



CCB/EYE CARE CARIBBEAN

CARIBBEAN COUNCIL FOR THE BLIND

&

THE FOUNDATION FOR EYE CARE IN THE CARIBBEAN

Caribbean Council for the Blind (CCB) spearheads construction of state of the art Operating Theatre at the Mandeville Regional Hospital's Eye Clinic in Jamaica

St John's, Antigua and Barbuda, June 13,2012: Patients attending the Eye Clinic at the Mandeville Regional Hospital in Jamaica stand to benefit from new surgical facilities which are scheduled to be up and running by August of this year. Upon completion, the area will be transformed into a suite of Operating Theaters, supported by a range of advance clinical facilities.

The establishment of the new state-of-the art Theaters will enable the Eye Department to perform up to two thousand cataract surgeries annually, up from the current number of approximately five hundred per year.

The construction of the Theaters got underway in May 2012.

This phase of development is being spearheaded by the **Caribbean Council for the Blind (CCB-Eye Care Caribbean)** with financial assistance from The European Commission & Sightsavers.

Just over ten years ago, the **CCB** embarked on a development partnership with the Southern Regional Health Authority (SRHA) and the Mandeville Regional Hospital.

The partnership seeks to position the SRHA as best practice status for Eye Health Services in Jamaica's Public Health Sector.

Five years ago, with the assistance of the SRHA, the Clinic was relocated to the old Nurses' Hostel on the Hospital's compound. **CCB** along with its partners refurbished and equipped the building, which now serves as the Eye Department for the Mandeville Regional Hospital.

“This current phase of development at the Mandeville Eye Department will place SRHA in the unique position of undertaking more eye surgeries annually, than all the (eye surgeries) at Public Hospitals in Jamaica, combined” said Arvel Grant, the CCB’s Chief Executive Officer.

Plans are in the works to introduce secondary Eye Health Services at the Black River Hospital located in the southern Parish of St Elizabeth as well as the May Pen and Percy Junor Hospitals in the central Parish of Clarendon.

Contact :
Arvel Grant, (C.SW, B.Sc-SW (Hons) DPA, MPH)
Chief Executive Officer, **CCB-Eye Care Caribbean**

PURPOSE

“Preventing blindness and visual impairment; while restoring sight and creating opportunities for persons whose sight cannot be restored”.

**Lower All Saints Road - P.O. Box 1517 - Antigua, West Indies
Tel: 1-(268)-462-4111/462-6369/562-2216
Fax: (268)-462-6371**