# Strengthening the Health System's Response for NCDs

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MINISTER OF HEALTH & WELLNESS, JAMAICA

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### Ministry of Health and Wellness' Strategic Objectives

- To increase by 10%, the access to equitable, comprehensive and quality health care for patients living with non-communicable diseases who use the public health sector by 2024
- 2) To reduce mortality from priority communicable diseases by 5% by 2024
- To strengthen the stewardship of the Ministry by implementing the monitoring and evaluation, risk management and quality management systems by 2024
- To advocate for an average annual increase of 6.5% of the budget allocated to the health ministry and its agencies to attain WHO benchmark of 6% of GDP for government expenditure on health by 2030

### Ministry of Health and Wellness' Strategic Objectives

- 5) To reduce the critical human resources for health (HRH) skills gap by 5% by 2024
- 6) To reduce the attrition rate of critical health workers by 5% by 2024
- 7) To improve the collaboration with other MDAs to achieve health in all policies to address the social determinants of health
- 8) To ensure 85% of major infrastructure projects are completed within scope, schedule and budget by 2024

Health Systems Building Blocks Approach



#### 1. Leadership & Governance

- National Committee on NCDs launched
  - ▶ Multisectoral Advisory Group
- National Policy for Model of Care (Chronic Care Model) for NCDs developed in 2020
- Evaluation of current, and development of a new National Strategic Plan for NCDs to 2030 in progress
- Primary Care Renewal Policy which gives focus to improving the Integrated Health Service Delivery Network

#### 1. Leadership & Governance

- Tobacco Control Act: Joint Select Committee in progress
- Harmful Use of Alcohol Policy submitted to the Cabinet
- National Food Industry Task Force
  - Interim Guidelines for Beverages in Schools implemented in 2019
  - National School Nutrition Standards developed
  - Production Reformulation workshops with manufacturers (sugar reduction)

### 2. Service Delivery: COVID-19 & Mental Health

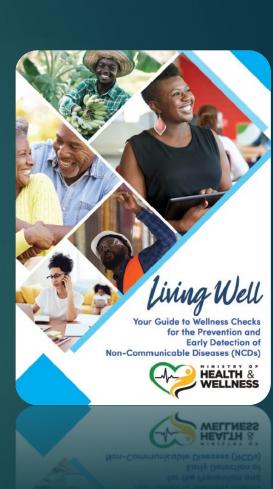
- Multi-media messages/tips, and presentations on mental health care
  - ▶ Families, older persons, frontline workers, private sector
- Group and individual mental health sessions in partnership with Jamaica Psychological Association, Jamaica Psychiatric Association and the Jamaica Red Cross
- 24-hour Mental Health Helpline
- Staff at COVID-19 isolation/quarantine facilities trained in delivering Psychological First Aid

### 2. Service Delivery: Jamaica Moves



- ▶ JM in Schools
- ▶ JM in Workplaces
- ▶ JM in Communities

Wellness Booklet
developed
to support engagement
in preventive care/
screening



# 2. Service Delivery: Ja Moves/Communities

- ▶ Physical Activity and COVID-19 Guide developed
- Work out sessions aired
- Physical Activity videos produced
- Physical Activity Radio ads placed
- Market pop ups
- ► Home garden wellness kits distributed
- "Better For You" menu initiative launched with 8 major Quick Service Restaurants





