

JULY 2022 EDITION

# BAITVIEW HOSPITAL NEWSLETTER

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**WELCOME TO OUR  
NEWSLETTER FOR THE YEAR 2022**

# Administrator's Message



**Jules Reid - Hospital Administrator**

We are now in the second half of 2022 and like everyone else I am wondering where the time has flown! The last few years have seriously felt like a blur and somewhat surreal. However here we are looking forward to an exciting second half of 2022!

Since our last newsletter we have said farewell to three of our long standing, dedicated employees as they entered retirement. Nurse Brenda Burnett retired in October 2021, Orderly Mr. Trevor Bynoe (fondly known as Pastor) retired April 2022 and Kitchen Assistant Roslyn Moore retired in May 2022. The staff and physicians celebrated the end of their tenure at Bayview Hospital with many well wishes and memories of their time with us. It is always hard to say goodbye but we did so with love and gratitude for their services to Bayview Hospital.

This newsletter offers an introduction to Dr Lyndon Waterman, the Lab Manager at Bayview Lab. Bayview Lab has been managing all of our COVID-19 testing since September 2021, we look forward to expanding our services as the testing is slowly but surely winding down and not as demanding as it was previously.

We were very excited and proud of Dr Juliet Skinner's award, Order of the Republic, in recognition of her fantastic work and contribution to the medical profession. We are pleased to feature Dr Skinner and her work in this newsletter.

Also featured in this newsletter is one of our newer Internal Medical Physicians, Dr Petra Crookendale, who I am sure you will enjoy learning more about. It is with great sadness that we learned of the passing of the founder of Bayview Hospital, Mr Arthur Edghill, with

his vision and dedication Bayview Hospital was born. Sincere condolences, thoughts and prayers remain with his family.

It is with purpose that I choose not to dwell on the pandemic during this newsletter. The last few years I think has drained all of us. However it would be remiss of me not to give a huge shout out to the entire staff at Bayview Hospital for their continued dedication and support during this ever changing tide we got to know as COVID-19.

We are more than excited for the expansion of the new wing at Bayview Hospital to commence. This planning has been taking place for some time now and we are thrilled that we will be breaking ground soon! The expansion will offer more services to the public. The main Hospital will continue to operate during the construction phase, we will keep everyone updated as we commence and move along. Watch this space!

Please enjoy this edition and continue to keep safe!

Jules Reid





# Meet Lyndon Waterman



Medical Laboratory Director

Manager of Bayview Laboratory Lyndon Waterman has a PHD in Genetics and was a lecturer at the University of the West Indies Cave Hill Campus for 15 years. When the COVID-19 pandemic reached Barbados' shores in 2020, Lyndon did not hesitate to volunteer, he had the background and the time to assist. He joined the national response by assisting with testing at the Best Dos Santos Public Health Laboratory for 5 months before being hired fulltime.

Lyndon worked with Best Dos Santos for a year before joining Bayview Laboratory and played an integral role in setting it up. While it has been a pivot from his role as a scientist and researcher to the management of people, the leadership position was ideal for Lyndon who just before Covid was in the process of completing a Masters in Public Health and had been tracking the numbers in China before the pandemic hit the globe.

"It's been interesting from the science point of view learning more about the virus and watching the infection change and learning about the strains. From the management point of view, it has been challenging making me stretch my abilities -which is a good thing we are here to learn and interact in different ways like liaising with the Ministry of Health and Doctors and

managing people. I'm always guided by a higher power, and when I am presented with opportunities I have been inspired to say yes to them and take on challenges."

Bayview Lab opened its doors in the summer of 2021 and began providing a covid testing service to the public of Barbados with a longer view of becoming a full-service medical testing laboratory. The landscape has changed a great deal and the Lab has been keeping on top of the changing protocols and managing expectations. Providing quality service and state-of-the-art certified tests PCR and rapid antigen tests is at the core of the Bayview Laboratory ethos. For rapid antigen tests clients are swabbed at the lab and results are returned in an hour. Swabbing takes a few seconds and the test takes 20 minutes. As it relates to PCR tests, clients can be swabbed at Bayview Lab or they can go to their doctor and request that the swab is sent to the lab for testing. The results take 8 to 16 hours to return with 95% of results meeting the 8-hour mark. There is also a Concierge service for those who want results in back the shortest possible time which is 5 hours for a PCR test.

