

RENEWAL • RESILIENCE • HEALTH FOR ALL

NATIONAL HEALTHCARE ENHANCEMENT FOUNDATION

THE PULSE

OCTOBER 2026 | ISSUE NO. 01



DONOR IMPACT

J\$1.036B+ in-kind donations received (To date)
All 4 Health Regions supported



MEDICAL MISSIONS

\$112.57M in medical supplies provided to date
116 Medical Missions Supported between Jan-Jul 2026
9 Parishes served



ADOPT-A-CLINIC

59 of 100 target Health Centres Adopted
J\$233.65M committed in donations
78% of target commitment received

Greetings - Friends, Partners and Diaspora.

In keeping with our commitment to continuously enhance communication and share awareness of our journey together, we are pleased to introduce our inaugural Newsletter. This will be a monthly publication reviewing and sharing key experiences from our engagements with you – as well as accomplishments that contribute to the enhancement of Jamaica’s public health system. Our goal is simple: to keep you better informed through an aesthetically pleasing newsletter that is easy to consume and always delivers at least one meaningful nugget of insight.

“The true impact of our work is measured not only by projects completed, milestones achieved, or donations received, but by the lives touched.”

As we reflect on our engagements since our establishment in February 2022, we are reminded that the true impact of our work is measured not only by projects completed, milestones achieved, or donations received, but by the lives touched and the healthcare outcomes improved in service of the people of Jamaica. Without our partnerships with Friends of Jamaica, the Diaspora, International Development Agencies (IDAs), NGOs, International Relief Agencies (IRAs), and the private sector, we are weakened. And so, we look forward to continuing this journey together, building the strength and capacity necessary to address the many challenges in health, while also seizing the many opportunities before us.

This edition is our introduction to you – a reflection of our journey since inception and an insight into the opportunities that lie ahead for our continued engagement. Following our recent observance of Emancipation Day and celebration of Jamaica’s 64th Anniversary of Independence under the theme “United in Celebrating Resilience,” we reflect on the strength, unity and determination that continue to define us as a nation.

In the spirit of all that lies ahead, and in deep gratitude for all you have already done, thank you for your support, your continued trust, your partnership, and your commitment to uplifting the public health system of our beloved country. We look forward to our shared “Partnership for Building Resilience.”

With sincere appreciation,

Courtney B. Cephas
Executive Director

National Healthcare Enhancement Foundation

GET TO KNOW US

Who we are:

The National Healthcare Enhancement Foundation (NHEF) is a registered non-profit organization in Jamaica, which operates as an agency of the Ministry of Health & Wellness, and serves as the principal gateway for donors to support Jamaica’s public-healthcare system.

What we do:

We are committed to strengthening Jamaica’s public healthcare system by managing, administering and mobilizing philanthropic contributions to benefit the country’s public health sector. Our key focus areas include:

- Facilitating Donor Giving of Goods & Services
- Mobilizing Donor Programmes and Support
- Harmonizing Donor Engagement

MEET THE TEAM

Board of Directors



Mr. Damian Brown
Board Chairman



Ms. Karen Baghaloo
Director



Mr. Jonathan Bamidele
Director



Ms. Kadian Birch
Director



Mrs. Dahlia Wright-Christopher
Director



Ms. Marsha Fearon
Director



Mr. Demetrie Adams
Director



Ms. Caron Chung
Director



Dr. Sanneta Myrie
Director

Operational Staff



Mr. Courtney Cephas
Executive Director



Mrs. Aisha Thompson-Belvelt
Operations Manager



Ms. Jomarie Brown
HR and Admin Officer



Ms. Kadiedra Robinson
Campaign & Donor Relations Associate



Ms. Jody McQueen
Operations Coordinator



Mrs. Nadia Haddad-Sweeney
Finance & Accounts Manager

Relief Mobilization Efforts

Partnerships In Action



Beyond everyday healthcare needs, NHEF and its partners stand ready to support communities when disaster strikes



The Global Empowerment Mission's (GEM) Initial Shipment of relief supplies following Hurricane Beryl in 2024



The Global Empowerment Mission mobilized support for residents in St. Elizabeth following Hurricane Beryl in 2024.



