

**ANNUAL REPORT OF THE NATIONAL FAMILY PLANNING BOARD FOR THE
FINANCIAL YEAR 2018-2019**

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1. The National Family Planning Board is the Government agency responsible for sexual and reproductive health information and services in Jamaica. Its role and functions include the conducting of research, development of campaigns, the dissemination of information, the delivery and monitoring of sexual and reproductive health services, the distribution of contraceptives and contribution to the development of an enabling environment for all.
- 1.2. The Vision of the Board is for all Jamaicans to achieve optimal sexual health in an environment where sexual rights are respected, protected and fulfilled.
- 1.3. The Mission of the NFPB is to provide guidance, leadership advocacy and implementation of quality, equitable sexual health education and services to enable all Jamaicans to achieve optimal sexual health outcomes throughout their life course.
- 1.4. In an effort to carry out its role and functions, the NFPB, despite the challenges, under the direction of the Board of Management, engaged its staff with its partners in implementing activities during the year under review.

2. ACHIEVEMENTS

Some of the achievements over the financial year included:

- An important development for the NFPB during the year under review was Government's decision to reintegrate the organization with the Ministry of Health and Wellness (MOHW). The process of reintegration gained momentum since May 2018 as activities being undertaken collaboratively with the Public Sector Transformation and Implementation Unit (PSTIU), MOHW, and the NFPB were completed or were at a work-in-progress phase, based on the respective responsibilities of each entity.
- The 2018-2019 period also saw the organization addressing certain challenges in the technical areas of the organization's programme. Significant aspects of these challenges included the fact and implications of low awareness among Jamaicans of their human rights, especially in the context of sexual and reproductive health and, in particular, among key and vulnerable populations.
- Over the period, The NFPB, in collaboration with the MOHW and under the auspices of the local office of the Pan American Health organization (PAHO), was involved in planning for dissemination of the findings of the Mid-term Evaluation of Jamaica's National Integrated Strategic Plan (NISP) (2014-2019) and the new NISP (2020-2025). Over 80 participants from Government Ministries, departments and agencies, non-government and international partner organizations attended.

- The organization's Strategic Business Plan (2019-2023) and Operational Plan (2019-2020) were completed and submitted to the MOHW for onward transmission to the Office of the Cabinet.
- The NFPB's Monitoring, Evaluation and Research (MER) team held a two-day workshop to guarantee strategic planning of Sexual and Reproductive Health targets and indicators.
- The Legal and Policy Review Committee of the NFPB spearheaded research on advocacy areas related to sexual reproductive health policy and legislative concerns in Jamaica. With the use of findings from previous legal reviews to inform and guide Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH) Advocacy Strategy, four policy briefs were drafted in 2018.
- In an effort to address noticeable gaps in Jamaica's human rights framework, the Legal and Policy Review Committee also developed, printed and disseminated a policy brief: "Recommendation to Address Discrimination based on Health Status with particular Focus on HIV." Policy Brief 2, "HIV Sensitive Social Protection" and two additional policy briefs, "Enabling Adolescent SRH" and "The inclusion of a patient strategy in the Ministry of health's Strategic Business Plan" were being finalized for print and dissemination in the next financial year.
- In partnership with the Social Development Commission (SDC), 307 members of the public, participated in 5 stakeholder consultations to validate the National HIV/AIDS Policy, which is being revised to reflect the most recent developments in HIV prevention, treatment and care services.
- During the reporting period, the NFPB participated in a consultation of the amendment of the National Population Development Policy, organized by the Planning Institute of Jamaica (PIOJ.)
- The NFPB continued to facilitate the development and implementation of policy and protocols on referral mechanisms. The referral directory was approved by the MOHW and instructions given to print and distribute it to the intended case managers and social workers.
- Support was provided by the NFPB to the MOHW and PAHO to mobilize stakeholders to participate in Personal Health Information Protection Consultations.
- Three (3) outcome indicators (adolescent fertility rate, maternal mortality ratio and child mortality rate), pertinent to the NFPB were approved by Government and are to be included in the new Medium Term Socio-Economic Policy Framework.
- Under the Programme for the Reduction of Maternal and Child Mortality (PROMAC), the NFPB carried out the following activities during the 2018-2019 financial year:
 - a. A Risk Assessment tool was developed for use by women of reproductive age. Printing and distribution of 300,000 copies of the cards commenced at the parish level;
 - b. Participants involved in the refresher training for midwives and public health nurses

in Maternal and Child Health were introduced to the Risk Assessment Tool that will be used to assist women who are pregnant or desire to become pregnant, to understand the health risk or challenges their child might encounter. A total of 157 midwives and 173 community health aides, representing all health regions, were trained in this area.

