



# SOUTHERN REGIONAL HEALTH AUTHORITY

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**Mandeville Regional Hospital**  
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**May Pen Hospital**  
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May Pen  
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**Black River Hospital**  
45 High Street  
Black River  
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634-3700  
Fax: 965-9294

**Percy Junor Hospital**  
Spalding P.O.  
Clarendon  
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**Lionel Town Hospital**  
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Vere, Clarendon  
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**Chapelton Hospital**  
Chapelton P.O.  
Clarendon  
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**Manchester Health Dept.**  
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Mandeville  
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**Clarendon Health Dept.**  
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**St. Elizabeth Health Dept**  
High Street  
Black River  
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## PRESS RELEASE

June 20, 2016

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

### Inaugural Fathers' Forum to Recognize, Mentor and Equip Fathers with Parenting Skills

In an effort to recognize and encourage fathers, the St. Elizabeth Health Services will host a Father's Empowerment Workshop which will equip some 30 fathers with parenting skills, provide mentorship and also acknowledge them for playing an invaluable role in their children's lives.

The Health Services notes that some of these fathers who have been targeted are those who consistently take their children to child health and postnatal clinics which is commendable.

The Forum which will be held on Thursday, June 30 at 10:00 a.m. at the Santa Cruz Centre of Excellence in St. Elizabeth will also address questions and concerns from fathers and highlight the importance of their roles and responsibilities to their children.

Regional Technical Director for the Southern Regional Health Authority (SRHA), Dr. Michael Coombs who will be the guest presenter has stated that fatherlessness is the most significant factor that contributes to broken families in Jamaica and other Caribbean countries, based on scientific evidence.

The Health Services added that based on the evidences that various studies have concluded in relation to the impact of fatherlessness on society, fathers who are actually playing their roles must be found, acknowledged and empowered.

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