



SERHA TIMES

South East Regional Health Authority

Quarterly Report

September – November 2022

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Spanish Town Hospital Gets 10 Refurbished Hemodialysis Machines



Mr. Wentworth Charles (third right), Board Chairman, South East Regional Health Authority (SERHA), shares a photo with one of the ten refurbished hemodialysis machines, valued at over JA\$28 million, that have been donated to the Spanish Town Hospital by the Florida-based entity, Renal Dynamics, on September 12, 2022. Other individuals (from left) are: Ms. Jacqueline Ellis, Chief Executive Officer, STH; Mr. Errol C. Greene, Regional Director, SERHA; Mr. Chris Davenport, Technical Services Manager, Renal Dynamics; Dr. Jacqueline Wight-James, Senior Medical Officer, STH; and Mrs. Novelette Robinson, Director of Nursing, STH.

The Spanish Town Hospital (STH) has received ten refurbished hemodialysis machines, valued at over JA\$28 million, from a Florida-based entity, Renal Dynamics. Hemodialysis machines filter wastes, salts, and fluids from the blood when the kidneys are no longer healthy to perform their function adequately.

Hemodialysis is one way to treat advanced kidney failure and can help people lead active lives.

Speaking at the handing over ceremony at the hospital on Monday, September 12, 2022, Mr. Wentworth Charles, Board

Chairman of SERHA, said he was delighted with the machines as they mean improved healthcare for people with kidney disease.

"The standard of care will be tremendously improved, and our patients will be better off. Our nursing staff, the doctors, and the ancillary workers will be in a better working environment, and they will be much more comfortable," Mr. Charles said.

Food for the Poor (FFP) paid for the shipment of the machines.

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Launch of Caribbean Wellness Day "Extravaganza"



Dr. the Hon. Christopher Tufton (left), Minister of Health and Wellness, and Hon. Juliet Cuthbert-Flynn (second from left), State Minister in the Ministry, applaud following the unveiling of the sign launching the Caribbean Moves initiative at Emancipation Park in Kingston on Wednesday (September 14, 2022). Sharing the moment are Dr. Joy St. John (second from right), Executive Director, Caribbean Public Health Agency (CARPHA), and Mr. Isaac Solomon, Vice President, Operations, Caribbean Development Bank.

The Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) has partnered with the Caribbean Public Health Agency (CARPHA), the Ministry of Health and Wellness, and SERHA to implement a regional project to develop a framework for Caribbean Moves, an initiative to reduce the high incidence of non-communicable diseases (NCDs).

The project will build on the momentum of ongoing national programs intended to increase physical activity and healthy eating and curb the high rates of NCDs in the Region. Caribbean Moves was launched at Emancipation, New Kingston, on September 14, 2022, and will support health promotion activities in Anguilla, Antigua and Barbuda, the Bahamas, Belize, the British Virgin Islands, the Cayman Islands, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Montserrat, Saint Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, and the Turks and Caicos Islands. This is building on the successes of similar initiatives in Barbados, Jamaica, Saint Kitts and Nevis, and Trinidad and Tobago.

The Bank has committed in excess of USD\$175,000 in financial and technical resources to develop Caribbean Moves and support their successful implementation.

SERHA Mourns the loss of Charmaine Vassell-Shettlewood

The Board and Management of SERHA mourn the loss of Mrs. Charmaine Vassell-Shettlewood, former Senior Public Health nurse and In-service Coordinator at the Kingston and St. Andrew Health Department. She worked at the health department for the past 20 years, with oversight for eight health facilities: Edna Manley, Stony Hill, Golden Spring, Parks Road, Essex Hall, King Weston, Mount Charles, and Lawrence Tavern. She died on Tuesday, September 27, 2022. May her soul rest in peace.



Mrs. Shettlewood's Thanksgiving service was held on Thursday, October 20, 2022, at the New Testament Convention of God, Old Harbour, St. Catherine.



