

Nurses Association of Jamaica



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THE NAJ PAYS TRIBUTE TO MRS MEREL LUCILDA HAYDEN-HANSON, OD.



The President, Officers, Executive Members of the Nurses Association of Jamaica and the entire nursing fraternity mourn the irreparable loss of the late Merel Lucilda Hayden-Hanson, OD. Mrs Hanson served this Association as President during 1981-1983. She was also a Past President and Founding member of the NAJ and Health Services Co-op Credit Union. She was a Registered Nurse/Midwife, with a Certificate in Nursing Administration from UWI. She was trained at UCH School of Nursing and VJH School of Midwifery.

Mrs Hanson was Nurse of the Year in 1979 and also served as Assistant Chief Nursing Officer in the Ministry of Health during 1987-1991 and Chief Nursing Officer during 1992-1994. She has worked in various Hospitals

namely - Lucea, Hanover; Black River, St Elizabeth; Bellevue Hospital, Kingston; and was a former Matron of the Victoria Jubilee Lying-in Hospital (VJH) during 1984-1987.

She has served the NAJ for over 50 years and has served nursing Locally, Regionally and Internationally representing NAJ as Director on the Board of the International Council of Nurses (ICN) during 1984-1989; and as the 3rd Vice President during 1989-1993. Additionally she was extensively involved in major policy aspects of the NAJ, participating in the Revision of the Constitution, purchasing of property for the Association, being advisor to Past Presidents and mentoring young advocates in the Profession of Nursing. She was instrumental in forming the Retired Nurses Special Interest Group of the Nurses Association of Jamaica in 1997, of which she remained an active member until her passing.

Mrs Hanson participated in every facet of NAJ. She had a keen interest in the well-being of the Association and was an iconic leader who was not afraid to express a difference of opinion with respect. She gave thirty five (35) years of voluntary service to the National Council for Senior Citizens, Ministry of Labour and Social Security.

We thank God for loaning her to us for this period of time and we express sincere condolences to her immediate and nursing family.

"May her soul rest in peace and light perpetual shine on her."

D. Richards

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Dawn -Marie Richards (Mrs)
President

President: Mrs Dawn-Marie Richards
MSc. Nursing Administration
BSc. Public Health Nursing (Hons.)
Cert. in Infection Control and Prevention
Cert. in Nursing Administration, RM, RN.

Recording Secretary: Mrs Kahon Duhaney-Gordon
MSc. Nursing Administration
Cert. in Infection Control and Prevention
Cert. in Nursing Administration, Cert. in Supervisory
Management, RM, RN.