More than 1200 Frontline Workers Within the Region Were Fit Tested

During the month of April, medical doctors, porters, drivers, nurses and other workers from the Bustamante Hospital for Children, Kingston Public, Victoria Jubilee, Princess Margaret and Spanish Town Hospitals participated in Medical Respirator N95 Fit Test Instructions.

The sensitization sessions were facilitated by CEO Health and Safety towards the proper fitting of the face masks. The sensitization training was to ensure that the medical personnel were able to adequately use the face masks, in order to provide the ultimate protection from exposure to viruses and to improve occupational health and safety.

According to Dr. Natalie Whylie, Senior Medical Officer, KPH, the fit test is to ensure that the Health Care Workers wear the masks appropriately.

The Medical Respirator N95 Fit Test Instructions is on-going.
1. What year did you start working at Ministry of Health/SERHA?
I started working at the Ministry of Health/SERHA in January 2003.

2. What are some of the positions you have held?
Specialist Nurse-Certified Emergency Room Nurse-Level 2, In-Service Education Officer-Level 4.

3. What do you like the most about your job?
The sharing of information that allows my colleagues to grow and my patients to better able to care for themselves.

4. What inspires you?
I am inspired by where I come from; the inner-city.

5. What is your greatest achievement?
My greatest achievement is creating a stable family unit and living under the same roof.

6. What word of advice would you like to give to the staff?
Love yourself. If you love yourself then you will be able to love others.

7. What is your personal mission statement?
To be the best at whatever I do.

8. Did you always want to work in the health?
Yes.

9. What is the most important life lesson you have learnt?
Honesty is the best policy.

10. What do you do in your spare time?
I enjoy baking and decorating cake.

The Superstar for this month is:

Mrs. Charmaine O’Reilly
In-Service Education Officer
Kingston Public Hospital
She trained over 800 staff members on the overview of COVID19, hand hygiene, donning and doffing of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

She was awarded in 2018 by the group of nurses who were apart of an Orientation Program.
In an effort to increase national COVID-19 testing capacity, the Health and Wellness Ministry has commissioned a brand new COBAS 6800 sampling testing machine on April 21, 2020. Dr. the Hon. Christopher Tufton, Minister of Health and Wellness, said that the machine has the capacity to test 380 samples every 8-hour shift. The training of the medical team has also been completed.

**Commissioning of COBAS 6800 Machine**

The Minister of Health and Wellness, examines the COBAS machine at the National Public Health Laboratory.

**Training in Pharyngeal Sampling at the National Chest Hospital**

Dental surgeons receiving practical training in pharyngeal sampling (COVID-19) testing at the National Chest Hospital on April 3, 2020. Part 1 of the training involved donning and doffing of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), while part 2 involved practice to sampling techniques. Donning refers to putting on work clothes, gear, and equipment, while doffing means removing them.
The Jamaica Theological Seminary of St. Andrew in partnership with Division 23 Central in the Eastern Canada and the Caribbean District of Kiwanis International, the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, and the Caribbean School of Nursing, UTech donated 500 handmade face masks for the Health Care Workers within the Region on April 6, 2020. The handing-over exercise took place inside the National Chest Hospital Conference Room. These masks will help to protect the staff from the spread of the COVID-19 virus.

Ms. Maureen Golding (second left), Regional Director, SERHA received a pack of face mask from Mr. Keith Byfield, Governor for 23 Central Kiwanis Club. Looking on are from left: Marcia Thomas Yetman, Regional Nursing Supervisor at the Regional Office, Dominique Martin, President, Kiwanis International Club of JTS, St. Andrew and Karen Sinclair Lym, Divisional Secretary, Kiwanis International Club of JTS, St. Andrew.

The South East Regional Health Authority (SERHA) mourns the loss of Mrs. Gloria Green-Mowatt, Accounting Technician at the Spanish Town Hospital. She died on April 22, 2020.

May her soul rest in peace.
CPJ and Honey Bun Gifted Health Care Workers with Easter Goodies

Caribbean Producers Jamaica Limited (CPJ) and Honey Bun gifted over 300 Health Care Workers to the frontline within the Region with Easter Bun, Cheese and Butter for the holiday. The hand-over was held on Friday, April 9, 2020 at the Regional Office. Ms. Maureen Golding Regional Director, SERHA (third from right) and Ms. Pauline Roberts, Director of Human Resource Management and Industrial Relations Department, SERHA (third from left), received the Easter goodies on behalf of the hardworking staff during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Ms. Golding expressed thanks to both companies for the kind gesture. Some of the Health Care Workers at the Regional Office shared in the presentation.

