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American Friends of Jamaica Donates Equipment to KPH & VJH



Ms. Caron Chung (2nd left), Executive Director, American Friends of Jamaica (AFJ) handed over supplies to Mrs. Elise Fairweather-Blackwood, Director of Nursing Services, Victoria Jubilee Hospital (VJH) during a ceremony inside the Kingston Public Hospital (KPH) conference room on January 15. Looking on from (left) are: Ms. Frances Fulton, Programmes Analyst at the AFJ and Mrs. Joan Walker-Nicholson, Director of Nursing Services, KPH.

The Kingston Public and Victoria Jubilee hospitals (KPH & VJH) officially received additional medical equipment and supplies from the American Friends of Jamaica (AFJ), during a handing over ceremony on Friday, January 15, 2021.

The donations included thermometers probe cover, oxygen masks, compressor nebulizers, corrugated tubing, drainage kit and other items.

In her remarks at the ceremony, Executive Director, Ms. Caron Chung at the AFJ, said that the organization welcomed the opportunity to assist the hospital by providing much needed

equipment especially during this pandemic.

Mrs. Elise Fairweather-Blackwood, Director of Nursing Services, VJH, expressed profound gratitude to the donor for the items that will improve the services being offered to the patients.

She noted that the organisation has donated \$2 million worth of equipment and accessories to the KPH last year.



The Board and Management of SERHA expressed heartiest congratulations to Mrs. Charmaine Vassell-Shettlewood, Senior Public Health Nurse, Kingston and St. Andrew Health Department (KSAHD), who was an award recipient of the Nurses and Midwife Excellence Award and the Regional Director's Award. These awards are in grateful recognition of her outstanding performance and dedicated service for 2020. This exceptional nurse goes above and beyond her call of duties especially during the COVID-19 lockdown areas across the three parishes. She also played an integral part in the Community Intervention activities.





- **Mr. Wentworth Charles, Board Chairman**
- **Mr. Angus Gordon, Board Director**
- **Mr. Andrew Bellamy, Board Director**
- **Mr. Sheldon Smith, Board Director**
- **Ms. Kathy Smith, Board Director**
- **Mr. Willard Brown, Board Director**
- **Mr. Omar Francis, Board Director**
- **Ms. Tosha Schwapp, Board Director**
- **Mr. Shantez Stewart, Board Director**
- **Ms. Shereece Rowe, Board Director**
- **Dr. Karen Webster-Kerr, Board Director**
- **Dr. Sandra Chambers, Regional Technical Director**
- **Ms. Maureen Golding, Regional Director**
- **Mr. Burkneil Stewart, Chief Executive Officer, KPH & VJH**

State Minister Tours Bustamante Hospital for Children



Ms. Maureen Golding (centre), Regional Director, SERHA, explained to the Hon. Juliet Cuthbert-Flynn (right), State Minister, Ministry of Health & Wellness the plans to upgrade the Dental Unit, BHC. Looking on is Dr. Natalie Wolfe (left), Consultant, Dental Surgeon and head of the Dental Unit, BHC.

On Tuesday, January 19, 2021, the Hon. Juliet Cuthbert-Flynn, State Minister, Ministry of Health & Wellness toured the Bustamante Hospital for Children (BHC). She also met with the management team to discuss the challenges faced and to provide possible solutions.

She visited the Accident and Emergency Unit, the Dental Unit, the Parent Overnight Suite, the Cardiac Unit, the Burn Unit, High Dependency Unit, ward 9 and other wards.

Present at the tour were Ms. Maureen Golding, Regional Director, SERHA, Mrs. Camile Wallen-Panton, Chief Executive Officer, BHC, Mr. Anthony Wood, Parish Manager, Kingston and St. Andrew Health Services, Dr. Michelle-Ann Ricahrds-Dawson, Senior Medical Officer, BHC, Mrs. Karlene Taylor McKenzie, Hospital Administrator, BHC, Mrs. Beverley Senior-Berry, Director of Nursing Services, BHC, Ms. Taamar Strachan, Patient Affairs Manager, BHC and other representatives.

Zion Care International Gifted the KPH/VJH Physiotherapy Department

On Wednesday, December 30, 2020, Zion Care International made a generous donation of a Recumbent Cycle and other machines to the KPH/VJH Physiotherapy Department. The ceremonial handover was held with the Chairman, Bishop Dr. Craig Brown of Zion Care International and our valued staff.

The ongoing relationship with our donors is one that will encourage the sustenance of quality healthcare delivery in our Region. The management of SERHA thanked the donors for the donation.



