DID YOU KNOW

- Did you know that visitors are not permitted to take photographs of residents on the Infirmary compound?

- Did you know that family members or visitors are not permitted to offer monies directly to a resident?

- Did you know that no member of staff should be remunerated by families to care for residents at the Infirmary?

- Did you know that an application has to be made through the Poor Relief Department to have persons admitted to the Infirmary?

- Did you know that relatives and friends can visit residents at the Infirmary?

CONTACT INFORMATION:

St. Catherine Infirmary
13 Monk Street, Spanish Town, St. Catherine.
Tel: (876) 943 8560 – Matron
Email: infirmary@stcatherinepc.gov.jm

VISITING HOURS
10:00 a.m. – 12noon and 2:00p.m. – 4:30p.m.

INSIDE THE ST. CATHERINE INFIRMARY
Profile of the Agency

The St. Catherine Infirmary is located at 13 Monk Street, Spanish Town, St. Catherine. The institution is housed on a former army camp which was established in 1888, and as such, it is a heritage building. The department falls under the Poor Relief Department which facilitates persons who are classified as Indoor Poor.

The institution falls under the Ministry of Local Government and Environment through the St. Catherine Municipal Corporation which is the governing body that directly oversees the running of the institution.

Mission

The Mission of the St. Catherine Infirmary is to provide a safe, clean and loving environment for all residents....“we are not only our brothers’ keepers’ but also our brother’s brother”.

Services offered

The institution provides total care for residents who are considered wards of the state. The services provided are: shelter, medical and mental care, clothing, personal hygiene, nutritional, social and spiritual needs.

The responsibilities also include ensuring the residents’ stability and that adequate recreational or leisure activities are in place to guarantee their comfort.

Client population

The capacity for residents is 134 and this is in keeping with the Ministry of Health’s Policy which states that the bed spacing should be four centimeters apart to prevent cross infection. The persons who are admitted to the institution are those who are destitute, friendless and homeless. Presently there are 136 residents registered at the Infirmary, 92 males and 44 females. There are 7 wards consisting of persons with various conditions including the disabled, able-bodied, psychotic and bed-ridden. There are presently 18 psychotic residents registered at the institution.

Range of professionals at the Agency

The Matron and Assistant Matron are primarily in charge. The other members of staff are as mentioned below:

- Nurse Aide-1, Patient Care Assistant-1,
- Ward Assistants-23, Relievers-14, Cleaners-5, laundresses-3, Gardener-1, Sanitation-2, Groundsman-1, Security-6, Gateporters-3, Kitchen staff-5, Office Attendant-1,
- 1 Medical Doctor and Mental Health Officers.

Scope of Networking with other Agencies

The institution benefits from donations offered by non-governmental organizations (NGO’s) community based organizations (CBO’s), faith-based organizations (FBO’s) among other private individuals.

There is a gift book where note is made of anything that is given or donated to the institution for the residents. Food for the Poor (FFP) is one such donor and in the early 2000s Help Age International came on board. The institution has a strong relationship with a number of churches and service clubs including the Rotary, Kiwanis and Lions Clubs. These clubs also donate gifts from time to time and so networking is always ongoing.

Gifts Donated by Spanish Town Returning Residents Association

A donor being assisted with signing of gift book