

JULY 2019



The Southern Pulse

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Newly Appointed Custos for Manchester Pledges Support for Health



Acting CEO of the Mandeville Regional Hospital in Manchester, Marcia Francis (right) informs newly appointed Custos Rotolorum for Manchester, Garfield Green (centre) of the services offered at the hospital. Mr. Green, who is a businessman, toured several health facilities in Manchester including hospitals and health centres on Wednesday, July 17.

The Custos pledged his support to the health sector in the parish, noting that he is looking forward to forging a strong partnership with the Southern Regional Health Authority (SRHA), in an effort to improve the health services in the parish. Mr. Green will be installed on August 29. Photographed also is Regional Director of the SRHA, Michael Bent (2nd right) and Director of Management Information Systems, Rohan Smith (left).

In The News: Southern Regional Health Authority

Brandon Hill Medical Mission – A Community Affair

Fruit vendors displayed stalls loaded of pineapple, jelly coconuts, jackfruit sugar cane and a few mangoes. The smell of jerk chicken, popcorn and other local dishes permeated the atmosphere along the main road directly opposite the Brandon Hill Infant School in Clarendon on Monday July 15 .

The heightened activity was because of the seventh annual LDJR Davis Foundation's medical mission to the community which this year saw some 93 volunteers from New York converging on the community to deliver much needed medical assistance. They were also joined by local volunteers.

"I am overjoyed that it's working and it is already going well on our first day. I was shocked when I came in this morning and saw the large number of people," said LDJR Davis Foundation head Novlet Davis. More than 1,300 people were seen over four days and by 4:00 a.m. on the first of the four-day mission, a husband and wife had already arrived.

"This year we have more practitioners so I think we will exceed the number. This year we are also doing dental work from two mobile units. We also have two OB/GYNs, we offer prostate checks; EKGs, paediatric services, back-to-school medicals, general physicals, disbursing reading glasses, a lab for blood tests, a pharmacy to dispense medication to patients, dermatology services, barbers to cut hair and clothing, toiletries and shoes for everyone.

The team also conducted First- Aid training with teachers from seven schools in the community including: Park Hall Primary, Kellits Primary and Brandon Hill Infant School. We also give toothbrushes and toothpaste after dental checks and we bring books, toys, clothing and school supplies for the infants at Brandon Hill Infant School," Davis said.

Community help

Meanwhile, retired principal Pearline Clarke has been assisting her sister Novlet from day one with logistics and other arrangements for the medical mission. Work begins in earnest two weeks prior to the start date; and there are several trips to the wharf to collect the barrels with supplies for the work. They begin the actual sorting of barrels on the Thursday before start date.

"We the members of the community come in and sort the medication and pack them in the room designated for the pharmacy and prepare the other rooms where doctors will see the patients. This includes putting in beds, partitions, tables and chairs. I get assistance from my brother and other school workers.

Transportation from the wharf is provided by Glen Christian who donated the school to the community in honour of his parents He is described as being very good to the LDJR Davis Foundation, always doing what he can to help. He hosts a brunch for the team every year.

Hosting and Feeding

The Brandon Hill and Crofts Hill communities show their appreciation for the mission by hosting them free of cost in their homes and this year three more persons volunteered their homes for the welcome guests.

"We compile a grocery list and do the market and wholesale shopping necessary to prepare three meals daily for the volunteers; these are supplemented by donations of ground provision, fruits and vegetables from community members who also come in and assist with cooking," Clarke said.

The evening meal is usually at the founder's family home; the week involves a lot of work but the sisters see it as a labour of love. After a hard week's work the team spent their long weekend vacation in Negril before leaving the island on Monday.

Credit: SRHA Resource Mobilization Officer, Barbara Ellington

Brandon Hill Medical Mission – A Community Affair (Cont'd)



In The News: Southern Regional Health Authority

Newly Appointed Custos Tours Health Facilities in Manchester

Custos Rotolorum for the parish of Manchester on Wednesday July 17, toured three of the health centres and two of the hospitals in the parish as part of his ongoing familiarization process in his new role. The facilities visited were: Cross Keys, Lincoln and Christiana health centres as well as the Mandeville Regional Hospital and Percy Junor Hospital.

