

East Jamaica Conference
of Seventh-day Adventists
Health Ministries Department

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To all Pastors, Elders, Health Ministries Leaders, Health Professionals and Counsellors

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Re: Drug Addiction Awareness Month, May 2023

Christian greetings!

The East Jamaica Conference Health Ministries team uses this medium to remind you that May 1 – 31, 2023 will be observed as Drug Addiction Awareness Month, while May 8 – 14 is designated as Drug Awareness Week. As such, to commence the week, EJC Health Ministries Department in collaboration with the National Council on Drug Abuse will be conducting a Drug Education Counselling and Lifestyle Training. The main focus is **screening, brief intervention, and referral to treatment (SBIRT)**, which is an evidence-based approach to identifying patients who use alcohol and other drugs at a risky level. This training seminar will be on Sunday, May 7, 2023 at the Half Way Tree Seventh-day Adventist Church at 10:00 a.m.

We are asking each church to send at least one delegate who will be trained and return to their church to assist in the areas mentioned above. Training, including lunch, will be at a cost of two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500) per participant. The training is open to everyone who desires to be educated in this area. We are especially inviting our Health Ministries Leaders, Health Professionals and Counsellors. Attendees will be certified by the National Council on Drug Abuse. Attendees will fill out the attached registration form.

We are therefore asking our Health Ministries Leaders to educate and sensitize the members, especially our youth, on the dangers of substance abuse.

Yours in the Master's Service,

Leonard Steele
Health Ministries Director