Samaritan's Purse shipment of relief supplies following Hurricane Melissa in 2025.



Samaritan's Purse establishes the first field hospital in St. Elizabeth following Hurricane Melissa

Overseas Medical Missions



From community screenings to specialized surgical care, your partnership helps to bring vital services closer to those who need them



Members of the International Medical Relief team carry out a Community medical Mission in Bluefields, Westmoreland.



Members of the Northwell Health Group carried out a Surgical Mission for fibroids removal in Kingston.

Donor Hand-Over Events

“
Turning generosity into meaningful support for Jamaica’s public healthcare system”



Germany Donates Patient Monitors to Bolster Jamaica’s Healthcare System



CARPHA donates Medical Equipment & Supplies to Jamaica



International medical Corps Provides Care packages to healthcare workers in St. Elizabeth



JMMB Foundation donates Medical Equipment to Port Antonio Hospital

Adopt-A-Clinic Programme

“
Connecting committed partners with health facilities where their support can make a lasting difference”



The Rotary Central Cayman Islands group adopts Lime Hall Health Centre in St. Ann



The VM Foundation adopts St. Jago Health Centre in St. Catherine



Manuela & James Goren Adopts Sandy Bay Health Centre in Hanover



The Caribbean Angels Inc. adopts the Wait-A-Bit Health Centre in Trelawny

DONOR & PARTNER SPOTLIGHT

Consul General Oliver Mair
Championing Diaspora Support for Jamaica's Public Health System



17

HEALTH CENTRES
ADOPTED

At the National Healthcare Enhancement Foundation, partnership is about more than a single contribution- it is about building relationships that continue to create opportunities for Jamaica's public health system.

Consul General (CG) Oliver Mair has been a valued advocate for our mission, using his platform and the Hi5 Run/Walk to mobilize members of the Jamaican Diaspora around opportunities to support healthcare at home. His Hi5 Run/Walk, a Diaspora-led fundraising initiative now in its seventh year, brings Jamaicans and Friends of Jamaica together to support improvements in community healthcare.



As Consul General Mair begins a new chapter in New York, the NHEF celebrates the impact of our partnership to date and looks forward to continued opportunities to engage the Jamaican Diaspora to strengthen the healthcare system locally



