarendon on Thursday, November 30, Minister Tufton appealed for the understanding of residents during the period of the renovation, noting that the hospital will not be closed; however, in order to facilitate the repair works, limited services will be offered.

"The project will require some adjustments and dislocation in some instances, but you don't improve a facility without having some displacement and that is something that we urge residents to understand. We are continuing the process of improvement because we see where the need exits" the Health Minister said.

"The population along this stretch has been increasing at an exponential level and given that the parish serves persons who also reside in St. Catherine, the pressure on the system is significant. Part of what we are doing is looking at the facilities that exist that offer primary services at the health centre level but also the secondary services and see to what extent we need to improve and enhance" Dr. Tufton added.

Minister Tufton urged the contractor, Costley's Construction, to complete the project within the stipulated timeline and also within budget. He added that there will be a review of the contract to contractors, to ensure that cost and time overruns attract greater penalties.

Renovation works will be carried out on the hospital's maternity and dental departments and the store room area. The scope of work will include the removal of timber roof and construction of concrete suspended roof to the Maternity Ward/Delivery Area in



Minister of Health, Dr. Christopher Tufton (2nd right) signs the contract for renovation works to the Chapelton Community Hospital while witnessing the signing are: (left to right) SRHA Regional Director, Mr. Michael Bent (partly hidden), SRHA Board Chairman, Mr. Wayne Chen, Projects Manager, National Health Fund, Mr. Orrett Clarke and representative for Costley's Construction, Mr. Carvel Braham.

addition to renovations and repairs to windows and doors, floor and wall; tiling; painting; electrical installation; air-conditioning installation; plumbing installation; ceiling and wall finishes; joinery fittings; termite treatment and roof repairs.

During the period of renovation works, the Outpatient Clinic at the hospital will be opened from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. on weekdays and from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on weekends and public holidays. Persons are encouraged to use May Pen and Lionel Town Hospitals and any other nearby health facilities.

Residents can call 987-2215, for any questions or concerns.

In The News: Southern Regional Health Authority

Mandeville Regional Hospital Receives Live Saving Anaesthetic Machine Valued at \$4 Million



Consultant and Head of Department for the Anaesthetics Department at the Mandeville Regional Hospital (MRH) in Manchester, Dr. Leighton Wynter (centre) explains the function of this state-of-the-art Anaesthetic Machine valued at \$4 million.

The machine was donated to the MRH by the CHASE Fund and the Rotary Club of Mandeville in association with the Church Teacher's College. Dr. Wynter explained that this life saving machine which is critical to safe surgical procedures, will certainly boost the quality of service to patients. Photographed also are: CEO of the CHASE Fund, Mr. W. Billy Heaven (left) and District Governor, Dr. Patrick Adizua (right).



The state-of-the-art anaesthetic machine.

In The News: Southern Regional Health Authority

Inaugural Men's Only Health Fair

Scores of men converged on the Mandeville Greens in Manchester on Thursday, November 23 for a Men's Only Health Fair. The Health Fair was staged by the Southern Regional Health Authority, in an effort to encourage men to take better control of their health. Free screenings including prostate, HIV, blood sugar, blood pressure in addition to foot exams and health talks were offered. Please see below highlights:



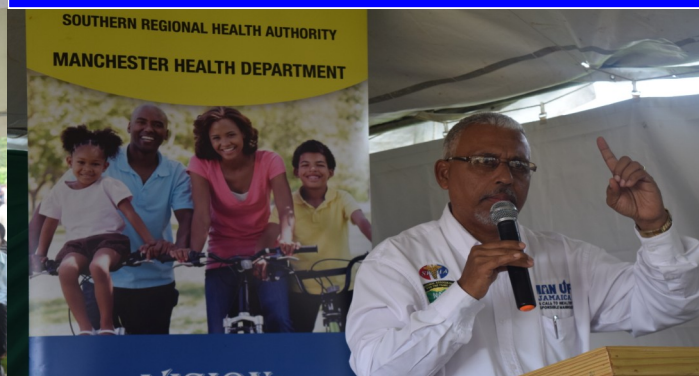
Good response to the offering of free prostate screening.



Several men awaiting the free blood sugar, blood pressure and cholesterol testing.



Young men from the Manchester High School participated in the day's programme.



Guest speaker and SRHA Regional Technical Director (Ret.) Dr. Michael Coombs challenged the men to be more responsible.



Blood pressure tests being administered.



SRHA Family Nurse Practitioners make a presentation to Master of Ceremonies and Manchester Health Services Parish Manager, Mr. Earl McLaughlin.

Facilities on the Move

Black River Hospital Patient Care Assistants on the Move

The Patient Care Assistants at the Black River Hospital (BRH) in St. Elizabeth celebrated Patient Care Assistant Week Sunday, October 15 to Saturday, October 21, 2017. The week-long celebration kicked off with a church service at the Glendevon New Testament Church of God, followed by several activities including a visit to the St. Elizabeth Infirmary to deliver gifts and also a painting project by the group. The Patient Care Assistants also participated in workshops and donated a microwave to the BRH Paediatric Ward.

