



SERHA TIMES

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US Based Church Groups Adopt Gordon Town Health Centre



From left are: Dr. the Hon. Christopher Tufton, Minister of Health and Wellness; Rev Paul Peart, Senior Pastor of New Testament Temple Church of God; Rev Gladstone Johnson, Administrative Pastor at New Testament Temple Church of God and Mrs. Juliet Holness, Member of Parliament for St Andrew East Rural at the Adopt-A-Clinic ceremony for Gordon Town Health Centre that was held at Jamaica House on August 13, 2021.

The Gordon Town Health Centre has been officially adopted by the New Testament Temple Church of God (NTTCOG), and the Good Neighbours Community Outreach Agency (GNCOA) in collaboration with the Global Jamaica Diaspora Council, Northeast Division, have committed a total of \$1 million annually.

Over the four-year period, the funds will be used to purchase clinical and office equipment and facilitate minor infrastructure upgrades and maintenance of the facility.

During his speech at the function on Friday, August 13, 2021, Dr. the Hon. Christopher Tufton, Minister of Health & Wellness, thanked the

donors for adopting the Gordon Town Health Centre that is in desperate need of repairs.

The health ministry launched the Adopt-a-Clinic Programme in November 2017. It is designed to target 100 health centres across the island for support from local and international individuals, groups, and corporate entities.

The Gordon Town Health Centre, which is a type three facility, sees approximately 1,750 people monthly. It is the 35th health facility to benefit from the programme.

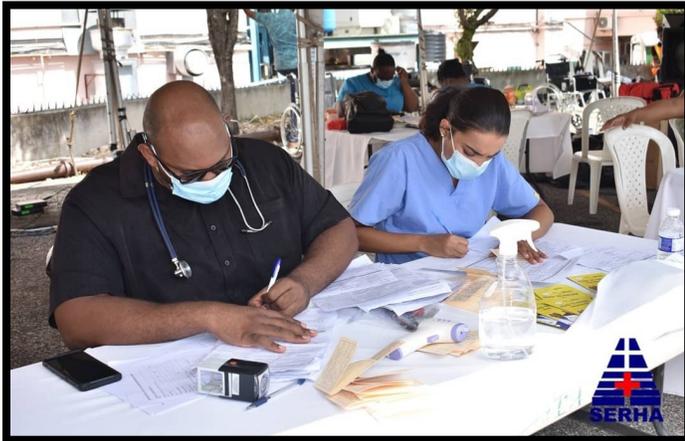
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KSAHD Hosts Vax Blitz Activities



On Thursday, August 5, 2021, scores of residents turned out to receive their first dose of the AstraZeneca vaccine at the blitz site at Sovereign Centre that was hosted by the Kingston and St. Andrew Health Department. SERHA's PR Unit distributed promotional items including Jamaica Moves T-Shirts and water bottles that were given from the Health Promotion Department at the Ministry of Health and Wellness to the winners of the answer and question segment. The Management of SERHA thanked the team including the Medical Officers of Health, Medical Officers, Public Health Nurses, Community Health Aides, Regional Technical Department, Chief Technical Director, Ms. Maureen Golding, Ministry of Health and Wellness for making the event a success.

On Thursday, August 19, 2021, the Kingston and St. Andrew Health Department vaccinated 400 persons at the Red Hills Primary. Additionally the team vaccinated 384 at the Stony Hill High School and 269 at the Oberlin High School on Thursday, August 12, 2021.

The Hon. Juliet Cuthbert-Flynn, Minister of State in the Ministry of Health and Wellness and the Management of SERHA lauded the work that KSAHD has been doing in the fight against the pandemic.

STHD Hosts Blitz at Trinity Baptist Church

The St. Thomas Health Department (STHD) hosted a vaccination blitz at the Trinity Baptist Church in Morant Bay in the month of August to encourage more residents in the parish to take up the vaccine to protect themselves against the spread of the COVID-19. Special commendations to the staff at the Health Department who continue to work tirelessly at the vaccination sites on a weekly basis. See highlights below:



Children, Teens to get Priority with Pfizer Vaccine

Jamaica prioritised the vaccination of children 12 years and older, following the arrival of the Pfizer vaccine in the month of August 2021.