Jamaica Moves in Schools Training Camp



A teacher and student participate in the healthy snack demonstration. Looking on (from left) are Ms. Zoey Wellington, Health Education and Promotion Officer, Kingston and St. Andrew Health Department, and Ms. Melinda Henry, Nutritionist, St. Catherine Health Department.

Ms. Charmin McKoy, Regional Health Promotion and Education Officer, SERHA, explained that more students and teachers have been trained as ambassadors under the Jamaica Moves in Schools Initiative of the Ministry of Health and Wellness.

Over 10 primary schools from Kingston and St. Andrew were trained at a two-day workshop in Kingston at the St. Peter and Paul Preparatory School on October 13-14, 2022.

"We engaged the teachers and students in sessions about proper nutrition, physical activity, and non-communicable diseases (NCDs). Our nutritionists also showed our students and teachers how to make healthy snacks and taught them about proper nutrition and the food groups," Ms. McKoy said.

She also emphasized that the training would enable the teachers and students to spread the word of healthy living among their peers.

MOHW Launched #DoYourShare Campaign

In recognition of World Mental Health Day on October 10, the Ministry of Health and Wellness launched the "Do Your Share" campaign at Convent of Mercy Academy (Alpha) for the expansion of safe spaces to support mental health. The #DoYourShare campaign provides a platform for people to share their stories and experiences of mental health disorders, as well as access resources, while reducing stigma. This campaign is part of a collaboration with the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) and the Ministry of Education and Youth.



The Wellness Bench located at the Convent of Mercy Academy



Dr. the Hon. Christopher Tufton (right), Minister of Health and Wellness, greets students at the Convent of Mercy Academy during the #DoYourShare campaign launch.

KPH Receives Three Retrofitted Container for HIV Care

The Kingston Public Hospital (KPH) received three retrofitted 20-foot containers made possible by the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) through the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief, valued at more than JA\$9 million. This new care facility at KPH will offer prevention, treatment, and support services as part of Jamaica's national HIV programme.

During the donation ceremony held on Tuesday, October 25, 2022, Dr. the Hon. Christopher Tufton, Minister of Health and Wellness, said that the new facility will support the work of creating enabling environments for all persons seeking and accessing care.

"The facility will offer a private space for consultations." "We anticipate that this will enhance confidence in patient care and service delivery," Minister Tufton said.

The containers are being implemented to improve the hospital's confidentiality and workflow in its HIV clinic.



N Nick Perry (centre), the United States Ambassador to Jamaica, cuts the ribbon during the handover ceremony of the containers and equipment to support HIV prevention, treatment, and care at KPH. Dr. the Hon. Christopher Tufton (second from right), Minister of Health and Wellness (MOHW), holds a ribbon to facilitate the ribbon cutting. Others observing (from left) are: Dr. Robert Green, Medical Consultant; Dr. Emily Kainne Dokudo, CDC Director, Jamaica and Caribbean Region Programme; and Dr. Karen Webster-Kerr, Acting Chief Medical Officer, MOHW.



Ms. Melecia Linton (right), Chief Executive Officer, Princess Margaret Hospital (PMH), presented a plaque of recognition to the medical records department at PMH on Friday, October 21, 2022, in honor of Health Records Week from October 16–22, 2022.

Ms. Linton commended the department for its outstanding service and encouraged the staff to keep working hard.

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SERHA Observes Oral Health Month

SERHA observed Oral Health Month in the month of October under the national theme, "Be Proud of Your Mouth for Your General Health, Happiness, and Well-Being." It highlighted the need for addressing the oral disease burden in society through effective oral health promotion, oral disease prevention, and strategies across the life course and through various health-promoting settings. Oral health is essential to improving general health, wellness, and quality of life.

On the 12th and 13th of October 2022, members of the dental team, along with students from the University of Technology, Jamaica, provided dental services to one hundred (100) children at the Windsor Special Needs School in St. Catherine.

The dental team reminded individuals about the importance of oral health month in order to prevent gum diseases and other infections. Your oral health is just as important as your mental health.