- c. A Mass Communication Consultancy and Interim Communication Plan was developed. This will be used to guide the procurement of a consulting firm to develop material and implement the campaign.
- In terms of Health Promotion and Prevention interventions, the NFPB carried out activities in support of its mandate in conducting treatment site audits and implementing outreach interventions for key populations (HIV and testing.)
 - Training for healthcare workers was conducted in areas such as, micro-planning, peer navigation coaching, contraceptive forecasting, training to identify violence against women and girls and training in Microsoft Excel.
 - 17 one-day workshops in Dual Protection were held, reaching 431 Community Health Aides, exceeding the target of 400.
 - One five-day clinical training in Intrauterine Contraceptive Device (IUCD) Insertion/Removal and management of potential problems was executed to prepare 20 Public Health Nurses and Midwives in the South East Regional Health Authority (SERHA.)
 - Sensitization sessions were conducted in communities and among targeted groups.
 - With instructions from the Honorable Prime Minister, the NFPB rolled out an adolescent communication campaign for the vulnerable adolescents in the crime-plagued community of Mt. Salem, Montego Bay, St. James. Activities included school interventions, community information and testing drives, rap sessions which covered relationships, setting goals, setting boundaries and decision-making. In collaboration with other agencies, other activities which were undertaken over the period, included, sporting activities, a workshop for commercial sex workers and summer camps.
 - Other interventions which targeted the youth population included an In-School youth programme, activities held at the Teen Hub at the Half-Way-Tree Transport Centre, sponsorship of the play "Black Sheep", engagement in rap sessions on topical issues affecting adolescents in state care, participation in the UN Youth Expo, the mobilization of the Youth and Adolescent Technical Working Group (YATWG) and participation in World AIDS Day activities.
 - With support of a grant from the USAID President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), the NFPB commissioned a Five Year Strategic Plan to implement a national Positive Health Dignity and Prevention (PHDP) capacity development framework to revitalize peer-to-peer support initiatives with respect to people living with HIV, the objective being achievement of treatment and prevention goals.

- The NFPB pursued a strategy to address Faith-Based Organizations (FBOs) about the role of the church in ensuring fair and equitable treatment for people living with HIV and persons with high risk behaviours.
- Technical support was provided to the Jamaican Network of Sero-Positives (JN+) to build capacity of its Community Facilitators for supporting their peers in treatment adherence and retention through the transfer of Positive Health, Dignity and Prevention (PHDP) knowledge and skills.
- Through a partnership with the Caribbean Vulnerable Communities Coalition (CVC), civil partners were trained in legislative, policy and service provision monitoring. Through training, the civil society organizations develop community scorecards as part of efforts to monitor the quality and delivery of sexual and reproductive healthcare services.
- During the year, efforts were expanded to ensure that all health care providers were trained and sensitized to remove the barriers of stigma and discrimination in interaction with vulnerable populations in the public health service delivery.
- The NFPB continued its partnership with the Ministry of Labour and Social Security (MLSS) addressing concerns of workplace safety and health issues.
- Over the period, the NFPB pursued its strategic priority to address human rights barriers in employment settings.
- Research conducted during the reporting period included the New Reproductive Health Survey (RHS), the Contraceptive Logistics Management Information System (CLMIS) Survey, Research on Men who have Sex with Men (MSM) Internalized Stigma, Bio-behavioral Surveillance Survey of Inmates and Surveillance Mapping.
- With NFPB having one of the most comprehensive sexual and reproductive health libraries in the island, its resources were heavily used by secondary and tertiary level students, academics, researchers, community groups, staff, consultants and related organizations, over the period. Digitization of the library's documents to facilitate wider access by the public began in the year under review.
- Consistent with its mandate to maintain a high level of communication and public education for the promotion of responsible sexual behavior, the NFPB carried out a range of activities that supported the various programmes and addressed the target groups which the national programme has identified as critical targets for control of HIV/AIDS and promotion of family planning services in Jamaica.
- The NFPB has prepared a Human Resource Transition Policy and Implementation Plan to facilitate a smooth transition of staff into the MOHW.
- A Communication Plan with strategies for communicating with staff, providing information, correcting misinformation and providing support to the team was developed.
- During the period under review, several members of staff were given the opportunity to participate in training and development programmes which provided them with the

requisite critical skills and competencies needed to ensure that the Board achieved its goals, as well as guaranteed a level of job satisfaction for employees.

3. DECLARATION OF COMPENSATION

3.1. 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.

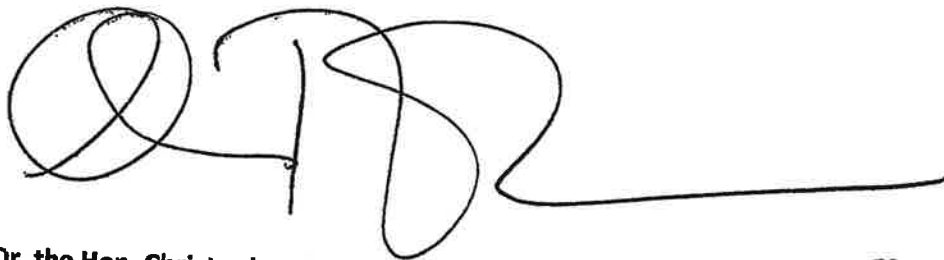
4. STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

4.1. Total Operating Income to the entity, amounted to Two Hundred and Eighty-One Million, Seven Hundred and Seventy-Three Thousand, Three Hundred and Thirty-Nine Dollars (\$281,773,339.00). Operating expenses amounted to Two Hundred and Fifty-Six Million, Four Hundred and Seventy-Six Thousand, Six Hundred and Eighty-Five Dollars (\$256,476,685.00.) The Board had an Operating surplus of Twenty-Five Million, Two Hundred and Ninety-Six Thousand, Six Hundred and Fifty-Four Dollars (\$25,296,654.00) but realized a net surplus of Eighteen Million and Seventy-Seven Thousand, Four Hundred and Fifteen Dollars (\$18,077,415.00.)

5. AUDITOR'S REPORT

5.1. 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, 2019 and of its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS).

5.2. The Auditors concluded that 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

February 16, 2021

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