THE CARE COLLECTIVE

A New Chapter for Black River Hospital: Partnerships Supporting the Restoration of Healthcare Services

Reopening marks an important milestone in restoring and strengthening healthcare delivery in western Jamaica.

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73
Health centers' adoptions to date

(Approximately)
J$630 M
Received in donor commitments up to October 2026

154
Medical missions facilitated up to October

The Black River Hospital in St. Elizabeth has officially reopened following extensive rehabilitation in the aftermath of Hurricane Melissa in 2025. The hospital resumed operations on October 28, 2026, marking an important milestone in the restoration of healthcare services for communities across the parish and surrounding areas.



The Government of Jamaica invested approximately J$300 million in the rehabilitation, which has increased the hospital's bed capacity from 150 to 180. Improvements include two operating theatres, an expanded and upgraded nursery, and a reinforced concrete roof designed to strengthen the facility's resilience to severe weather.

The Honourable Minister of Health and Wellness, Dr. Christopher Tufton, noted that the rehabilitation was undertaken with a focus on strengthening the facility and improving healthcare delivery.





INSPIRED TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE?

Partner with NHEF to help strengthen healthcare services in communities across Jamaica

DONOR HANDOVERS

Partnerships that make a difference

The reopening also provides an opportunity to recognize the philanthropic partners whose contributions have helped strengthen the hospital's capacity to serve patients.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints contributed medical equipment and supplies valued at over J$60 million. Separately, Ms. Carol Picart, through the Mia'Sarka Foundation, donated a ventilator and an infant incubator valued at approximately J$7.1 million.



These contributions reflect the value of sustained partnerships in supporting Jamaica's public healthcare system. NHEF is grateful to both donors for their generosity and continued commitment to improving healthcare delivery.

Turning Generosity into Meaningful Healthcare Support

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints Supports Expanded Neonatal Care at May Pen Hospital



The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints has contributed more than J$20 million towards the establishment of an expanded Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) at May Pen Hospital.

The project, developed over approximately one year, includes essential equipment and furnishings to support the unit's operations and strengthen the hospital's capacity to care for newborns requiring specialized attention.

The opening of the expanded unit marks an important milestone in advancing maternal and early-life healthcare services. NHEF is pleased to have facilitated this partnership and recognizes the Church's continued investment in Jamaica's public healthcare system.



PARTNERSHIPS IN ACTION



NHEF Exec. Direc., Mr. Courtney Cephas, poses with a team of ladies from Apex Radiology, who were in attendance at the 2026 In the Pink Event.

In the Pink 2026: Knowledge Is Power

Under the theme **"Knowledge Is Power: Break the Myths,"** NHEF's annual In the Pink initiative continued its focus on breast cancer awareness, education and preventive healthcare.

The October 16 information session featured healthcare professionals from Apex Radiology, who engaged participants in discussions on breast cancer, addressed common misconceptions and highlighted the importance of early detection and appropriate screening.

Through its longstanding partnership with Apex Radiology, NHEF also facilitated access to mammogram screening opportunities for eligible participants. As part of the 2026 initiative, 33 appointments had been scheduled at the time of reporting.

By combining education with practical screening opportunities, In the Pink encourages women to make informed decisions and take a proactive approach to their breast health.

AllKare Outreach Mission: Bringing Healthcare Closer to Communities

NHEF partnered with the AllKare Foundation, Andrew's Memorial Hospital and the Mia'Sarka Foundation to support a community health fair in New Kingston.

The outreach brought healthcare services and professional support closer to members of the community, demonstrating the value of collaboration in extending access to essential health services.

Through the combined efforts of the participating organizations and healthcare professionals, the initiative provided an opportunity to connect community members with health information and screening services.



Members of the medical team from Andrew's Memorial Hospital, who supported the AllKare Outreach Mission.



673 individuals were served, with services and activities including:

- **152 dental consultations**
- **129 optical services**
- **111 medical consultations**
- **165 health checks, including blood pressure and blood sugar testing**
- **67 counselling sessions**
- **54 massages**
- **43 HIV services**
- **22 PSA screenings**
- **82 prescriptions dispensed**

Mia'Sarka Foundation: Investing in the Accompong Community

A visit to Accompong, St. Elizabeth, offered an opportunity to see the progress of a three-part community development initiative supported by the Mia'Sarka Foundation, founded by Ms. Carol Picart.

The initiative included the renovation and reopening of the Accompong Community Museum, improvements to the Accompong Primary School, and a contribution of **J$1,654,924.75** in medical equipment and supplies to strengthen services at the Accompong Health Centre.



Medical team from Andrew's Memorial Hospital executing a community mission at the Accompong Health Centre, in St. Elizabeth.

