



PRESS RELEASE

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May 13, 2022

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Mandeville Hospital Receives J \$7 Million in COVID-19 Support

The Mandeville Regional Hospital (MRH) in Manchester has received J \$7 million worth of COVID-19 related equipment, through a partnership with the Tourism Enhancement Fund (TEF).

The equipment which include: five bacterial/viral filters for ventilators; seven central venous catheters; six patient transport stretchers; 20 oxygen flowmeters; a blood analyzer and cartridge, were handed over on the hospital's compound on Tuesday, May 10.

CEO for the facility, Alwyn Miller noted that despite the country experiencing a lull in COVID-19 cases, the hospital welcomes the support as it is still managing COVID-19 patients.

"We received these gifts from the Tourism Enhancement Fund as part of the COVID Pandemic response assistance to the hospital, to help us in terms of serving the public. Yes, we are pass the fourth wave, but we still have persons with COVID and these items will be vital in terms of serving these persons as well as serving other patients that may present to the hospital" Mr. Miller said.

The CEO explained that this donation is one of the most significant to the hospital since the Pandemic and has come at a right time in helping the hospital to respond to its clients.

Board Chairman of the Southern Regional Health Authority (SRHA), which administrates the MRH, Wayne Chen noted that this viable contribution will enhance the Authority's capacity to deliver healthcare to residents.

"Outside of the visible tourism that the TEF is responsible for, it is well known that central Jamaica, centered around Mandeville has become a retirement destination for many Jamaicans who have lived abroad. It is also a destination for their family and friends who come to visit and we

(more)

Chairman: Wayne Chen; Vice Chairman: Michael Stern, **Board Members:** Lorraine Green Mason, Marcus Greenwood, Stafford Houghton, Winston Maragh, Dr. Lloyd Reynolds, Albert Williams, Omar Miller, Dave Powell, **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



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have many Jamaicans in the Diaspora who visit this part of the country frequently and contribute significantly to economic activity and social life in central Jamaica. So, the ability to respond to our citizens and to place ourselves as a place where visitors can come and enjoy good healthcare facilities, is a priority. We continue to create that virtual cycle where people can come and feel safe and feel that there is no great risk to visit and in turn generate more economic activity” Mr. Chen explained.

For Executive Director of the TEF, Dr. Carey Wallace, enhancing Jamaica as a tourist destination means enhancing its facilities, particularly health institutions.

“A destination that our visitors choose to travel to must have that assurance that God forbid if anything should go wrong then there is that efficiency of service ensuring that they are safe and healthy. Coming out of a global Pandemic we are aware, in fact the surveys have shown that most of our visitors coming or travelling anywhere in the world, health and safety have become more important to them as one of the things they consider when booking a destination. As such, the TEF looks at opportunities to shore up our health services right across the length and breadth of Jamaica, but particularly our resort towns” Dr. Wallace said.

Picture 1



MRH Senior Medical Officer, Dr. Everton McIntosh (left) demonstrates the (more)

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use of one of the items donated by the TEF to the hospital, valued at J \$7 million. Looking on are: CEO for the hospital, Alwyn Miller (2nd left); Chairman of the TEF, Godfrey Dyer (2nd right) and Executive Director of the TEF, Dr. Carey Wallace (slightly hidden).

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Picture 2



The MRH received J \$7 million in COVID-19 related equipment from the TEF. Participating in the handover were (left to right): Jamaican volunteer, Sandra Miller-Hall who advocated for the donation; MRH Senior Medical Officer, Dr. Everton McIntosh; CEO for the MRH, Alwyn Miller; Chairman of the TEF, Godfrey Dyer; TEF Executive Director, Dr. Carey Wallace; SRHA Board Chairman, Wayne Chen and Regional Director for the SRHA, Michael Bent.

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Southern Regional Health Authority

Compassion | Accountability | Respect | Efficiency

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