

### Mandeville Hospital Receives J \$7 Million in COVID-19 Support



The Mandeville Regional Hospital received J \$7 million in COVID-19 related equipment from the TEF. Participating in the handover were (left to right): Jamaican volunteer, Sandra Miller-Hall who advocated for the donation; MRH Senior Medical Officer, Dr. Everton McIntosh; CEO for the MRH, Alwyn Miller; Chairman of the TEF, Godfrey Dyer; TEF Executive Director, Dr. Carey Wallace; SRHA Board Chairman, Wayne Chen and Regional Director for the SRHA, Michael Bent.

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## In the News: Southern Regional Health Authority

### Mandeville Hospital Receives J \$7 Million in COVID-19 Support



**MRH Senior Medical Officer, Dr. Everton McIntosh (left) demonstrates the use of one of the items donated by the TEF to the hospital, valued at J \$7 million. Looking on are: CEO for the hospital, Alwyn Miller (2<sup>nd</sup> left); Chairman of the TEF, Godfrey Dyer (2<sup>nd</sup> right) and Executive Director of the TEF, Dr. Carey Wallace (slightly hidden).**

The Mandeville Regional Hospital (MRH) in Manchester has received J \$7 million worth of COVID-19 related equipment, through a partnership with the Tourism Enhancement Fund (TEF).

The equipment which include: five bacterial/viral filters for ventilators; seven central venous catheters; six patient transport stretchers; 20 oxygen flowmeters; a blood analyzer and cartridge, were handed over on the hospital’s compound on Tuesday, May 10.

CEO for the facility, Alwyn Miller noted that despite the country experiencing a lull in COVID-19 cases, the hospital welcomes the support as it is still managing COVID-19 patients.

“We received these gifts from the Tourism Enhancement Fund as part of the COVID Pandemic response assistance to the hospital, to help us in terms of serving the public. Yes, we are pass the fourth wave, but we still have persons with COVID and these items will be vital in terms of serving these persons as well as serving other patients that may present to the hospital” Mr. Miller said.

The CEO explained that this donation is one of the most significant to the hospital since the Pandemic and has come at a right time in helping the hospital to respond to its clients.

Board Chairman of the Southern Regional Health Authority (SRHA), which administrates the MRH, Wayne Chen noted that this viable contribution will enhance the Authority’s capacity to deliver healthcare to residents.

“Outside of the visible tourism that the TEF is responsible for, it is well known that central Jamaica, centered around Mandeville has become a retirement destination for many Jamaicans who have lived abroad. It is also a destination for their family and friends who come to visit and we have many Jamaicans in the Diaspora who visit this part of the country frequently and contribute significantly to economic activity and social life in central Jamaica. So, the ability to respond to our citizens and to place ourselves as a place where visitors can come and enjoy good healthcare facilities, is a priority. We continue to create that virtual cycle where people can come and feel safe and feel that there is no great risk to visit and in turn generate more economic activity” Mr. Chen explained.

For Executive Director of the TEF, Dr. Carey Wallace, enhancing Jamaica as a tourist destination means enhancing its facilities, particularly health institutions.

“A destination that our visitors choose to travel to must have that assurance that God forbid if anything should go wrong then there is that efficiency of service ensuring that they are safe and healthy. Coming out of a global Pandemic we are aware, in fact the surveys have shown that most of our visitors coming or travelling anywhere in the world, health and safety have become more important to them as one of the things they consider when booking a destination. As such, the TEF looks at opportunities to shore up our health services right across the length and breadth of Jamaica, but particularly our resort towns” Dr. Wallace said.



# In the News: Southern Regional Health Authority

## Child & Adolescent Services Get Boost in Southern Jamaica



**SRHA Mental Health Unit receives items valued at a little less than J \$1 million dollars, which will improve therapy for children and adolescents in Clarendon, St. Elizabeth and Manchester. Participating in the handover are: (left to right) SRHA Regional Director, Michael Bent; Regional Technical Director, Dr. Vitillius Holder; Regional Psychiatrist, Dr. Doreth Garvey Leslie; Regional Mental Health Supervisor, Karen Elliott and Psychiatric Nursing Aide, Stephen Roberts.**

The Southern Regional Health Authority (SRHA) Mental Health Unit has procured diagnostic and play items, valued at a little less than J \$1 million dollars, which will introduce play therapy for children and adolescents to manage behavioural and psychological problems.

