

3 BRUMALIA ROAD, MANDEVILLE, MANCHESTER, JAMAICA WI Tel.: (876) 625-0612-3, 962-9491 or 962-8232 | FAX: (876) 962-8233 | WWW.SRHA.GOV.JM



Mandeville Regional Hospital 32 Hargreaves Avenue Mandeville Ph: 962-2067/2744/1094 Fax: 625-8493

May Pen Hospital 1 Muirhead Avenue May Pen Ph: 986-2528/7708/6938 Fax: 986-2650

 Black River Hospital

 45 High Street

 Black River

 Ph:
 965-2224/2212

 634-3700

 Fax:
 965-9294

Percy Junor Hospital Spalding P.O. Clarendon Ph: 964-1181/2222/2322 Fax: 964-1548

Lionel Town Hospital Bustamante Drive Vere, Clarendon Ph: 986-3226 Fax: 986-3373

Chapelton Hospital Chapelton P.O. Clarendon Ph: 987-2215

Manchester Health Dept. Race Course Rd. Mandeville Ph: 962-2288/7033 625-3433 Fax: 962-2171

Clarendon Health Dept. 1 Muirhead Avenue May Pen Ph: 986-4548/7869 Fax: 986-9713

St. Elizabeth Health Dept High Street Black River Ph: 965-9174-5 Fax: 965-2701

#### **PRESS RELEASE**

February 1, 2016 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

### J\$ 88 Million Ophthalmology Clinic Opened; Boost for Eye Care in Southern Region

Eye care has been significantly advanced for residents of central Jamaica with the official opening of an Ophthalmology Clinic and Operating Theatre at the Mandeville Regional Hospital valued at J\$88.85 million. The clinic was opened by Minister of Health, Hon. Horace Dalley on Thursday, January 28.

Minister Dalley in his remarks explained that Jamaica has signed on to Vision 2020 which is a joint programme of the World Health Organization and the International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness with an international membership of NGOs, professional associations, eye care institutions and corporations.

"Vision 2020 embraces strategies geared at reducing the risk of avoidable blindness including strengthening existing health systems and services and reducing the burden of disease for adults and children" the Minister added.

Minister Dalley expressed gratitude to SightSavers International, the European Union and the Caribbean Council for the Blind for its partnership with the Southern Regional Health Authority which has resulted in the establishment of the Eye Clinic.

Some areas of support from the Caribbean Council for the Blind include: disease control; human resource development including training of: Ophthalmologists, Optometrists, Refractive Technicians and Nursing personnel and infrastructure development including: establishment of a dedicated eye department which included retrofitting of a dedicated building and provision of the full range of diagnostic and surgical systems.

Approximately fifteen thousand clients access the Ophthalmology Clinic annually with more than 115 thousand clients being treated over the past ten years.

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St. Elizabeth Health Dept High Street Black River Ph: 965-9174-5 Fax: 965-2701 CEO of the Caribbean Council for the Blind, Mr. Arvel Grant announced that plans are advanced to establish eye clinics at the May Pen, Black River and Lionel Town Hospitals, the Chapleton Community Hospital and the Mandeville Comprehensive Clinic and the Centre of Excellence at Santa Cruz.



**Ministry Committed to Preventing Blindness:** Minister of Health. Hon. Horace Dalley delivers the keynote address at the official opening of the Mandeville Regional Hospital's Ophthalmology Clinic and Operating Theatre. Seated is CEO of the Caribbean Council for the Blind, Mr. Arvel Grant.

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J \$88 Million Ophthalmology Clinic Opened: Minister of Health, Hon. Horace Dalley examines a Combination Systems Unit which checks for refraction and curvature of the cornea.

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**Eye Department Sees 15, 000 Clients Annually:** CEO of the Mandeville Regional Hospital, Alwyn Miller (right) explains the function of the Microscope in the Operating Theatre to Minister of Health, Hon. Horace Dalley and CEO of the Caribbean Council for the Blind, Mr. Arvel Grant. The Eye Department at the Mandeville Regional Hospital delivers services to approximately fifteen thousand clients each year.

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