

## **Japan handed over an ultrasound machine to St. Ann's Bay Regional Hospital**

On November 16th, 2018, Ambassador Hiromasa Yamazaki handed over an ultra sound machine donated through Grass-Roots Human Security Projects to St. Ann's Bay Regional Hospital. Approx. 70 people attended the Handing Over ceremony, including Minister of Health, Dr. the Honourable Christopher Tuffton, Minister of Labour and Social Security, the Honourable Shahine Robinson, and His worship, The Mayor Councilor Micheal Belnavis.

St. Ann's Bay Regional Hospital has been serving for the patients from St. Ann, Portland, Clarendon, St. Mary and Trelawny. At the hospital, approximately 4,000 women deliver per year, however, only 30 % of the pregnant women of the hospital had been able to access the timely medical check with ultrasound machine because the hospital had owned an old model ultrasound machine. Lacking the latest model ultrasound machine had caused the cases of the maternal and child mortality and aggravation of the symptoms of maternal illness.

Through this project, the Maternity Ward of St. Ann's Bay Regional Hospital has finally owned the latest ultrasound machine. The Women from St. Ann Parish and neighbouring parishes will be able to access to the improved maternal and child medical care with timely ultrasound diagnostic test and the reduce of maternal and child death is also expected as an outcome of this project.

According to Dr. Patrick Clarke, Consultant Gynecologist of the Hospital, since its arrival on the end of August, the donated ultrasound machine had been used 760 times and it already saved several lives of the patients such as a pregnant woman who had bleeding 2 weeks before the delivery.

Minister Tuffton praised the important role of Japanese Government that committed this literally "Lifesaving Project" with St. Ann's Bay Hospital and assisted many institution all across Jamaica.

Ambassador Yamazaki expressed his pleasure to hand over the ultrasound machine that would contribute to Maternal and Child Health in St. Ann and surrounding parishes.

At the ceremony, St. Ann Chamber of Commerce handed over the plaque to Ambassador in honour of Japan's contribution to St. Ann Parish.



Remarks from Ambassador Yamazaki



Minister Tuffton praised Japan's assistance to Jamaica.



Minister Robinson expressed her appreciation for Japan's assistance to St. Ann's Bay Regional Hospital



Chief Executive Officer of St. Ann's Bay Regional Hospital, Mr. Leo Garel facilitated the ceremony.



Consultant Gynecologist, Dr. Patrick Clarke explained the project's impact and appreciated for the donation from Japan.



Greeting from Mr. Tyrone Robinson, Chairman Board of Management, North-East Regional Health Authority





Vote of Thanks from Dr. Tanya Hamilton-Johnson, Senior Medical Officer, St. Ann's Bay Regional



Mrs. Carla Beecher-Welsh's singing warmed up the ceremony.



2 nurses from St. Ann's Bay Regional Hospital also sang for the guests.



St. Ann Chamber of Commerce handed over the plaque to Ambassador.



Minister, Ambassador and other guests checked the donated ultrasound machine.



Ambassador and the hospital's staff