SRHA Regional Psychiatrist, Dr. Doreth Garvey Leslie explained that the items which include toys, television sets, educational and art & craft objects, will be used in the child guidance clinics to engage children and adolescents in Clarendon, St. Elizabeth and Manchester.

“We hope to introduce play therapy, which is a means of utilizing our childrens’ natural abilities to help them to express their emotions and to help them solve problems. So, it is about their mental health. Children will not always understand what adults say to them or they may not always be able to express how they feel but it comes out in their natural abilities in play and so when we engage them through art or craft, building blocks or other play activities using a sandbox or dolls or various methods; it brings out the specific problems they may be experiencing at school, at home or in the community” Dr. Garvey Leslie said.

The Psychiatrist said these activities are not play without a purpose but will foster greater responsibility; anger management; greater self-respect and respect of others; alleviation of anxiety; development of social skills and encourage sharing.

SRHA Regional Director Michael Bent commended Regional Mental Health Supervisor, Karen Elliott for the initiative, adding that persons may view the items as insignificant; however, the benefits are great.

“This is a good investment when we look at the benefits to be derived. There is no good health without good mental health and these items will help to detect and alleviate some of the problems. I commend the team for this initiative and encourage them to continue to improve the outcome and services we provide in this critical area of health” Mr. Bent said.

Child and adolescent clinics across Jamaica are staffed by psychiatrists, psychiatric nurses, psychologists, social workers and psychiatric nursing aides. The services can be accessed by referrals from schools, social services agencies, hospitals and private practitioners and through the court system. Persons can also walk in to the facilities for services.

The most common diagnoses for children and adolescents in Jamaica are: conduct disorder; attention deficit disorder; learning disorders and depression.

## Facilities on the Move

### Mandeville Hospital Receives Urology Equipment Absent in Many Hospitals



**Consultant Urologist at the MRH, Dr. K. Sean Jones (2<sup>nd</sup> right) receives the resectoscope from the Manchester Wellness Foundation which will be used in prostate and bladder surgeries, and valued at J \$1.1 million. Participating in the handover also are: CEO for the facility, Mr. Alwyn Miller (right) and Directors of the Manchester Wellness Foundation, Roydell Williams (left) and Valrie Tomlinson.**

Urology patients at the Mandeville Regional Hospital (MRH) in Manchester are to benefit from the use of a resectoscope, used in prostate and bladder surgeries, and valued at J \$1.1 million.

The equipment and its accessories will be used for most of the endoscopic surgeries performed in the urology department. Urology is the branch of medicine that focuses on the diseases of the male and female urinary tract and the male reproductive organs.

Consultant Urologist at the MRH, Dr. K. Sean Jones explained that this piece of equipment, donated by the Manchester Wellness Foundation on Monday, May 16, is of immense value and will be used weekly in the urology department.

“Most of the hospitals don’t have this equipment and we have depended on private equipment brought in. Many doctors have lost their expensive lens and had to

buy it back, so we will be looking after this very carefully. Thank you very much Manchester Wellness Foundation as we move forward with the operations of the department. This is what we started using in the 20<sup>th</sup> century and we are now in the 21<sup>st</sup> century, so we are already one century behind but thank God we made it this far and we plan to add item by item to our repertoire” Dr. Jones added.

CEO for the facility, Alwyn Miller expressed gratitude to the Foundation for assisting the hospital with its inventory of specialized equipment.

“Some years ago one of my colleagues made the point of the value of having the appropriate equipment in the hands of a specialist who knows how to use it in terms of the intervention that can be made in the interest of patient care. We are thankful that we have Dr. Jones who is a part of our surgical team and who has given us guidance in terms of equipment that can help in his particular service to many members of the population not only in Manchester but across the region. As he said it is not available in many hospitals which points to the value in terms of it in his hands and in terms of the intervention it can make with patients” Mr. Miller noted.

The CEO lauded the Foundation for its exceptional dedication to assisting health facilities in the parish, noting that the organization was able to raise funds through a raffle despite the cancellation of its two main fundraising activities, due to the COVID-19 restrictions.

The Foundation was established in 2003 and since its inception, has donated more than J \$20 million to health institutions in Manchester, with the mission of supporting health and wellness facilities in Manchester and promoting holistic wellness.