The Management of the Kingston Public Hospital (KPH) extends heartiest congratulations to the nurses at the KPH who were recently appointment. They were also commended by Mrs. Joan Walker-Nicholson, Director of Nursing Services, KPH for their hard work and commitment.

Included in the picture are from left: Ms. Nicolette Prince, Departmental Nurse Manager, Orthopaedic Block, KPH; Mrs. Maureen Wallen Brown, Departmental Nurse Manager, Clinics at the Outpatient Department North, KPH and Mrs. Juleen Thompson Myrie, Nurse Manager, Medical Block, KPH.
The frontline workers at the Kingston and St. Andrew Health Department (KSAHD) received 200 N95 masks and lunches from Island Grill and NCB Foundation on Monday, April 20, 2020. The donations were made by the Chairman for Island Grill, Mr. Howard Mitchell and his team Bridgette McLaughlin, District Manager, and La-Fane Talbot, Crew Trainer.

Aimed at inspiring the team during a period when they themselves were giving selflessly, Mr. Mitchell said that it was their corporate responsibility to give back to those on the 'battle field' and that it was with highest regards that they were doing so.

In her remarks, Dr. Aleiya Virgo-Herron, Medical Officer of Health, KSAHD, commended the companies for recognizing the frontline workers and said that they were beyond grateful for the donations.

Mr. Yago Castro, General Manager of Caribbean Cement Company Limited (Carib Cement) handed over a box of N95 masks to Ms. Maureen Golding, Regional Director, SERHA. The official handover ceremony was held on Friday, April 17, 2020 at the National Chest Hospital. These masks will significantly help to ensure that the frontline workers within the Region are protected in the fight against COVID-19. Ms. Golding expressed sincere appreciation to Carib Cement, on behalf of the Region’s Board and Management, for the timely donation. Looking on is Mr. Jerome Cowans, Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Specialist, Carib Cement.
Cabin Crew Members of the Caribbean Airlines, ‘Wings of Love’ Outreach team provided lunches to the frontline workers at the Kingston Public and the National Chest Hospitals in the month of April 2020. During the presentation ceremonies, the Crew applauded the Health Care Workers for their outstanding contribution especially during this pandemic. The Board and Management of SERHA thanked Caribbean Airlines for the act of kindness. See highlights below:

Frontline workers from SERHA received 400 cases of Lucozade Energy Drink from Ms. Pattrine Harris, Brand Manager, Lucozade Energy Drink, World Brands Services, a division of GK Foods & Services Limited. Ms. Pauline Roberts, Director of Human Resource Management and Industrial Relations, SERHA (left) received the donations on Thursday, April 23, 2020 at the National Chest Hospital. Ms. Roberts expressed thanks on the behalf of the Board and Management of SERHA for the thoughtful donations during the fight against the novel coronavirus.
I want to hear from you!
Tell me what is happening in your facility. Call Shuwana Johnson, Public Relations Officer at (876) 816-8058.

E-mail: shuwanaj@serha.gov.jm or serhapublicrelations@gmail.com

COMPENSATION

Excerpts from the Staff Order for Public Service

6.7.4 Honorarium

i) Honorarium may be paid to an officer who is assigned special duties which are extraneous to his/her normal duties and which necessitate the performance of official duties beyond normal working hours, for a period of not less than one (1) month;

ii) The request for the performance of such duties should be made to the Permanent Secretary/Head of Department well in advance of the commencement date and should include a statement of the particulars of the work to be done, a workplan, the reason for the exercise, the proposed duration, the number and categories of staff to be involved as well as an estimate of the cost;

iii) The officer should not be relieved of his/her normal duties for the duration of the assignment;

iv) The existing rate of payment is determined by the Ministry responsible for the Public Service and to be eligible for such payment the officer is required to work not less than ten (10) hours per week or an average of ten (10) hours per week over the period;

v) Persons who qualify for the payment of overtime or are in receipt of a Duty Allowance should not be paid honorarium. Supper allowance is also not payable;

Continuation in the next publication

Look out for more information on Training and Development in the next Newsletter.