The project reflects a commitment to community development that extends beyond individual interventions, supporting education, heritage and access to healthcare. NHEF is pleased to work alongside partners whose vision for giving back creates benefits across multiple areas of community life.



The Accompong Health Fair served 112 individuals, providing:

58 medical consultations

82 health checks, including blood pressure and blood sugar testing



DONOR PARTNER SPOTLIGHT

Four Years of Service: Dr. Sandra Lindsay and the Power of Diaspora Volunteerism



Dr. Sandra Lindsay

For four consecutive years, Dr. Sandra Lindsay has led a team of international medical volunteers in collaboration with Jamaican healthcare professionals and local partners to expand access to specialized gynecological surgical care.

Through these collaborative missions, approximately 40 pro bono surgical procedures have been facilitated over four years, supporting women on waiting lists within Jamaica's public healthcare system.

The missions are coordinated by the National Healthcare Enhancement Foundation and the Sandra Lindsay Foundation, with clinical services facilitated at the University Hospital of the West Indies (UHWI), alongside the participation of Jamaican healthcare professionals. The surgical teams focus primarily on minimally invasive laparoscopic procedures, with open surgery performed where clinically appropriate.

The 2026 mission, held from October 20–23, brought the team back to Jamaica for a fourth consecutive year, with approximately 10 women benefiting from specialized surgical care.



Dr. Lindsay and a patient who benefitted from the women's surgery mission.

A Commitment Rooted in Jamaica

For Dr. Lindsay, service to Jamaica is deeply personal. Raised in Clarendon, she credits her Jamaican upbringing with instilling the values of community, education and service that continue to guide her work.

She serves as Vice President of Public Health Advocacy at Northwell Health and is the Founder and President of the Sandra Lindsay Foundation. Through her foundation and other collaborative initiatives, she continues to support healthcare access, professional development, education and community advancement in Jamaica.

Building Global Partnerships in Healthcare and Education

Dr. Lindsay has also played an instrumental role in advancing collaboration between The University of the West Indies (UWI) and Northwell Health's Global Health Academy.

Formalized through a Memorandum of Understanding signed on August 31, 2026, the agreement welcomed Jamaica as the Academy's tenth international partner country. It establishes a framework for medical education, clinical training, professional exchanges and collaborative research.

Together, these efforts demonstrate how diaspora engagement can contribute to healthcare delivery while creating opportunities for knowledge exchange and strengthening local capacity.



Dr. Lindsay and two members of the surgery mission team.

A Message from Dr. Sandra Lindsay

"Growing up in Jamaica taught me that service is a responsibility, not a privilege. It is an honour to return and work alongside people who share a commitment to improving lives. I am deeply grateful to the healthcare professionals, educators, volunteers, donors, and community partners whose generosity and dedication make this work possible. The mission is simple: remove barriers, expand access, and help people realize their dreams."

Connect with Dr. Sandra Lindsay

@therealsandralindsay @sandralindsayRN Sandra Lindsay

IN THE PIPELINE

Looking Ahead: Opportunities to Strengthen Public Healthcare

NHEF continues to engage local and international partners to identify priority healthcare needs, mobilize resources and advance initiatives that strengthen Jamaica's public healthcare system. Through these collaborations, we are creating meaningful opportunities for individuals, organizations and members of the diaspora to contribute to improved healthcare delivery.

Improving Western Clinics

Rural health facilities across Jamaica continue to require critical equipment, supplies and infrastructural improvements to strengthen their capacity to serve communities. Through the Adopt-A-Clinic Programme, NHEF works with prospective donors and healthcare personnel to identify priority needs and facilitate targeted support.

We welcome individuals, businesses and organizations interested in supporting health centres in western Jamaica. To learn more, visit our website or contact our Donor Relations team using the details below.



Help us to Strengthen the Health Centres at the Heart of Our Communities



Members of the Rotary Cayman Islands group hand over medical equipment to the Honourable Dr. Christopher Tufton, Minister of Health and Wellness

Diaspora Partnerships

The NHEF remains committed to building partnerships that connect Jamaica's public healthcare sector with the expertise, resources and goodwill of the global Jamaican diaspora and international medical community.

We welcome opportunities to engage healthcare professionals, medical volunteers and philanthropic partners interested in contributing their skills, knowledge and resources to initiatives that support local healthcare priorities.

BE PART OF THE IMPACT

Every contribution creates an opportunity to strengthen healthcare.

Whether through financial support, professional expertise, medical equipment or strategic partnerships, you can play a role in advancing healthcare services for communities across Jamaica.

Connect with the National Healthcare Enhancement Foundation to explore how you can partner with us.

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."