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## PRESS RELEASE

### Jamaica AIDS Support for Life

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### The Jamaica AIDS Support for Life receives JMD \$11,000,000 to expand clinic from the Embassy of Japan in Jamaica

The National Health Sector stands to benefit from the \$11 Million grant received by JASL to expand its clinic. Jamaica AIDS Support for Life is the only non-Government treatment site in the island and since its relocation to its new home, the organisation has seen a **419 % increase** in clinic attendance without an expansion of the clinic space..

In light of this JASL was able to secure a grant to assist with the cost for the much needed expansion, with the kind assistance of The Kiwanis Club of Constant Spring. The Embassy of Japan in Jamaica through its Grassroots and Human Security Grant Project has donated **\$11,000,000** to assist with the renovation and expansion of the clinic space. The Ambassador of Japan in Jamaica, His Excellency Yasuo Takase, said he would like to leave a legacy in Jamaica and JASL's clinic expansion is one of his final projects before his diplomatic tour of duty ends.

The clinic which serves members of key populations (persons living with HIV, men who have sex with men and sex workers) will be expanded to include: counselling/ VCT (testing) room; a pharmacy dispensary to provide anti-retroviral and drugs for opportunistic infections; phlebotomist station; and an extending waiting area.

Through this expansion, JASL has estimated that the clinic will be able to serve **almost 1,000** additional persons.

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