Prior to the start of the tour, Custos Green met with Chairman of the Southern Regional Health Authority, Wayne Chen and Regional Director, Michael Bent and various heads of departments who appraised him of how the SRHA is run.

The Custos said since his appointment, he has been meeting with various government and other stakeholders in the parish to get a better understanding of how they operate. He was given a tour of some of the wards at both Percy Junor and Mandeville Regional hospitals where he had words of encouragement for patients.

“I will be officially installed on August 29 and in September I intend to take the Governor General on a tour of the parish in September so I will be using the next few weeks to get to know as much as I can about Manchester,” Custos Green said.

At each location visited, the Custos met and greeted the staff. “I thank you for your service to the nation and the parish and as I hear your ideas and concerns, I can assure you that I will use my office to assist in whatever way we can,” he said. The Custos also outlined the role that the SRHA would be expected to play in his installation ceremony.

Credit: SRHA Resource Mobilization Officer, Barbara Ellington





Karen Watson-Collins

Acting Assistant Payroll Supervisor
SRHA Regional Office

“Kind and Positive Karen”



“A hardworking individual with the ability to make persons around her happy and laughing all the time”, is how Karen Watson-Collins is described by her peers.

An Acting Assistant Payroll Supervisor stationed at the Southern Regional Health Authority (SRHA) Regional Office, Karen tells the Southern Pulse that she has given some 27 years of notable service to public health care; an experience she describes as rewarding.

As an Assistant Payroll Supervisor in a demanding work environment, Karen shares that some of her duties include supervising specific payrolls within the SRHA and ensuring the smooth running of the payroll department, along with the payroll supervisor.

Guided by the profound Bible verse from Philippians 4 verse 13, “I can do all things through Christ which strengthen me”, Karen says the most important life lesson she has learnt is being thankful for everything that happens in life. “If it did not kill you it will make you stronger in the end. It is all an experience that you will live to share with others” she adds.

Describing herself as jovial, kind, attentive, positive and a no-nonsense person, Mrs. Watson-Collins relates that she is inspired to do her best by her husband and children. She adds that she considers her biggest personal achievement to date as getting married and “accepting Christ as my personal Lord and Saviour.”

A great cook, Karen loves to watch movies with actor Tyler Perry and enjoys music by Tom Jones. She says that if you were to visit her on the weekend, she can be found at home watching Netflix.

A believer of hard work and commitment, Karen is the recipient of several awards including: SRHA Worker of the Year on two occasions, Long Service Award from the SRHA and the Jamaica Civil Service long service awards. She is encouraging her colleagues to “strive at all times to do your best to achieve your goals being close to perfect as possible.”

Her desire for Jamaica is a country free from corruption and war; “going back to the days when we could sleep with our doors open and everybody looked out for each other.”

Wellness Bytes

"Wash Hands Regularly"

Credit:
Ministry of Health



Wash your hands as often as possible to prevent the spread of diseases. Germs can spread easily from person to person and make you sick. During the day, we may touch books, door knobs, tables, toys and other items that may contain germs.

You must always wash your hands:

Before You:

- prepare or eat food
- look after a sick person, or a baby
- touch your eyes, nose or mouth

After You:

- use the toilet
- handle raw meat, chicken or fish
- change a diaper
- look after a sick person
- sneeze, cough, blow or wipe your nose
- touch animals or handle waste
- handle garbage
- have been out in the public

Steps to Properly Wash Your Hands:

Wet hands with water.



Apply enough soap to cover all areas.



Scrub the middle and back of both hands, your wrists, between your fingers and under your fingernails for at least 20 seconds.



Rinse your hands properly.



Dry your hands with a paper towel or clean cloth.



Your hands should now be clean and safe.



Disaster Preparedness Tips

"Landslides"

Credit:
Office of Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management



The driving force behind all landslides is gravity. A landslide will occur when the gravitational pull increases when weight is added to the rock mass, for example, building on it or when the rock becomes saturated with water. The strength of a rock mass can be reduced by weathering, earthquakes, etc.

