



OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS &
PUBLIC AFFAIRS
TELEPHONE: 754-0030/619-6017/878-0528
FAX: 754-3601

Email: gillian.haughton@mns.gov.jm

MINISTRY OF NATIONAL SECURITY
NCB NORTH TOWER
2 OXFORD ROAD
KINGSTON 5
JAMAICA

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For Immediate Release

Ministry of National Security hosts Documentation and Health Fair for Canterbury residents

Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of National Security, Dianne McIntosh says the strategic direction of the Ministry will include more social intervention initiatives, such as the recent Information, Documentation and Health fair hosted for residents of Canterbury in St James last Sunday.

“I want it known that the Ministry is putting Jamaica first by seeking to reach residents in their spaces. We want them to help us fight crime so we are meeting them where they are and building that partnership with them for a safer Jamaica. This is a part of the Ministry’s five pillar strategy focused on Crime Prevention through Social Development,” she said.

The event, which took place in the Advantage General car park on King Street, saw residents of Canterbury and its environs accessing health services such as blood pressure, sugar, syphilis and HIV testing.

Project Manager in charge of intervention activities in St. James, Patricia Balls, said that up to fifty residents had their pap smears done, prostate checked and were able to register for documents, such as NIS and Birth Certificates which they would have lost in the recent flood rains that ravished the parish last November.

The initiative was undertaken by the Crime Prevention and Community Safety arm of the Ministry in collaboration with MP for Central St. James, Heroy Clarke, other Ministries and Agencies to include the Ministry of Labour and Social Security, Registrar General's Department, National Health Fund, Citizen Security and Justice Programme, HEART Trust/NTA, St. James Municipal Corporation, Peace Management Initiative and the Social Development Commission.

The event culminated with a concert hosted by 'Ity' Ellis from the Ity and Fancy Cat show and featured community talent and gospel artistes Anava 'Love' Jones, Kevin Heath, Kemola Brown Lowe, and Rondell 'Positive'.

The concert forms part of a larger initiative to be launched by the Ministry to call young men and women across the island to a positive purpose.

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Permanent Secretary in the Minister of National Security, Dianne McIntosh (centre), Rondell 'Positive' and 'Ity' Ellis pause for a *Stay Alert* moment at the Information, Documentation and Health Fair hosted by the Ministry for residents of Canterbury, St. James