Members of staff at the Physiotherapy Department, Kingston Public Hospital, and Hope Institute wore pink on the last Friday in the month of October 2022 to bring awareness about breast cancer and to support the survivors of the disease.

#BreastCancerAwarenessMonth





Rollington Town Health Centre Adopted

The Rollington Town Health Centre in Kingston has been officially adopted under the Ministry's Adopt-a-Clinic programme. This brings the overall number to 39, with a total commitment of approximately JA\$166.3 million.

Speaking at the adoption ceremony on October 21, 2022, Mr. Wentworth Charles, Board Chairman, South East Regional Health Authority (SERHA), thanked the donor partners—Dr. Claude Denbow, Dr. Frank Denbow, and the Guyana-Jamaica Friendship Association—for their commitment to support the facility. "This sort of partnership between Jamaica and the diaspora is critical to national development," Mr. Charles said.

The health centre is expected to benefit from funding support totaling \$5.7 million over a five-year period. Mr. Charles added that the donation was timely, given the strain on our health system arising from the COVID-19 pandemic and other health events that we continue to battle with nationally.

The Rollington Town Health Centre serves a population of approximately 15,500 Jamaicans in and around the immediate community and as far as Mountain View Avenue. The 43-year-old facility, which averages 1,292 patients monthly, offers curative, dental, general family planning, mental health, laboratory, nutrition, maternal, and child health services.



Mr. Wentworth Charles (right), Board Chairman of SERHA, and Dr. Claude Benbow (third from right), a donor-partner, unveil a commemorative plaque for the adoption of the Rollington Town Health Centre during the adoption ceremony on October 21, 2022. Also participating (from left) are: Mr. Phillip Paulwell, Member of Parliament for Kingston East and Port Royal, and Dr. Frank Denbow co-donor partner. The clinic has been adopted by the doctors along with the Guyana-Jamaica Friendship Association.

Highlights of Customer Service Week at BHC

The Bustamante Hospital for Children (BHC) commemorated Customer Service Week in the month of October. Customer Service Week is an international celebration of the importance of customer service and of the people who serve and support customers on a daily basis.

The management of SERHA commended all customer service representatives across the Region for providing good customer service to its patients.



Staff of BHC celebrating Customer Service Week 2022

Dr. Kenneth Baugh Health Centre is the 40th Facility to be Adopted



Dr. the Hon. Christopher Tufton (right), Minister of Health and Wellness, joins photography symbolizing the adoption of the clinic with Mr. Oliver Mair (second left), Consul General Florida (Miami), USA; Mrs. Sharon Banbury-Edwards (third left), midwife, and Ms. Joycelyn Brown-Kerr (third right), midwife supervisor, at the Dr. Kenneth Baugh Health Centre. Others include representatives from the diaspora.

The Dr. Kenneth Baugh Health Centre, Point Hill, St. Catherine, became the 40th facility to be adopted under the Ministry of Health and Wellness' Adopt-a-Clinic Programme on Wednesday, November 9, 2022. The centre was adopted by the Consulate General of Jamaica in Miami and the Jamaica Hi-5K Run Walk under the auspices of Consul General Oliver Mair.

The Adopt-a-Clinic Programme is an initiative that seeks to engage the private sector locally and in the diaspora to play a critical role in improving the provision and access to primary health care.



Retirement Function for former SMO, PMH

Dr. Sandra Chambers (left), Regional Technical Director of SERHA, presented a citation award to Dr. Cecil Batchelor (right), former Senior Medical Officer at the Princess Margaret Hospital (PMH), during a retirement function held for Dr. Batchelor at the Jamaica Pegasus Hotel on Thursday, November 24, 2022. The event was executed by the planning committee of PMH. Dr. Batchelor was lauded by many for his stellar contribution to the advancement of healthcare delivery at the hospital that serves the people of St. Thomas.