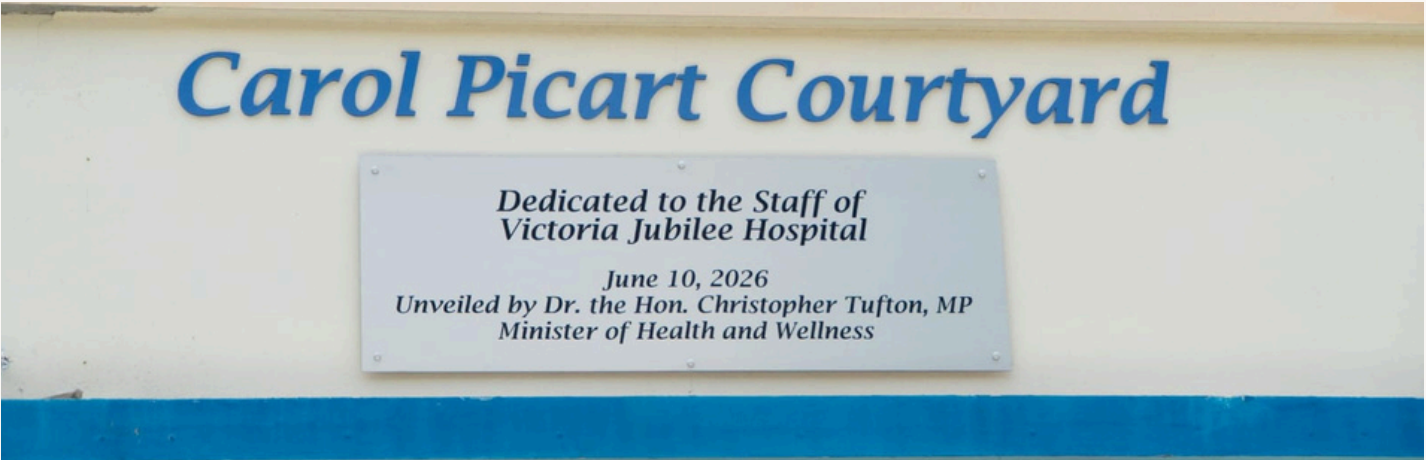
Carol Picart Courtyard Unveiling

Creating Space to Care for Those Who Care for Us

The National Healthcare Enhancement Foundation, in partnership with our donor Mrs. Carol Picart, officially unveiled the **Carol Picart Courtyard**, a dedicated wellness and recreation space at **Victoria Jubilee Hospital** designed to support the wellbeing of healthcare workers.

The courtyard responds to an important need within the healthcare environment: creating spaces where staff can pause, recharge and connect during demanding workdays. **The Minister of Health & Wellness, Dr. The Hon. Christopher Tufton, has mandated that every hospital has a space like this.** The 2,500 sq. ft. facility combines landscaped outdoor seating with furnished indoor lounges, Wi-Fi connectivity, energy-efficient amenities and secure access.

“Thank you Carol Picart for donating a courtyard space for the wellbeing of Healthcare Staff”.



The minister of Health & Wellness along with donor, Mrs. Carol Picart, officially unveils the **commemorative plaque** within the eponymous Courtyard.



Aerial view of the outdoor section of the Courtyard.



Healthcare workers celebrate the opening of the dedicated space.



Dr. the Hon. Christopher Tufton welcomed the facility, describing it as a model that should become standard across Jamaica’s healthcare system.

At a Glance

Project: Staff Wellness Lounge

Capacity: 84 people

Location: Victoria Jubilee Hospital

Donor: Mrs. Carol Picart

Investment: J\$22 million

11th Biennial Jamaica Diaspora Conference

Engagement with the Diaspora



CONFERENCE IMPACT
23 Stakeholder Leads Generated

The 11th Biennial Jamaica Diaspora Conference provided the National Healthcare Enhancement Foundation with an important platform to connect members of the Jamaican Diaspora with opportunities to support the country’s public health system.

Throughout the conference, the Foundation engaged healthcare professionals, prospective donors and other stakeholders while showcasing our **programmes and priority initiatives, including the flagship Adopt-A-Clinic Programme and the proposed Tele-Mental Health Initiative.** These conversations extended beyond the conference floor, generating new stakeholder contacts and opportunities to explore partnerships in mental health, research, nursing, community healthcare and other areas.



Mr. Courtney Cephas, Executive Director, NHEF, speaks on a panel at the 2026 Biennial Diaspora Conference.

Areas of Stakeholder Convergence

Mental Health • Nursing • Research • Community Healthcare

*For NHEF, engagement is only the beginning.
The goal is to turn meaningful connections into partnerships that respond to real healthcare needs.*



The NHEF Team joined by stakeholders visiting the foundation’s booth at the 2026 Biennial Diaspora Conference.

Diaspora in Action

The spirit of partnership moved from conversation to community during the Diaspora Day of Service, as healthcare professionals and other volunteers from the diaspora came together to deliver community and healthcare services and other outreach activities to communities across St. James.

NHEF is committed to maintaining engagement with the Jamaican diaspora

Key Highlights



Healthcare Expertise
Diaspora professionals delivered healthcare and community services directly within Jamaican communities.



Coordinated Support
NHEF facilitated the credentialing of participating medical mission teams, helping to ensure their activities were appropriately coordinated and aligned with national healthcare requirements.



Stronger Connections
The initiative strengthened collaboration among the Diaspora, public health partners and local communities.



Members of the Jamaica Diaspora Taskforce Action Network (JDTAN) mission group at the Catherine Hall Health Centre for Diaspora Day of Service.



The Jamaica Hi-5 Group at the Barrett Town Health Centre for Diaspora Day of Service 2026.



Members of the Jamaica Diaspora Taskforce Action Network (JDTAN) mission group join members of the Jamaica Hi-5 Group at the Catherine Hall Health Centre for Diaspora Day of service.

