

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE NATIONAL FAMILY PLANNING BOARD FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2017-2018

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The National Family Planning Act, 1970 established the National Family Planning Board (NFPB) as the agency of government responsible for preparing, implementing and promoting sustainable family planning services in Jamaica. The NFPB 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 and all Jamaicans achieving optimal sexual health in an environment where sexual rights are respected, protected and fulfilled.

1.2 Faced with the reality that the NFPB operates in an environment where fiscal resources are limited, the Board continued to strive for creative and innovative solutions to achieve their mandate. Such innovation was further enhanced through cultivating partnerships which allowed the NFPB to maximize manpower and funding. It was in this vein during the 2017-2018 financial year that the Board's programmes continued to strive toward ensuring significant reach and impact.

2 OBJECTIVES FOR 2017 - 2018

The NFPB identified the following as the main activities for the 2017-2018 reporting period:

- Reposition the NFPB as the main advocate of Family Planning and Reproductive Health practices
- Increased communication for the promotion of responsible behavior
- Focus on the adolescent population
- Fostering the creation of a more enabling environment for key populations
- Enhanced engagement of the general population
- Focus on policy advocacy
- Prudent management and administration of the Agency's operations
- Integration of Family Planning and Sexual and Reproductive mandate

3. ACHIEVEMENTS

3.1. Some of the achievements over the financial year included:

- Training of health care workers (community health aides, public health nurses and midwives) in regional sensitization sessions began.

- Training of 18 staff members in seven (7) four (4) hour sessions and a two (2) hour session in the Fundamentals of Project Management was held.
- A Personal Risk Assessment Tool was developed using the overall theme of the “I go to clinic because....” Campaign. The rationale for its development was that women would, by the questions, would ascertain their risk before and during pregnancy, which would result in early visits to their health care practitioners/facility. This tool is to be introduced to health care workers as part of all training activities undertaken under the NFPB work plan.
- During the year, the Monitoring Evaluation and Research Unit trained a total of 120 midwives and public health nurses island wide in contraceptive forecasting methodologies.
- The Youth and Adolescent Technical Working Group (YATWG) developed a roadmap for the engagement of high-level leaders in Sexual Reproductive Health (SRH) related discussions. The NFPB also sharpened the strategic focus of the group to increase knowledge and awareness of sexual reproductive health and rights (SRHR) and to engage in evidence-based dialogue around the contentious issues of access to SRH information, commodities and services by youths and adolescents, in addition to a focus on human rights.
- A total of 80 persons from the NFPB, Regional Health Authorities (RHAs) and the Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) were trained in data analysis, reporting and validation. Consequently, data entry clerks can now analyse data using Pivot Tables and Event Reports.
- The Enabling Environment and Human Rights (EEHR) Unit pursued strategic actions that promoted the provision of non-discriminatory services to all, particularly youth, women and key populations.
- The NFPB alongside LINKAGES, a US Government implementing partner, trained 120 outreach workers from the CSOs and the RHAs as Peer Navigators. A Peer Navigator identifies barriers in accessing prevention, care and treatment services and is a connector and expert referrer to health care staff and services who can address barriers. The Peer Navigator is expected to journey with an HIV client towards his/her goal of viral suppression.
- World AIDS Day in Jamaica was commemorated under the theme “We Have the Right to Health: Keep the Promise, Don’t Turn Your Back On Me” and was held in collaboration with AIDS Healthcare Foundation and Jamaica Network of Seropositive.

- Safer Sex Week was also observed and included activities such as an exposition at the University of Technology where a panel discussion was held and provider Initiated Testing and Counselling and family planning counselling and methods were offered.
- The EEHR pursued actions to strengthen the policy and legal framework for sexual and reproductive health and HIV prevention, treatment and care services. These initiatives were to address policy and legislative barriers to sexual and reproductive health information, goods and services.
- For purposes of strengthening the capacity of staff to execute duties effectively and efficiently, training needs and opportunities were identified. A Human Resources Training Plan was updated and implemented throughout the year. Persons were trained in areas such as procurement, quantitative and qualitative data collection, analysis and reporting, monitoring, evaluation and results-based management, contraceptive forecasting, project management and corporate governance and leadership.
- With the objective of increasing parents' knowledge and confidence levels so that they would be able to communicate with their adolescent children about sexual and reproductive health issues and also to equip them with the necessary skills that they can use to encourage positive behaviours, 7 workshops were conducted, reaching a total of 165 parents. Some of the topics covered in the workshops included parenting analysis, parenting skills, parenting responsibility, parent-child communication, sexual abuse, family planning, and basic HIV facts, transmission and prevention.
- Two training sessions in Family Planning were held for men between the ages of 16 and 40. The workshop addressed harmful gender norms and stereotypes specifically around masculinity.
- In an effort to improve participants' knowledge and skills to address their vulnerability to HIV/STIs and unintended pregnancy due to social forces that are often beyond their control, 4 one-day workshops were held on sexual negotiation and gender-based violence. Eighty five (85) girls and their mothers participated.
- 2 two-day workshops in contraceptive counseling and methods were conducted with 47 Pre-Service Nurses/Midwives' students attending the Cornwall School of Midwifery. The goal of the workshop was to equip participants with the knowledge, attitude and skills necessary to communicate effectively with clients about optimal birth spacing.

4. DECLARATION OF COMPENSATION

4.1 A copy of the compensation package of the Board of Directors and Senior Executives of the organization, for the period under review, has been included in the Annual Report.

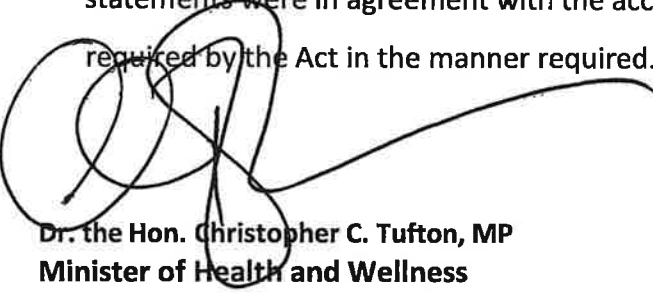
5. STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

5.1 Total Operating Income to the entity, amounted to Two Hundred and Seventy Three Million, Five Hundred and Fifteen Thousand, Two Hundred and Twenty Dollars (\$273, 515,220.00) Operating expenses amounted to Two Hundred and Thirty Two Million, Sixty Nine Thousand, and Five Hundred and Sixty Nine Dollars (\$232,069,569.00.) The Board had an Operating surplus of Forty One Million, Four Hundred and Forty Five Thousand, Six Hundred and Fifty One Dollars (\$41,445,651.00) but realized a net surplus of Sixty Five Million, One Hundred and Sixty Five Thousand, One Hundred and Ninety Five Dollars (\$65,165,195.00.)

6. AUDITOR'S REPORT

6.1 The Auditors, Smith and Associates, Chartered Accountants, in their opinion, reported that the financial statements gave a true and fair view of the financial position of the National Family Planning Board as at March 31, 2016 and of its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards.

6.2 The Auditors concluded that the proper accounting records were kept and the financial statements were in agreement with the accounting records and gave the information required by the Act in the manner required.



Dr. the Hon. Christopher C. Tufton, MP
Minister of Health and Wellness

June 12, 2019
File: 182/24^{IV}