# Dionne Neufville Fraser

**Parish Dental Auxiliaries Coordinator  
Clarendon Health Department**

**“A Dental Nurse to the Generations”**



With some 32 years under her belt as a Dental Nurse, Dionne Neufville Fraser considers herself a nurse to the generations, having treated patients as children and subsequently treating their children and grandchildren.

From she was a child she knew she wanted to be a nurse and would have a hospital in the corner of her room with paper dolls as patients. She says she is now living her dream.

She began her service in the public health system in 1990 and has been performing exceptionally well. Dionne relates that her journey with the Southern Regional Health Authority has been a good one, which has seen her moving from a Level 1 Dental Nurse to a Level 4 Parish Dental Auxiliaries Coordinator. “I have also grown and have now adopted Clarendon as my parish and have now settled here” she says.

She tells the Southern Pulse that among her duties are: liaising with the Parish Dentist regarding the operations of the Dental Nurses; ensuring the parish has adequate supplies; ensuring timely maintenance of equipment; liaising with schools and community groups for oral health education; ensuring that all targets are met and reports are submitted on time, among other responsibilities.

Having completed Bible School in 2011 and as an active member of her church who has grown in the Lord, Dionne describes her journey as a Christian as a personal achievement. In fact, she believes that: “If God takes me to, He will be with me in it and will take me through it victoriously”. She cherishes other achievements such as her professional gains and building her home.

This Dental Nurse describes herself as a go-getter, who has received several awards and recognitions for her hard work and commitment. Some of these are: Kiwanian of the Year-1995 & 1996; Distinguished Secretary, Kiwanis Club- 1996; Dental Nurse of the Year 1994 & 1995; Jamaica Civil Service Association Long Service Award (25 years)-2015 and Worker of the Year for the Clarendon Health Department (Head of Department Category)-2021.

Her advice to her colleagues is: “Whatever your job is , just give it your all. Your satisfaction should come from knowing you have done your best. Don’t worry the accolades will follow”.

She says the greatest life lesson she has learnt is: “No matter who you are or what you do, it’s your actions or non-actions under pressure that defines you”.

She loves gardening and is a talented sewer, who sews almost all her outfits.

# DISASTER PREPAREDNESS



Plan



Prepare



Recover

ST. ELIZABETH HEALTH SERVICES  
COVID-19 FIXED VACCINATION SITES

MONDAY

- Santa Cruz Health Centre (10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.) Mondays (4th)

TUESDAY

- Santa Cruz Health Centre (10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.) Tuesdays (1st, 3rd)
- Junction Health Centre (10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.) Tuesdays (1st)

THURSDAY

- Junction Health Centre (1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.) Thursdays (3rd)
- Maggoty Health Centre (10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.) Thursdays (1st, 2nd, 4th)
- Black River Health Centre (10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.) Thursdays (2nd)
- Balacava Health Centre (10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.) Thursdays (1st, 2nd, 4th)

FRIDAY

- Santa Cruz Health Centre (10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.) Fridays (2nd)
- Junction Health Centre (10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.) Fridays (2nd, 4th)
- Black River Health Centre (1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.) Fridays (1st, 3rd, 4th)
- Balacava Health Centre (10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.) Fridays (4th)
- Southfield Health Centre (10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.) Fridays (1st, 2nd, 3rd)

Disaster Preparedness Tips

SRHA Fixed Sites

CLARENDON HEALTH SERVICES  
COVID-19 FIXED VACCINATION SITES

MONDAY

- May Pen Hospital Vaccination Centre (10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.)
- Summerfield Community Centre (10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.), Mondays (2nd, 4th)
- Spalding Health Centre (10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.), Mondays (1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th)

TUESDAY

- May Pen Hospital Vaccination Centre (10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.)
- Summerfield Community Centre (10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.)
- Lionel Town Health Centre (10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.)