Bishop Craig Brown, Director of Zion Care International, demonstrated the use of the Recumbent Cycle to Mr. Burkneil Stewart, Chief Executive Officer, KPH & VJH and Ms. Maya Tyson-Young, Physiotherapist, KPH

CHAs from KSAHD Distributed COVID-19 Flyers to Business Community

On Thursday, January 14, 2021, the Community Health Aides (CHA)s from the Kingston and St. Andrew Health Department (KSAHD) distributed COVID-19 flyers to the business community in Grants Pen and spoke to them about adhering to the protocols. The team continued to work hard within the communities in Kingston and St. Andrew to mitigate the spread of the virus. Here are the highlights:



KPH Staff Receives Gift Certificates



The Jamaica Social Stock Exchange in collaboration with Sagor gifted three staff members at the Kingston Public Hospital (KPH) with \$10,000 gift certificates to open stock accounts. This was part of their 12 days of Christmas giveaway in giving back to front line workers. The presentation was held on Wednesday, December 23, 2020.

Spanish Town Hospital Gifted with ECG Machine



Representatives of Spanish Town Hospital (STH) and New Jerusalem Church of Christ, situated in Queens, New York share photo during the handover ceremony at the facility.

The Spanish Town Hospital (STH) is now able to treat more patients with cardiac complaints as a result of the addition of an electrocardiogram (ECG) machine commonly used to detect problems with the heart. The gift, made possible by the New Jerusalem Church of Christ, situated in Queens, New York was handed over to the hospital on Wednesday, January 20, 2021 by Professor Elaine Brown, representing the US-based church.

Mr. Dwayne Francis, Chief Executive Officer, STH, said that the gift is timely and it will further boost the hospital's capacity to attend to more patients with cardiac complaints. He added that the machine is critical in terms of managing the demand placed on the hospital each year for this level of healthcare.

Mothers Received Baskets on New Year's Day

Mothers who gave birth to babies on New Year's Day (January 1, 2021) at the Princess Margaret Hospital (PMH) were presented with gifts by Chairman of the Hospital Management Committee, Mr Michael McLeod, the Registered Midwives and Patient Care Assistants. The gifts were sponsored by Mr. McLeod.



Mr Michael McLeod, Chairman, Princess Margaret Hospital Management Committee, presented a gift basket to a mother who gave birth on New Year's Day.

Optimist Club of Manor Park Donates Cheque to BHC

The Social Work Department at the Bustamante Hospital for Children (BHC) received a cheque valued at \$155,00.00 on Wednesday, January 6, 2021 from the Optimist Club of Manor Park. The donation was done under the Club's CHaRM (Childhood Health and Response Mission).

The donation was made possible with the partnership with private stakeholders and the Governance Department Social Fund (GDSF). Mrs Camile Wallen-Panton, Chief Executive Officer, BHC, said that the funds will be used for medication, meal service, and transportation for patients who are unable to pay for such services.



Highlights from COVID-19 Testing Site at Ascot High School

A total for 54 persons were swabbed on January 24, 2021 at the Ascot High School by the St. Catherine Health Department (SCHD). The Health Promotion Team from SCHD displayed promotional materials on COVID-19 and encouraged persons to wash their hands and maintain social distancing at the site. The hard working team continued their weekly activities throughout the communities in St. Catherine that were mostly affected by the virus. See highlights below:



Highlights of Presentation Award for Staff at the Regional Office & St. Thomas Health Department

REGIONAL OFFICE



St. Thomas Health Department



HR Matters

LEAVE

Excerpts from the Staff Order for Public Service

7.4.6 Leave Period

The period of leave begins on the first working day following that on which an officer has handed over his/her duties until the working day immediately preceding that on which he/she resumes duties.

7.4.7 Extension of Leave

An employee on vacation leave who wishes to have his/her leave extended must apply in writing in sufficient time for a reply to be received before the current period of leave expires.

7.4.8 Accumulation of Leave

i) Permanent Secretaries and Heads of Departments should encourage and facilitate employees to take vacation leave on a regular basis, as soon as possible in the year after it has been earned.

ii) Employees may accumulate leave to a maximum not exceeding the leave entitlement for three (3) years only with the permission of the Permanent Secretary or Head of Department

7.4.9 Accumulation Beyond the Maximum

Permanent Employees shall be allowed to earn and accumulate additional full-pay vacation leave for a further period not exceeding two (2) years if applications for all or any portion of their accumulated leave cannot be

7.4.10 Recalled Leave

Any leave granted may be cancelled by the Permanent Secretary or Head of Department based on the exigencies of the service:

i) Where an employee's leave is cancelled, the remaining portion is considered Recalled Leave and is treated separately.

ii) Recalled Leave shall not be counted in the calculation of the maximum leave the employee may accumulate.

iii) Recalled Leave may be taken at the employee's convenience, subject to the exigencies of the service, or it may be included in the pre-retirement leave to which the employee may be entitled.

7.4.11 Resumption Following Leave

i) Officers are required to report in writing their resumption of duty to the appropriate authority following the expiration of vacation leave.

ii) If an officer fails to resume duty following the expiration of any period of leave, steps should be taken immediately by the Permanent Secretary or Head of Department to ensure the officer is not paid beyond the date of the expiration of leave

Continuation in the next publication.

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

I want to hear from you!

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

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