Please see below highlights.



Staff Highlight

Jamaica Moves in Clarendon

The final leg of the 'Jamaica Moves' road tour in the southern region was held at the Bargain Village shopping complex in May Pen, Clarendon on Thursday, November 30. Prime Minister Andrew Holness made his first appearance at the road tours, to the delight of the audience.

Please see below photographic highlights of the road tour.



Staff Highlight

SRHA Regional Office Celebrates Retirees

Hosted under the theme, 'The Beauty of Service', the SRHA Regional Office celebrated seven retirees who offered years of exceptional service to public health-care. The event was held on Wednesday, November 15 on the grounds of the Regional Office. Regional Director, Mr. Michael Bent expressed gratitude to the retirees for making an indelible mark on the lives of others.

The retirees are: Mrs. Georgiana Daubon, Senior Contact Investigator who served from August 1, 1979-July 27, 2017 (38 years); Ms. Angela Thomas, Director of Nursing Services who served for 38 years from October 8, 1979-October 2, 2017; Dr. Michael Coombs who served in the capacity of Regional Technical Director from July 6, 1983-February 8, 2018 (35 years); Mrs. Jasmin Brooks Williams, Supervisory FNP who served from November 1, 1982-November 10, 1994 and October 1, 1997 -October 5, 2017 (31 years); Mrs. Diana Johnson, Regional BCC Coordinator who served from October 1, 1996-September 8, 2017 (21 years); Mr. Jose Perez Blanco, Electro-Mechanical Engineer who served from August 3, 2004-December 31, 2017 for 13 years and Mr. Verrol Ebanks, Assistant Internal Auditor, April 10, 2012-January 6, 2018 for 6 years. Mr. Keithman Faulkner, Plumbing Supervisor served from December 13, 1999- March 1, 2017 for 17 years and was recognized posthumously.

Please see highlights.





Rohan Smith

**Director, Management Information Systems
SRHA Regional Office**

“NYS Worker to MIS Director”



His journey began in 2000 as a National Youth Service worker at the Mandeville Regional Hospital (MRH) for eight months, followed by permanent employment as a Health Records Clerk at the MRH after a notable performance. Fast forward to 2015, Rohan Smith joined the SRHA Regional Office in the capacity of Systems Development and Implementation Manager and now serves as Director of Management Information Systems (MIS), an experience and transition he describes as humbling.

His experience in ‘moving up the ranks’ has taught him to appreciate the value of humility, good health and friendship, while “experiencing the importance of working in a team to achieve one common objective.” Rohan believes that “the most important duty of man is to serve God because all the wealth and gains of this life is a temporary achievement.” He also believes that it is rewarding to be humble in our interactions with others because love covers a multitude of sin.

As MIS Director, some of Mr. Smith’s responsibilities include: assessing the SRHA’s business objectives and identifying its technology requirements, evaluating projects for goal satisfaction, ongoing maintenance requirements and change control/revision procedures, determining the strategic direction of the Information Systems Division, manipulating health and other relevant statistical data to inform management decisions in the areas of health, finance and operations of the region, making recommendations for and coordinating the purchase of new equipment, among several other functions.

Gifted in the areas of music (playing the drums, keyboard, bass and acoustic guitars), studio engineering, motivational speaking, software development and graphic designing, Mr. Smith is inspired to do his best by his mother. “My mother inspires me to do well because of her selflessness, hard working nature and her ability to stay the course and be focused even though she endures a lot. The fact that I have committed my life to God at an early age also helps to keep me grounded knowing that I was created to be the head and not the tail and I must pursue greatness,” he tells the Southern Pulse.

Guided by the Bible verse “But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you” from St. Matthew 6:33 and the statement “never underestimate the power of time”, Rohan considers maintaining a good relationship with God and his family (wife and son) and being able to lead a dynamic team of talented individuals to manage information and communication systems throughout the southern region, in the capacity as the director, some of his major accomplishments so far.

Mr. Smith’s advice to his colleagues is “to invest your time and energy in developing your personal traits and the talents that you possess. Never live another person’s dream but rather follow your own dream. If you do what you’re passionate about you will never work a day in your life.”

