

Health Ministry Receives 50 Beds From UK-Based Charity

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Health Minister Dr Fenton Ferguson yesterday expressed gratitude to the Jamaica Hospital League of Friends from the United Kingdom, which handed over 50 state-of-the-art beds to the ministry.

The beds will be distributed to over five hospitals and health centres across the island, including the Annotto Bay Hospital, the University Hospital of the West Indies, and the Princess Margaret Hospital, among others.

Dr Ferguson said this is a critical step in making Jamaica the 'health hub' of the Caribbean.

"We are moving to make Jamaica a major player in the Americas and certainly the Caribbean and so we have to continue to improve our infrastructure to take it to the point where our capacity for the delivery of first-class quality health care becomes our mantra," he said, during a [presentation](#) at the ministry's offices in downtown Kingston.

"This means a lot to our caregivers and to our stakeholders. It is these kinds of partnership that are making the difference and that will move us in the right direction as a country," the health minister said.

critical role of Diaspora

He also stressed that it is imperative that every effort is made to include members of the diaspora, as they play an important role in the development of the country.

"We recognise the critical role of the diaspora because it is one thing to say we have close to three million people in Jamaica but when you go beyond the shores of Jamaica and you look at the number of nationals in positions such as health and other areas, we realise that once we have the wisdom to [harness](#) the human resource that is outside of the country, this will do big things for us," he said.