COMPASSIONATE CARE

Compassionate Care Launched at KPH



Dr. the Hon. Christopher Tufton (right), Minister of Health and Wellness, unveils a plaque at KPH to launch the Compassionate Care Programme at the facility on Thursday, November 17, 2022. He is joined by Mr. Errol C. Greene (from left), Regional Director, SERHA; Mrs. Joan Walker-Nicholson, Director of Nursing, KPH; and Mr. Everton Anderson (third from left), Chief Executive Officer, NHF.

The Ministry of Health and Wellness's Compassionate Care programme was launched at the Kingston Public Hospital (KPH) on Thursday, November 17, 2022. The programme, which is being implemented at healthcare facilities islandwide, comprises three components: training of staff in customer service; enhancing basic infrastructure, such as waiting areas, to make them more comfortable for patients; and engaging volunteers to offer good customer service under the supervision of staff.

The initiative, which is sponsored and coordinated by the National Health Fund (NHF), aims to improve services delivered at all hospitals and health centers by introducing a patient-centered approach to care.

United Way of Jamaica Donated Masks to SERHA's Health Facilities

Healthcare workers at the Spanish Town Hospital, Glen Vincent and Comprehensive Health Centres received 30,600 tie-on surgical masks by the United Way of Jamaica and 3M Jamaica on Thursday, November 10, 2022.

The donation will enable better-equipped staff to carry out their jobs more effectively, especially during this COVID-19 pandemic.

Mr. Errol C. Greene (centre), Regional Director for SERHA, accepted the donation on behalf of the facilities. Mr. Greene said that the masks will continue to provide protection to our workers on the frontlines.



Participants during the handover (from left) are: Dr. Paulette Griffiths, Board Member of United Way of Jamaica; Mrs. Chorvelle Johnson Cunningham, Board Chair; Mr. Errol C. Greene, Regional Director for SERHA; Ms. Natalie Robinson, Country Leader at 3M Jamaica; and Ms. Jacqueline Ellis, CEO at the Spanish Town Hospital.

Animal-Assisted Recovery Care Pilot Project at BHC

Dr. the Hon. Christopher Tufton, Minister of Health and Wellness, brought a golden retriever, Dr. Teddy Barks, to the House of Representatives on November 22, 2022, to announce the launch of the Animal-Assisted Recovery Care Pilot Project, which will be implemented at the Bustamante Hospital for Children (BHC) starting in December 2022.

Minister Tufton said the programme aims to reduce the anxiety and stress associated with hospitalization, the length of hospitalization, and the need for pharmacological intervention, as well as improve the environment for health care delivery.

Also present at the House of Representatives was Dr. Marsha James (in photo, from right), consultant ear, nose, and throat (ENT) surgeon, Bustamante Hospital for Children.



Handover of Appliances to Health Department



The Kingston and St. Andrew Health Department (KSAHD) received a donation of 10 water coolers, 10 microwaves, and 10 kettles for staff and patients at the health centres within the parish of Kingston and St. Andrew. The donation was made through the regional staff welfare body. Ms. Annibelle Hemmings (right), Parish Accountant, accepted and expressed gratitude for the donation, which was handed over by Mr. Errol C. Greene (left), Regional Director for SERHA.

The handover took place at the corporate office on Tuesday, November 29, 2022.

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Highlights of SERHA's Part 2 Award Ceremony

SERHA hosted a Part 2 Award Ceremony for staff and external partners who have performed exceptionally well during the COVID-19 pandemic. The event was held on Friday, November 25, 2022, at the AC Hotel by Marriott. During the award ceremony, Mr. Errol C. Greene (left in photo 2), Regional Director, SERHA, presented the awards to outstanding individual staff with citations and plaques, while Mr. Wentworth Charles (from the right in photo 4), Board Chairman, SERHA, presented the plaques to special awardees. The Hon. Juliet Cuthbert-Flynn (second from the left in photo 2), State Minister, Ministry of Health and Wellness, was the guest speaker at the function. Mr. Greene presented a plaque and citation to Mr. Dunstan Bryan (from the left in photo 6), Permanent Secretary (PS), Ministry of Health and Wellness, for blazing a trail of excellent service during the National COVID-19 Response. The presentation was done on Monday, November 29, 2022, at the PS's office. The highlights are below:



Photo 1



Photo 2



Photo 3



Photo 4



Photo 5



Photo 6

SERHA Purchased New Vehicles for Errands

SERHA procured three brand new 2023 vehicles for errands at a cost of over JA\$18 million. The two Hilux pickups were assigned to the Kingston Public and Linstead Hospitals, and one Hiace Panel van to the St. Thomas Health Department. Documents for the new fleet of vehicles were handed over to Mrs. Colleen Wright, Parish Manager for St. Thomas Health Services, Mr. Colin Cooper, Chief Executive Officer of the Kingston Public and Victoria Jubilee Hospitals, and a representative from the Linstead Hospital on November 29, 2022, during the handover held at the Bustamante Hospital for Children. In addressing the management team at the handover, Mr. Errol C. Greene, OD, JP, Regional Director, SERHA, said that these new vehicles are to be used solely for errands. Mr. Greene also urged the assigned drivers to take good care of the vehicles and to drive safely on the road. The highlights are below:



HR Matters

Careers

Career Opportunities

(SEPTEMBER-NOVEMBER)

PLEASE SEE THE FOLLOWING CAREER OPPORTUNITIES BELOW:

KINGSTON AND ST. ANDREW HEALTH SERVICES/DEPARTMENT

1. Parish Personnel Manager (GMG/SEG 2)-October

REGIONAL OFFICE

1. Administrative Assistant (MIS)-September
2. Project Administrator (GMG/SEG 2)- October
3. Maintenance Manager (SOG/ST 7)-October
4. Quantity Surveyor (SOG/ST 7)- October
5. Community Peer Educator (HSC/HS)- October
6. Fleet Coordinator (GMG/AM 2)- October
7. Assistant Internal Auditor (FMG/AS 1) -November
8. Office Manager (GMG/AM 3)- November
9. Case Manager (GMG/SEG 1)- November
10. Community Peer Educators (HSC/HS 4)- November
11. Deduction Officer (FMG/AC 2)-November
12. Programme Development Officer (GMG/SEG -November

KINGSTON PUBLIC AND VICTORIA JUBILEE HOSPITALS

1. Artisan, Electrician (LMO/TS 5)-October
2. Artisan, Air Condition (LMO/TS 5)-October
3. Driver (LMO/DR 1)-October

BUSTAMANTE HOSPITAL FOR CHILDREN

1. PMTCT Nurse (HPC/RN 4)-November

SPANISH TOWN HOSPITAL

1. Registered General Nurse (HPC/RN 1) -November
2. PMTCT Nurse (HPC/RN 4) -November

ST. CATHERINE HEALTH SERVICES/ DEPARTMENT

1. Operations Manager (GMG/SEG 1)- November

EMPLOYER-EMPLOYEE RELATIONS

Excerpt from Staff Orders for Public Service

Chapter 16

16.1 Authority

The authority for employer-employee relations is vested in the Ministry with responsibility for the Public Service.

16.2 Administration

i) The administration of the policies and procedures related to employer-employee relations is vested in the Permanent Secretary in the Ministry with responsibility for the Public Service.

ii) Permanent Secretaries/Heads of Departments may exercise such functions as may be determined by the Permanent Secretary in the Ministry with responsibility for the Public Service.

16.3 Protocol

The development of good management practices and industrial relations policies is the joint responsibility of the Ministry with responsibility for the Public Service, employees, and the entities representing employee interests (Staff Associations, Trade Unions, etc).

Look out for more information on Employer-Employee Relations in the next Newsletter.

We want to hear from you!

Tell us what is happening in your facility. Call Shuwana Johnson, Public Relations Manager at (876) 816-8058 or Raemone Collier, Public Relations Officer at (876) 540-0603. You may also send an email to shuwanaj@serha.gov.jm or raemonec@serha.gov.jm.