



# 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



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**May Pen Hospital**  
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## PRESS RELEASE

May 4, 2017

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

### Nurses Challenged to Recognize Link Between Excellence and Quality

Chairman of the Nurses Council of Jamaica (NCJ), Dr. Leila McWhinney-Dehaney has challenged scores of nurses in Central Jamaica to recognize the link between excellence and quality in executing their duties as advocates of patients.

"Excellence is directly linked to quality and nurses must recognize the link. Unless we do what we have to do, quality is compromised and excellence is just a passing word," Dr. McWhinney-Dehaney said as she addressed the second Nursing Symposium staged by the Southern Regional Health Authority (SRHA) Executive Nurses at the Golf View Hotel in Mandeville on Tuesday, May 2.

"If we have not started to take our responsibilities of the professions of nursing and midwifery seriously, we can start today. Don't let this symposium go to waste. When you go back to your places of work, evaluate what you are doing in light of what we have talked about regarding excellence and quality. I realize we are not perfect, but we have a people with a mind to work to be excellent care providers...a mind that the safety of our people lies in our hands" Dr. McWhinney-Dehaney told the nurses.

The former Chief Nursing Officer in the Ministry of Health pointed out that practicing ethically can be challenging to all professions, however; professionals must recognize that when they act unethically, they compromise self, others and their country. She cautioned the nurses to avoid mediocrity in their profession while recognizing the need to be excellent in providing quality health care.

Meanwhile, the NCJ Chairman pointed out that there are plans to revise the Nursing and Midwifery Act, which will facilitate greater engagement of the nursing profession.

(more)

**Chairman: Wayne Chen; Vice Chairman:** Michael Stern **Board Members:** Marcus Greenwood, Krishan James, Stafford Houghton, 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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The 2017 Symposium, which was a collaboration between the SRHA Nursing Executives and the Nursing Departments of the Northern Caribbean University and the Knox Community College was staged under the theme, "Pathway to Excellence: Nurses and the Profession".

The Conference facilitated sessions aimed at enhancing care delivery skills within the nursing profession through presentations and lectures in areas of Emotional Intelligence and Professional Values; Renal Disease; Occupational and Environmental Health and Ethical Practice and Legal Implications.

Picture 1



Dr. McWhinney-Dehaney challenges nurses to recognize link between excellence and quality.

(more)

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Picture 2



Students from the Department of Nursing at the Knox Community College take notes during the Symposium.

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