



SOUTHERN REGIONAL HEALTH AUTHORITY

3 BRUMALIA ROAD, MANDEVILLE, MANCHESTER, JAMAICA WI

TEL.: (876) 625-0612-3, 962-9491 or 962-8232 | FAX: (876) 962-8233 | 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 Junor 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
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Clarendon Health Dept.
1 Muirhead Avenue
May Pen
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St. Elizabeth Health Dept
High Street
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Ph: 965-9174-5
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PRESS RELEASE

November 16, 2016

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

SRHA Saves \$25 Million- Implements Chairlift to Open Access to Additional Bed Spaces

The Southern Regional Health Authority (SRHA) has been committed to providing quality and effective healthcare through innovative solutions. The Authority recently implemented a wheelchair lift at the Black River Hospital in St. Elizabeth which has resulted in savings of \$25 million.

Speaking at the opening ceremony on Friday, November 11, Chairman of the SRHA Board, Mr. Wayne Chen said the wheelchair lift was procured and implemented at a cost of \$5.4 million. He explained that an elevator would have cost some \$30 million.

The wheelchair lift was one of several short term solutions which have created additional bed spaces for the hospital. The lift has now allowed access to the upper male ward which was underutilized because only ambulatory patients could be accommodated.

Mr. Chen explained that these solutions include the transformation of the Hospital's old maternity ward previously used as an Outpatient Clinic to an overflow Ward for Accident & Emergency patients and retrofitting of two containers to house the Outpatient Clinics. This overflow ward now houses 12 additional bed spaces while the upper male ward accommodates 16 added bed spaces.

He added that this innovative solution follows the initiative by the SRHA to convert and customize two buses into ambulances which resulted in savings of \$7.6 million in October.

SRHA Regional Director, Mr. Michael Bent pointed out that the elevator is just as effective as the wheelchair lift adding that the maintenance cost of the lift is more cost effective than that of an elevator. He said the SRHA team has realized that its resources are limited but have committed to providing quality and effective healthcare while finding creative solutions to do so.

(more)

Chairman: Wayne Chen; Vice Chairman: Michael Stern **Board Members:** Marcus Greenwood, Krishan James, Stafford Houghton, Lorraine Green Mason, Lennox Powell, Dr Lloyd Reynolds, Winston Maragh, Dr St Aubyn Bartlett, Dr Lundie Richards, **Directors: Regional Director and Secretary:** Michael Bent; **Regional Technical Director:** Dr Michael Coombs; **CEO Mandeville Regional Hospital:** Alwyn Miller; **SMO, Mandeville Regional Hospital:** Dr Everton McIntosh



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The wheel chair lift.

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