

**ANNUAL REPORT OF THE NATIONAL FAMILY PLANNING BOARD FOR THE  
FINANCIAL YEAR 2014/2015**

Cabinet is invited to note that the Ministry intends to table in Parliament, the Annual Report of the National Family Planning Board for the financial year 2014/2015.

**1. INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 The National Family Planning Board (NFPB), established by the 1970 National Family Planning Act, is the agency of government responsible for preparing, implementing and promoting sustainable family planning services in Jamaica. The Board envisions that Jamaica will have an engaged and informed society with persons taking full responsibility for their sexual health, and a first class system of health services that facilitates responsible reproductive health practices.

**2. THE INTEGRATION OF NATIONAL FAMILY PLANNING BOARD AND HIV SERVICES**

- 2.1 The National Family Planning Board (NFPB) remains committed and worked assiduously during the fiscal year 2014 to 2015 to meet and facilitate the MoH's Operational Plan objectives of maintaining a healthy and stable population, strengthening the health promotion approach and strengthening and emphasising the primary health care approach. Most pronounced in this plan is the integration of the National HIV/STI Programme with the NFPB to create the Sexual Health Agency of Jamaica. Key reasons for the formation of the Agency are as follows:

- It reflects a global move to combine sexual and reproductive health policy and programming in a single government authority, having board-level inputs from wider stakeholders.
- It benefits from existing synergies in the health education, behaviour modification, prevention and promotional mandates of the NFPB and the National HIV Programme. This should result in improved efficiency and the reduction of human and financial resources required to achieve existing targets.
- It improves the capacity of the National HIV Programme to attract grant funding and international development assistance, as it provides a more

optimal governance framework within which projects can be financed and monitored.

- Other benefits include:
  - Improved access to and uptake of key HIV and SRH services;
  - Better access for people living with HIV to SRH services tailored to their needs;
  - Reduction in HIV-related stigma and discrimination;
  - Improved coverage of underserved/vulnerable/key populations;
  - Greater support for dual protection;
  - Improved quality of care;
  - Decreased duplication of efforts and competition for scarce resources;
  - Better understanding and protection of individuals' rights;
  - Mutually reinforcing complementarities in legal and policy frameworks;
  - Enhanced programme effectiveness and efficiency, and
  - Better utilisation of human resources.

### **3. ACHIEVEMENTS**

3.1 A summary of the achievements of the NFPB during the fiscal year 2014/2015 are as follows:

1. Capacity Building activities conducted by the NFPB included facilitating eleven (11) training workshops for staff. In addition, twenty (20) practitioners including Public Health Nurses and Midwives were trained in the insertion and removal of Intrauterine Contraceptive Device (IUD).
2. Empowering adolescents by supporting the Health and Family Life Education (HFLE) school course with six (6) rap sessions reaching Five Hundred and Twenty-Eight (528) students and teachers. Forty (40) students at an inner city school were reached through psycho-social support. The NFPB sponsored thirteen (13) episodes of 'Talk Up Yout,' a youth empowerment programme which was aired on the popular Radio Jamaica (RJR).
3. Three (3) conferences were held to effect the synergy between the HIV Prevention and Family Planning Programmes, specifically
  - i. Women's Health network Conference,
  - ii. Medical Association of Jamaica Symposium, and
  - iii. Reproductive Health Conference.

4. Marge Roper Counselling Services (MRCS) is a call-in, walk-in and write-in counselling service that targets persons in the reproductive age group by providing them with easy access to information and counselling on Family Planning/Family Life Education issues. The service is manned by a trained nurse/counsellor and private, confidential and personal sessions with the counsellors are enforced. Within the financial year (2014/2015), Five Thousand, Seven Hundred and Eight (5,708) persons used the MRCS. Nineteen (19) presentations were made to One Thousand, Five Hundred and Thirty Nine persons (1,539) and seven (7) articles were placed in the newspaper.
5. Media campaigning - The NFPB participated in two hundred and forty five (245) radio and TV Public Service Announcements (PSA) as well as exhibitions and theme days/weeks, with the more notable being Family Planning Week, World AIDS Day, World Contraceptive Day, World Population Day and Safe Sex Week.
6. The third bio-behavioural survey (BBSS) which targeted men who have sex with men and commercial sex workers was conducted.
7. The distribution of contraceptives whether by donation or sale included: Condoms (2,410,144), Microgynon cycles (92,530) and Depo Provera doses (140,126).
8. Health and Wellness Programmes were established in two (2) Places of Safety (Granville & Homestead). Six (6) Steering Committee meetings were held and Psychologists identified and screened 95 residents. In addition, the residents were equipped with gears to participate in sports related activities.
9. United Nation Women Project - The goal of this project was to improve HIV, sexual and reproductive health of adolescent girls and young women through empowerment and reduction of gender inequalities. A Project Manager and Qualitative Research Consultant were recruited for the project. Two inner city communities were identified for the project; Greenwich Farm and Hanna Town. Six (6) empowerment workshops were held for twenty one (21) participants.
10. The amplification of Monitoring & Evaluation (M&E) activities - Some of the M&E activities included an Island-wide dissemination of the Contraceptive Logistics Management Information System (CLMIS)

findings and an assessment of the quality of health care in twelve (12) public clinics. There was also vigorous monitoring and evaluation of core indicators in both the public and private sector relating to the elimination of Mother to Child transmission of HIV/AIDS and Congenital Syphilis in Jamaica by 2015.

#### **4. HUMAN RESOURCES**

- 4.1 The Human Resource and Administration Unit managed the human resources and the general administrative functions of the organization. Staff morale, productivity and efficiency were improved, through training, seminars, workshops and incentives.
- 4.2 As the organisation transitioned through the process of integrating Reproductive Health and HIV Services capacity-building training workshops were facilitated for the staff, inclusive of exchange sessions on family planning and on STIs/HIV. The staff also benefitted from other training courses hosted by other entities. The rapid development of the skills set within the organization was necessary against the background of the broadening and deepening of services under the integration process.

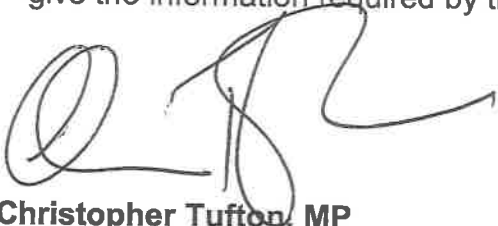
#### **5. DECLARATION OF COMPENSATION**

- 5.1 A copy of the compensation package of the Board of Directors and senior managers of the organization, for the period under review, has been included in the Annual Report (Pages 14-15).

#### **6. AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

- 6.1 Total Operating Income to the entity, amounted to One Hundred and Eleven Million, Seven Hundred and Fifty Five Thousand, and Five Hundred and Seventy Dollars (\$111,755,570.00), including Government Grants of Seventy Eight Million, Nine Hundred and Twenty Eight Thousand, Dollars (\$78,928,000.00). Operating expenses amounted to One Hundred and Sixteen Million, Four Hundred and Fifty Four Thousand and Seven Hundred and Twenty Dollars (\$116,454,720.00).
- 6.2 The Auditors, Smith and Associates, Chartered Accountants, stated that the audit evidence obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for an audit opinion. The Auditor's report further stated that the financial statements gave a true and fair view of the National Family Planning Board as at March 31, 2015.

6.3 The Auditors, Smith and Associates, concluded that the proper accounting records were kept, and the financial statements are in agreement therewith, and give the information required by the Act, in the manner so required.



**Dr. Christopher Tufton, MP**  
**Minister of Health**

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