The island saw the first batch of a total shipment of 608,000 doses of the vaccine that arrived in Jamaica – the result of negotiations through the Ministry of Health and Wellness and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade with the Government of the United States of America.

The donation will be delivered in three shipments over three months. The first batch will comprise 204,000 doses.

“The Pfizer vaccine has been proven safe and approved for use in children and adolescents. The prioritisation of children is critical at this juncture. This is in the context of the suspected presence of the Delta Variant in the island and its increased adverse impact on younger persons,” said Dr. the Hon. Christopher Tufton, Minister of Health and Wellness

“Accordingly, the public health priority must be to protect these individuals through vaccination. The Ministry of Health and Wellness will, therefore, be providing these vaccines to persons 12 years and older with

parental consent,” he added.

As part of the Government’s mandate to prioritise education and the re-opening of schools for face-to-face instruction, the Ministry of Health & Wellness will finalise discussions with the Ministry of Education, Youth and Information on the ways in which students 12 years and older can be facilitated for early vaccination.



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COVID-19 Delta Variant is Present in Jamaica



On August 18, 2021, the Ministry of Health and Wellness has confirmed the presence of the highly contagious Delta Variant of COVID-19 in Jamaica.

“We have received 40 results from the 60 samples sent to Caribbean Public Health Agency. Twenty-two (22) are positive for the Delta Variant,” revealed Dr. the Hon. Christopher Tufton, Minister of Health & Wellness.

“The epidemiology and laboratory teams are now doing further analysis to see if there is any particular significant factor related to the 22 identified. The public will be kept updated,” the Minister of Health & Wellness added.

The confirmation of the presence of the variant came as Jamaica recorded 289 new COVID-19 infectious and confirmed 19 deaths in the last 24 hours.

The total number of infections now moves to 59,377 since the first case was confirmed last year while the total number of deaths stands at 1,339.

Over 21,000 Jamaicans Vaccinated in One Day

On August 24, 2021, over 21,000 Jamaicans were vaccinated, as the Ministry of Health & Wellness continued its four day special vaccination blitz across the island. This number represented a record for the highest number of persons vaccinated in one day since the COVID-19 Vaccination programme began in March.

Approximately 40% of those vaccinated were children between 12-18 years old and the remainder were persons over 18 years.

On the final day of the special blitz, the general population including students over 12 years old, parents and school staff were vaccinated at some 17 sites that were operational across 13 parishes.

In recognizing this record, Dr. the Hon. Christopher Tufton, Minister of Health & Wellness said, “I want to express my deep appreciation to the healthcare team, especially for their efforts in reaching this record number. Our healthcare workers remains a critical component of our vaccination programme and we must take every opportunity to salute them.”



First Shipment of 208,260 Pfizer Vaccine Donated by U.S. Government Arrive in Jamaica



U.S. Government donated Pfizer vaccines are loaded on to a pallet at the Norman Manley International Airport in Kingston, Jamaica

The United States Government on August 19, 2021 made good on its commitment to the Government and people of Jamaica with the donation of the first tranche of Pfizer vaccines.

The initial shipment consisted of 208,260 doses, augmented by kits that include syringes, needles, and dilutants needed to administer the vaccines.

This tranche of donations was the first of multiple shipments that arrived from the U.S. in the month of August. The highly anticipated vaccines represented one of the largest donations by a single government and will strengthen the island's efforts to contain the spread of COVID-19.

These vaccines are part of the Biden-Harris Administration's commitment to share America's vaccine supply, as we continue to fight globally.

Donation of Electrical Appliances to the Victoria Jubilee Hospital

On Tuesday, August 3, 2021, Pastor Marsha Wade, President of the Women's Without Blemish Ministry and Co-Founder for Living Waters Ministry and her husband, Pastor Rowan Wade donated electrical appliances to Ward 5 at the Victoria Jubilee Hospital (VJH).