IN THE PIPELINE

The National Healthcare Enhancement Foundation (NHEF) is currently advancing initiatives designed to strengthen access, expand capacity and respond to emerging priorities within Jamaica’s public health system.

Here is a look at a few initiatives taking shape and the opportunities for partners to help move them forward:



Maternal and Early Life Initiative

Currently, Jamaica has a maternal mortality ratio (MMR) of 133 per 100,000 live births and neonatal mortality rate (NMR) of 13.3 per 1,000. The WHO Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are 70/100,000 and 12/1,000 respectively. We are striving to support the Ministry of Health & Wellness’ broader Maternal Health and Early Life Initiative which seeks to address the high maternal mortality ratio. Strengthening maternal and early-life care requires investment in the spaces, services, education and support available to mothers and newborns throughout the continuum of care.

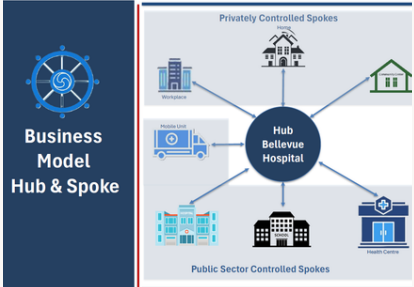
May Pen Hospital’s Neonatal Unit
Expansion, supported by The Church
Of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints

OUR RESPONSE

Through the Maternal & Early Life Initiative, the National Healthcare Enhancement Foundation is working with donors and partners to strengthen maternal and neonatal healthcare through strategic investments, education for expectant mothers and improvements to healthcare environments. Central to these efforts are partnerships with Save Women Jamaica, led by Dr. Keisha Benn, and The Premie Foundation, led by Ms. Serika Sterling.



Telemental Health Hub Initiative



Telemental Health Hub Initiative

Access to specialized mental healthcare can be limited by geography, availability of professionals and other local barriers to care. The Telemental Health Hub aims to use technology to connect patients with qualified mental health professionals through virtual consultations and support services, creating opportunities to extend specialist care beyond traditional clinical settings. We are currently laying groundwork through stakeholder engagement, partnership development and technical consultations.



Bossman Campaign

The Ministry of Health & Wellness’ ‘Boss Man’ campaign is geared towards increasing awareness about prostate cancer and the need for men to get regular checks. The key message is for men 40 years and older, to “boss up” and make screening for the cancer a part of their annual medical examination.

If detected early, prostate cancer can be treated in a way that gives you quality of life. According to the Jamaica Information Service, a total of 671 men died from prostate cancer in 2016, accounting for 19 per cent of the total cancer deaths on the island and making prostate cancer a leading public health problem. For this campaign, we are joining forces with local partners, including churches, municipal corporations, community groups and uniformed organizations, to stage health fairs offering tests and screenings.



Seeing-Clearly (A School-Based Eye Health Screening Initiative)

This school-based eye health screening initiative prioritizes systematic health checks for school-aged children. The aim is to detect refractive errors and eye conditions early, ensuring students get the treatment needed to learn effectively.

Core components of this initiative include:

- **Vision Screening:** Conduct basic visual checks using age-appropriate optotypes (symbols, letters, or numbers) administered by trained school nurses, community health workers, or teachers
- **Teacher Training:** Train educators to recognize early signs of vision deficits (like squinting, holding books too close, or complaining of headaches), so classrooms function as a primary point of observation.
- **Clear Referral Pathways:** Establish robust tracking and parental communication systems to ensure children who fail screenings receive full clinical eye exams and affordable corrective lenses.
- **Eyecare Health Education:** Integrate basic eye health and visual hygiene into the daily school curriculum to build community awareness and reduce social stigma around wearing glasses.

READY TO PARTNER WITH US?

Adopt a Health Centre • Donate • Volunteer • Support one of our Campaigns

Adopt-A-Clinic & Donations

Email: Courtney.cephas@moh.gov.jm

Tel: (876) 550-5495

Other Donor Programmes & Partnerships

Email: Kadiedra.robinson@moh.gov.jm

Tel: (876) 551-3404

"Together, we can turn generosity into action—and action into healthier communities."