WEDNESDAY

- May Pen Hospital Vaccination Centre (10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.)
- Spalding Health Centre (10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.), Wednesdays (2nd & 3rd)
- Summerfield Community Centre (10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.), Wednesdays (2nd & 4th)

THURSDAY

- May Pen Hospital Vaccination Centre (10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.)
- May Pen Health Centre (1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.), Thursdays (1st, 2nd & 4th)
- Spalding Health Centre (10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.), Thursdays (1st, 2nd & 4th)

FRIDAY

- May Pen Hospital Vaccination Centre (10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.) Fridays (1st, 2nd, 4th)
- Spalding Health Centre (10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.), Fridays (2nd & 4th)
- Summerfield Community Centre (10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.) Fridays (2nd)

MANCHESTER HEALTH SERVICES  
COVID-19 FIXED VACCINATION SITES

MONDAY

- Mandeville Regional Hospital Vaccination Center (9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.)
- Mandeville Comprehensive Health Centre (1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.) Mondays (1st, 2nd & 3rd Mondays)
- Porus Health Centre (1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.)

TUESDAY

- Mandeville Regional Hospital Vaccination Center (9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.)
- Christiana Health Centre (1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.)

WEDNESDAY

- Mandeville Regional Hospital Vaccination Center (9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.)
- Mandeville Comprehensive Health Centre (1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.)
- Newport Health Centre (2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.)
- Cross Keys Health Centre (1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.)
- Mile Gully Health Centre (1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.)

THURSDAY

- Mandeville Regional Hospital Vaccination Center (9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.)
- Mandeville Comprehensive Health Centre (1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.) Thursdays (1st, 2nd & 4th Thursdays)

FRIDAY

- Mandeville Regional Hospital Vaccination Center (9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.)



# Wellness Bytes

"Types of Vaccine"

Credit:  
Ministry of Health &  
Wellness



# Health & Wellness

AstraZeneca 

- Age Range: 18+
- Efficacy: 90%
- Technology: Viral Vector
- Doses: 2
- Frequency: 8-12 Weeks
- Proven safe and effective

moderna

- Age Range: 18+
- Efficacy: 92%
- Technology: mRNA
- Doses: 2
- Frequency: 4 Weeks
- Proven safe and effective

Pfizer

- Age Range: 12+
- Efficacy: 95%
- Technology: mRNA
- Doses: 2
- Frequency: 3 Weeks
- Proven safe and effective

J&J  
Johnson & Johnson

- Age Range: 18+
- Efficacy: 85%
- Technology: Viral Vector
- Doses: 1
- Frequency: N/A
- Proven safe and effective

  
国药集团  
SINOPHARM

- Age Range: 18+
- Efficacy: 79%
- Technology: Inactivated Virus
- Doses: 2
- Frequency: 4 Weeks
- Proven safe and effective

SINOVAC

- Age Range: 18+
- Efficacy: 51%
- Technology: Inactivated Virus
- Doses: 2
- Frequency: 4 Weeks
- Proven safe and effective

In Memoriam



DEATH AND GRIEF  
IN THE  
WORKPLACE

Selfless Service: Remembering Those Who  
Passed While Serving

Delores McKenley



Ms Delores M’Kenley who was affectionately called Ms Mac, Macki, Kenly, joined the Renal Unit team at the Mandeville Regional Hospital in 2011, as a Hospital Attendant.

Over the years we developed a very close relationship. We shared a lot of happy times and some sad times and we would always encourage each other with the word of God.

She was one of my best staff and always punctual. In all the years that she worked, she was never late, despite the long distance she had to travel. She would be the first to reach work every morning, as early as you think she’s there already; with a rag in her hand wiping down the Nurses station and as you open the door you would smell a fresh scent.

She was a fun and loving person who liked to go to plays and movie theatres. She loved to eat mutton and also loved to dance especially to calypso music.

We all know life isn’t fair sometimes. It’s not fair that Ms Mack is taken from her family, and it’s not fair that the Renal Unit will be without Ms Mack’s voice and contagious laughter. Things won’t ever be the same. Although your hearts may be broken, there’s no need to weep for Macky. She’s in a wonderful place now, where she’s happy and free from pain.

She left behind good memories to comfort you. Let us concentrate on the best times with her, and try not to feel so blue. For one day we’ll be together again, to laugh and sing and play. We all can remember that Ms Mack loves to laugh and she can sing as well. So try to lift your heads now, and dare to set aside grief, because she’ll be waiting there for you, to welcome you to the other side.

- D – Dedicated – She was passionate about her job.
- E – Entertaining – She loved to dance.
- L – Lovable – She gets along well with everyone.
- O – Overjoyed – She’s always laughing; she could find a joke in any situation.
- R – Reliable – You could always depend on Macky to show up.
- E – Easy going – Made friends easily.
- S – Special – Unique, she’s irreplaceable.