### 2. Service Delivery: Ja Moves/Schools

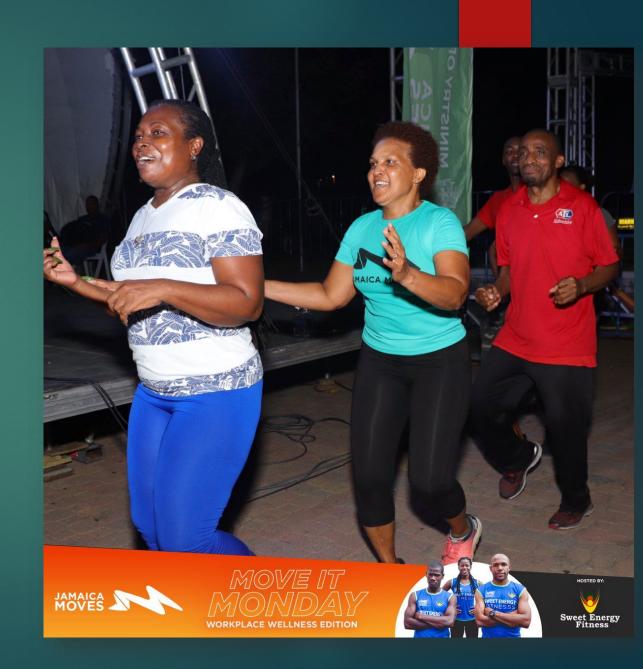
- Physical Activity Guide for Physical Activity breaks developed
- ▶ National Schools Move Day (April 2020)
- Physical Activity & Nutrition signage placed
- Nutrition video presentations completed
- Online engagements regarding substance abuse
- School health/NCD registers distributed



\*activities supported by a JMIS Coordinator

# 2. Service Delivery: Ja Moves/Workplaces

- Corporate Wellness Manual developed
  - Wellness Coordinator's checklist
  - Physical Activity Toolkit and Guide
  - Guide for the Promotion of Health Eating in Workplaces
  - Nutrition Environment Assessment tool
- Physical Activity videos produced
- Healthy Eating videos produced (targeting employers and employees)
- GOJ nutritionists trained to support workplaces



### 2. Service Delivery

- ▶ Launch of the Public Private Partnership (PPP) for NCDs in 2020
  - Shared care initiative with private practitioners for diabetes and hypertension
- ▶ Improvement in Sickle Cell Disease Management public sector drug access for private sector patients approved by the Cabinet
- Enhancing Health Care Services delivery Project (2019) PPP access the diagnostic and radiology services – over 22,500 tests conducted

### 2. Service Delivery: Guidelines & Service Standards

- ► Food Based Dietary Guidelines
- National Screening Guidelines for NCDs completed in 2020
- Interim guidelines for the management of Diabetes and Hypertension completed in 2020
- Protocol for the Nutritional Management of NCDs completed in 2019

### 2. Service Delivery

#### IDB-supported activities

- Infrastructure upgrades of 3 hospitals and 10 health centres
- Support for the implementation of the Chronic Care Model for NCDs
- Care pathways and protocols for NCDs
- Continuous quality improvement for M&E
- ► Telemedicine to support mentoring of clinicians
- ▶ TeleECHO to train and mentor HCWs
- NCD App to support behaviour change
  - ▶ Wellness component
  - ▶ Disease Management component



#### 3. Health Information

- Front of Package Warning Label study (PAHO)
  - Black "high in" octagon label preferred
- Trans-fat Study (UTECH)
  - First in the Caribbean
  - Almost 40% of commonly consumed foods have trans fats
- ► Electronic Health Records to be rolled out (IDB-supported)



### 4. Medicines & Technologies

- Purchase of medical equipment (IDB-supported)
  - Improve screening and diagnostic capabilities to improve clinical and resolutive capacity
- In-country capacity to analyze for trans-fats (only Caribbean country)
- Expansion of HbA1C Programme for Diabetes to include Point of Care testing in Health Centres in progress

#### 5. Financing

#### 6. Human Resources

- Consistent allocation of funding from the MOFPS
  - Allocation/Expenditure guided by the burden of disease

- National Health Fund
  - Screening activities
  - Health promotion activities

- Almost 18% increase in the number of HCWs especially in primary care
  - > 1,000 Community Health Aides recruited and trained
  - Will serve to strengthen Primary Health Care beyond the COVID-19 response

#### On the Horizon

- Public Education under the Jamaica Moves Brand
  - Unhealthy Foods
  - ▶ Labeling
- ▶ NCD Website
- Physical Activity Web-page
- NCD Screening "Know Your Numbers" Campaign
- Public Education Campaign Tobacco, Harmful Use of Alcohol

#### Formal Surveys

- Sodium/Salt in Foods
- Marketing of Foods to Children
- Research for Wellness
- Physical Activity
- Jamaica Health and Lifestyle Survey IV
- Needs Assessment among Persons with Sickle Cell Disease



### Thank you.

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