Landslides occur for a variety of reasons. They often occur as a result of natural phenomena but human activity can also be a factor:

1. Vibrations from earthquakes can trigger a landslide.
2. Waterlogging due to heavy rains can saturate the top layers of unstable soil and cause them to slide downhill.
3. Human activity such as deforestation, vegetation removal, construction of roads, and construction of buildings on steep slopes may also lead to landslipping.

Landslides may move very slowly from a few centimetres per year to a sudden, total collapse or avalanche.

Landslides may travel just a few metres to many kilometers in the event of mudflows.

Landslides can be deadly. They destroy houses, cars, water mains, gas pipes ... anything in their path.

Landslides and mudflows can strike without warning, trapping or burying people.

Tell-Tale Signs of an Impending Landslide

- Doors or windows stick or jam for the first time.
- New cracks appear in plaster, tile, brick, or foundations.
- Outside walls, walks, or stairs begin pulling away from the building.

- Slowly developing, widening cracks appear on the ground or on paved areas such as streets and driveways.
- Underground utility lines break.
- Bulging ground appears at the base of a slope.
- Ground water seeps to the surface in new locations.
- Fences, retaining walls, utility poles, or trees tilt or move.
- You hear a faint, rumbling sound that increases in volume in one specific direction and may begin shifting in that direction under your feet.

SUBMIT AN ARTICLE

We welcome your input. Please submit your articles and feedback for the August edition to:

Latoya Laylor Brown, Public Relations Officer

Email: latoya.laylor@srha.gov.jm

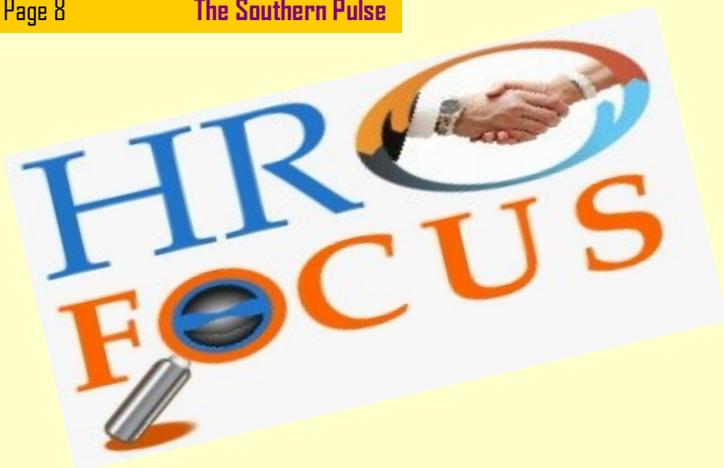
Deadline: September 10, 2019

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HR And You:

"APPOINTMENTS

1.1 HOW THEY ARE MADE

All appointments into and within the Central Government Service are made in accordance with the provisions of the Public Service Regulations.

1.2 AUTHORITY TO MAKE APPOINTMENTS

i) Appointments to the Central Government Service are generally made under the Authority of the Governor General acting on the recommendation of the appropriate Service Commission.

ii) The Governor General may delegate any of the functions under his authority to Permanent Secretaries or to any other authorized public officer as may be specified;

iii) Appointments to Municipal and Parish Council positions are made by the respective Councils acting on the recommendation of the Municipal and Parish Council Services Commissions.

iv) Where there are exceptions to the above, the appointment will be made by the appropriate constituted authority.

1.3 ELIGIBILITY

i) Any suitably qualified Jamaican/Caricom national is eligible for appointment in the Public Service.

ii) If extensive recruitment activities do not yield a suitably qualified candidate of Jamaican/Caricom nationality, then others may be considered.

1.4 ENTRY INTO THE SERVICE

Persons entering the Public Service may be appointed on a temporary or permanent basis, at the discretion of the appointing authority.

1.4.1 Temporary Appointment

In instances where the appointment is to a position which is on the Public Service Establishment, is clearly vacant and the candidate has met all the requirements of the position, the temporary appointment should not normally exceed six (6) months.

1.4.2 Permanent Appointment

Upon permanent appointment persons will receive a letter of appointment from the appointing authority setting out the terms and conditions of the appointment, which may include the requirement for probation and medical certification.

the evolution of man and computer



The Lighter Side