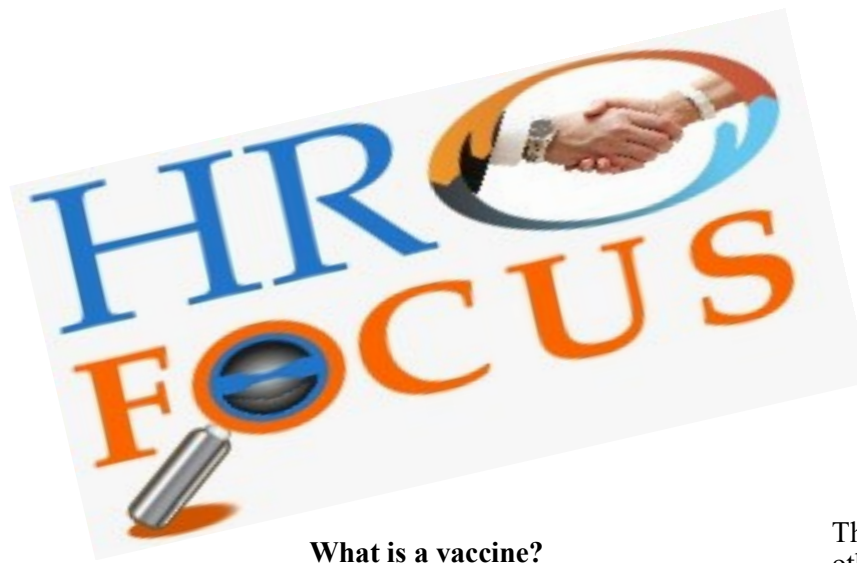
A Silent Tear by Gaynor Llewellyn

Just close your eyes and you will see all the memories that you have of me.  
Just sit and relax and you will find, I’m really there inside your mind.  
Don’t cry for me now, I’m gone. For I am in the land of song.  
There is no pain, there is no fear. So dry away that silent tear.  
Don’t think of me in the dark and cold, for here I am no longer old.  
I’m in that place, that’s filled with love, know to you all as up above.  
Like a comet blazing cross the evening sky. Gone too soon.  
May her soul rest in peace and light perpetual shine on her.

RIP Macky

Credit: Karen Plummer





### What is a vaccine?

A vaccine is a type of medicine that stimulates a person's immune system to produce immunity to a specific disease, protecting the person from the disease.

### How do vaccines work?

Vaccines work with your body's natural defense to build protection. When vaccinated, your immune system is able to:

- Recognize the invading germ ( e.g. virus or bacteria).
- Produce antibodies that fight and destroy the germ before you become unwell.

### How vaccines help

Vaccines contain weakened or inactive parts of a particular organism (antigen) that triggers an immune response within the body. Newer vaccines contain the blueprint for producing antigens rather than the antigen itself.

Regardless of whether the vaccine is made up of the antigen itself or the blueprint so that the body will produce the antigen, this weakened version will not cause the disease in the person receiving the vaccine, but it will prompt their immune system to respond much as it would have on its first reaction to the actual pathogen.

### Herd immunity

When someone is vaccinated, they are very likely to be protected against the targeted disease. But not everyone can be vaccinated. People with underlying health conditions that weaken their immune systems (such as cancer or HIV) or who have severe allergies to some vaccine components may not be able to get vaccinated with certain vaccines.

# HR And You:

## "VACCINES"

These people can still be protected if they live in and amongst others who are vaccinated. When a lot of people in a community are vaccinated the pathogen has a hard time circulating because most of the people it encounters are immune.

So the more that others are vaccinated, the less likely people who are unable to be protected by vaccines are at risk of even being exposed to the harmful pathogens. This is called herd immunity.

This is especially important for those people who not only can't be vaccinated but may be more susceptible to the diseases we vaccinate against.

No single vaccine provides 100% protection, and herd immunity does not provide full protection to those who cannot safely be vaccinated. But with herd immunity, these people will have substantial protection, thanks to those around them being vaccinated.

**Credit: World Health Organization**

# SUBMIT AN ARTICLE

We welcome your input.

Please submit your articles and feedback for the June edition to:

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The Lighter Side