Wellness Bytes:

“Flu Prevention”

Credit:
Ministry of Health



Health & Wellness



Ministry of Health

Things To Do To Prevent The Flu



Avoid close contact:
to prevent others from getting sick too



Cover your nose and mouth:
with a tissue or sleeve when coughing or sneezing



Avoid touching your eyes, mouth and nose



Stay home when sick



Wash your hands often:
which helps to protect you from germs



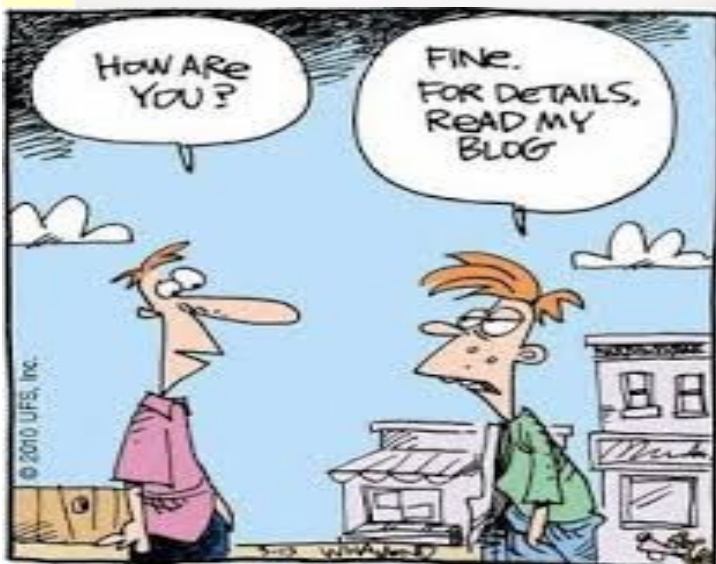
Practice good health habits:
exercise; eat healthy; manage stress;
drink plenty of fluids

For more information:

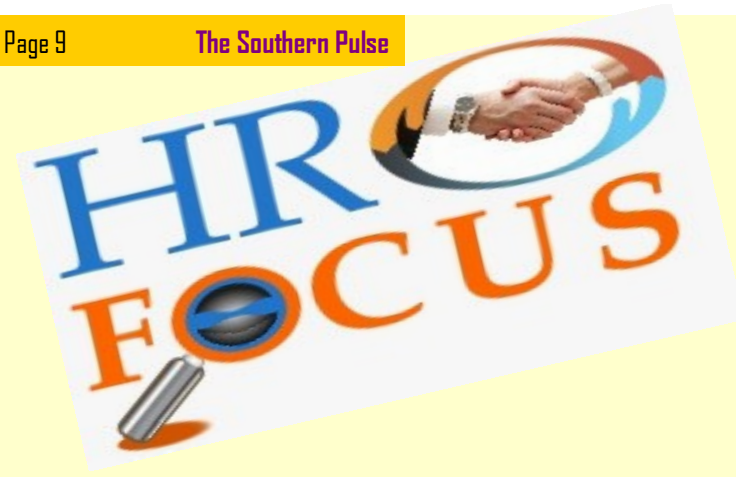
- Visit website: www.moh.gov.jm
- Call Landline: (876) 633-7433
- Contact Your Nearest Health Centres.

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On the
Lighter Side



HR And You:

“LEGAL ADVICE”

4.6 LEGAL ADVICE

The advice of the Attorney General shall be sought where:

- i) in the execution of official duties and responsibilities, a public officer is in doubt of the legal implications of any matter; or
- ii) the interests of the Government may be compromised or jeopardized; or
- iii) there are indications that legal proceedings may need to be instituted against anyone; or
- iv) other legal services are not readily available to the Ministry or Department.

4.6.2 Submissions to the Attorney General should include:

- i) the points on which the advice is required;
- ii) the precise statements of the relevant facts;
- iii) the appropriate cross references to any attachments

4.7 LEGAL PROCEEDINGS AGAINST PUBLIC OFFICERS

- i) The Government, further to the advice of the Attorney General, shall defend public employees against whom proceedings are threatened or brought in respect of acts done or liabilities incurred in the exercise of their duties;
- ii) In instances where such proceedings are threatened or brought the facts shall be reported to the Attorney General. Subject to paragraph (v) below, the officer against whom the proceedings have been threatened or brought, shall incur no legal or other expenses. No other action shall be taken in connection with any proceedings until the advice of the Attorney General has been obtained;
- iii) Where the Government defends proceedings against a public officer and the Attorney General decides to settle, the cost shall be

indicated to the Financial Secretary and also the amount if any, which the Government shall contribute towards such a settlement;

iv) Upon receipt of the decision, the Attorney General shall advise the public employee of the amount which he will be asked to contribute towards such settlement. His/her written agreement shall be obtained for the Attorney General to settle the proceedings.

v) If the public employee does not agree to contribute the amount decided upon, the Government may refuse to continue to afford legal assistant to him/her.

4.8 LEGAL PROCEEDINGS AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT CAUSED BY THE ACTIONS OF PUBLIC OFFICERS

Where as a result of the act of a Public Officer, legal proceedings are successfully brought against the Government or another public officer and the Government deems it desirable to settle such proceedings out of court, disciplinary action may be instituted against the employee. In such an instance, the public officer shall have the right to own counsel. The public officer may be required to bear some of the costs of a successful action against the Government or another public officer.

4.9 LEGAL PROCEEDINGS BY PUBLIC OFFICERS

Officers may not institute civil proceedings in any Court in connection with matters arising out of the performance/discharge of their public duties or against a Minister or any other public officer for anything done in the performance of his/her duties, without the permission of the appropriate Service Commissions.