

# SOUTHERN REGIONAL HEALTH AUTHORITY

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**

September 29, 2016 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

### Pregnant Women Reminded of Importance of Breast Milk While Encouraged to Increase Their Milk Consumption

Medical Officer (Health) for Manchester, Dr. Beverly Wright in encouraging scores of expectant mothers to increase their milk consumption informed and encouraged the mothers to exclusively breastfeed their infants from birth to six months, a policy of the Ministry of Health.

Dr. Wright made the comments at the handing over of milk to pregnant mothers by the Jamaica Dairy Development Board on Friday, September 24, which also marked the penultimate day of celebrations for National Breastfeeding Week.

#### Cue in 11:45 Cue out: 12:19

"While breast milk is best for the babies, real milk is especially good for the antenatal mother because real milk is very rich in proteins and minerals such as calcium and other proteins and minerals which are good for our nerves as well as for the strength of our bones and teeth" Dr. Wright added.

Turning to the importance of the pregnant woman's nutrition, Dr. Wright noted that recent research has shown that inadequate nutrition in the antenatal period increases the risk for childhood obesity. Against this background, she encouraged the women to ensure that their nutrition is adequate and appropriate during the antenatal and breastfeeding periods.

The Jamaica Dairy Development Board, an agency of the Ministry of Industry, Commerce, Agriculture and Fisheries has been donating three months supply of milk to pregnant women in an effort to boost their health and nutrition and that of their unborn babies as part of its pilot Postnatal and Antenatal Nutrition Support Programme.

The Board and its partners, Serge Island Dairies, Jamaica Beverages, Edwards Dairy, and Island Dairies Limited in taking its initiative to the (more)

Chairman: Wayne Chen; Vice Chairman; Michael Stern Board Members: Marcus Greenwood, Krishan James, Stafford Haughton, Lorraine Green Mason, Lennox Powell, Dr Lloyd Reynolds, Winston Maragh, Dr St Aubyn Bartlett, Dr Lundie Richards, Directors: Regional Director and Secretary: Michael Bent; Regional Technical Director: Dr Michael Coombs; CEO Mandeville Regional Hospital: Alwyn Miller; SMO, Mandeville Regional Hospital: Dr Everton McIntosh



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St. Elizabeth Health Dept High Street Black River Ph: 965-9174-5 Fax: 965-2701 southern region recently donated milk to mothers in St. Elizabeth and to mothers in Manchester on Friday, September 24 at the Manchester Health Department.

Picture 1



**Drink More Milk:** Medical Officer (Health) for Manchester, Dr. Beverly Wright (centre) encourages expectant mother, Shereka Bennett to consume more milk and to also exclusively breastfeed at the handing over of milk to the expectant mothers. Marketing Manager of Island Dairies Ltd. Mr. Livingston Binns (left); Deputy CEO, Jamaica Dairy Development Board & Project Manager, Dairy Revitalization Program, Mr. Byron Lawrence (2<sup>nd</sup> left); and Parish Manager of the Manchester Health Services, Mr. Earl McLaughlin look on.

(more)

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Mandeville Regional Hospital 32 Hargreaves Avenue Mandeville Ph: 962-2067/2744/1094 Fax: 625-8493 Picture 2

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Nutritious Milk: These expectant mothers enjoy the milk.

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For more information contact: Latoya Laylor Brown Public Relations & Advocacy Officer Southern Regional Health Authority Tel: 962-8232/779-2663 Email: latoya.laylor@srha.gov.jm

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