The item donated included two refrigerators, two microwaves and two kettles for patients and staff. Speaking during the presentation, Mrs. Wade said that while being a patient at the hospital, she saw the need to give back to the institution.

The hospital staff extended gratitude to the donors for the thoughtful donation.



Pastor Marsha Wade, President of the Women's Without Blemish Ministry and Co-Founder for Living Waters Ministry shows off one of the microwave that were donated to the hospital during the handover presentation on August 3, 2021. Sharing in the moment from L-R are: Dr. Garth McDonald, Senior Medical Officer, VJH; Mrs. Elise Fairweather-Blackwood, Director of Nursing Services, VJH; Pastor Rowan Wade, husband and Mrs. Andrea Dawkins-Powell, Deputy Director of Nursing Services, VJH

Highlights of BHC Team Outreach Activity at the Maxfield Park Children's Home

The Accident and Emergency staff at the Bustamante Hospital for Children (BHC) conducted an outreach activity at the Maxfield Park Children's Home on Saturday, August 14, 2021. The BHC team distributed health education materials to the children at the Home. Additionally, the team donated other items including food, clothes, toiletries and back to school supplies. The management of the hospital lauded the staff for their outstanding contribution in assisting those in need especially during these severe times. See highlights below:



HR Matters



Careers

Career Opportunities

KINGSTON PUBLIC & VICTORIA HOSPITALS

1. Medical Officers (HPC/MO1) General Surgery/Internal Medicine/Accident and Emergency
2. Registered General Nurse (HPC/RN1)
3. Clinical Psychologist (HPC/ALH 3)
4. Senior Resident Oral &/ Maxillofacial Surgeon (HPC/DS 3)

SPANISH TOWN HOSPITAL

1. Medical Officers (HPC/MO1) General Surgery/Internal Medicine/Accident and Emergency
2. Registered General Nurse (HPC/RN1)
3. Registered Midwives (HPC/MW1)

BUSTAMANTE HOSPITAL FOR CHILDREN

1. Specialist Nurse (A & E Operating Theatre, Critical Care)
2. Registered General Nurse (HPC/RN1)

PRINCESS MARGARET HOSPITAL

1. Consultant Surgeon (HPC/MO4)

REGIONAL OFFICE

1. Assistant Regional Technical Director ((Medical Consultant) (HPC/MO4)
2. Regional Clinical Quality Assurance Coordinator (Medical Consultant) (HPC/MO 4)
3. Client Complaints Coordinator (Medical Consultant) (HPC/MO 4)
4. Senior Procurement Officer (GMG/SEG 1)

Director

Human Resource Management & Industrial Relations

South East Regional Health Authority

The Towers, 2nd Floor

Kingston 5

Or

Email: employment@serha.gov.jm

LEAVE

Excerpts from the Staff Order for Public Service

7.8.5 Part-time Study Courses

- i) Officers may be granted time-off by the appropriate authority to pursue courses of study at approved institutions, on a part-time basis, during established working hours.
- ii) The application for, and grant of such leave are subject to the conditions established from time to time by the Ministry with responsibility for the Public Service.

7.8.6 Recreational Leave

- i) Officers who have been granted study leave and who have had to forfeit vacation leave and/or salary may be granted a period of absence on full pay upon the successful completion of the course of study.
- ii) The period of leave granted for this purpose shall in no instance be in excess of fifteen (15) working days.
- iii) Any leave granted for these purposes must be taken immediately following the completion of the course of study, before resumption of duties and cannot be accumulated.

7.9 Half Pay Leave

- i) Permanent Secretaries and Heads of Departments may grant half-pay leave to permanent employees on the ground of urgent private affairs, where the full-pay leave for which the employee is entitled has been exhausted.
- ii) In order to qualify, employees should have a minimum of six (6) years continuous service from the date of first permanent appointment

Continuation in the next publication

Look out for more information on Half Pay Leave in the next Newsletter.

I want to hear from you!

Tell me what is happening in your facility. Call Shuwana Johnson, Acting Public Relations Manager at (876) 816-8058.

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