Bayview Laboratory is working on expanding the range of services that are offered and by the end of the year will be a full-service laboratory offering chemistry tests, Hematology tests, tests that involve blood draws, electrolyte markers that indicate diseases, urinalysis and all major tests.

# Dr. Juliet Skinner



Senior Obstetrician/ Gynecologist

In recognition of her sterling contribution to the medical field in Barbados and globally, OB/GYN Dr. Juliet Skinner, received the Order of the Republic during last year's Independence Honours. Renown for her expertise in Invitro Fertilization- the process of taking eggs out of the body, fertilizing them with the sperm to create the embryos and putting it back in the body, Dr. Skinner received this much deserved designation after her 20 years of trailblazing work as the founder of the Barbados Fertility Centre. The Centre, which has had a tremendous impact on the medical tourism industry, is regarded as one of the top fertility clinics in the world due to its global standards and high success rates. Commitment to personalised care and high standards are the underpinning factors that have contributed to Dr. Skinner and her team fulfilling the hopes and dreams of thousands of families around the world.

For Dr. Skinner diligence and excellence have always been the standard. Since the age of 12 she knew that she would be a doctor Dr. Skinner earned a Barbados Scholarship and was accepted into one of the world's most prestigious tertiary institutions, Trinity College in Dublin Ireland. This is where she did her undergrad and post grad and trained in obstetrics and gynaecology. "It was the right balance of medicine and surgery and then the excitement of childbirth, made it ideal."

Dr. Skinner specialized and after 11 years returned to Barbados and set up her practice and from then, Bayview Hospital where she has practicing privileges is where she admitted her clients.

It soon became clear to Dr. Skinner that there was a tremendous lack of fertility options for patients here. Bayview Hospital is where her journey to change that would begin. "In 2002 the opportunity arose to develop what is now the Barbados Fertility Centre. When we started off with our IVF lab we started it at Bayview. We took a little corner of what is now part of the delivery suite and put our own little lab in there and we would do cycles and then when we grew big enough we built our own unit and created Seaston where we have been since 2005." And while Dr. Skinner no longer does general obstetrics and gynaecology, she still performs all genealogical fertility based procedures at Bayview Hospital.

Twenty years later, what started in a small room at Bayview Hospital, has grown into an established clinic with global prominence. Picked up on news feeds around the world and with a number of celebrity clients the work of the Barbados Fertility Centre is well respected. 90% of the clients are non-Barbadian which reflects the extent of the impact it has had on the tourism sector. "It doesn't feel like we started that long ago. It was fabulous because it was exciting and there was always a global vision. I knew that the practice could not survive only catering to Barbadians, and starting from scratch we made sure to benchmark with a goal to meet the global standard of the industry." That benchmarking paid off and in 2007 the Barbados Fertility Centre became JCI accredited. The JCI (Joint Commission International) is the largest health care accreditor of health care institutions in the world. "In order to be a world player you had to have international accreditation. Being JCI accredited is essential in medical tourism, it's huge, it's a rigorous process, and it's not funny. We were the first clinic in the Caribbean to be accredited. And even today 13 years later we remain one of the very few and every three years we go through re-inspection. Patients probably wouldn't come if we didn't have it. It's a leap of faith to get on a plane and go thousands of miles away to get treatment, the fact that you have a JCI gives people a sense of comfort."



Within a few years Dr. Skinner realized the trajectory fertility clinic was on and ended her delivery and gynaecological practice. “The closure of the practice came about because I didn’t want to compromise care. The Clinic had really grown and needed my full attention. Our ethos has always been individualized care, we are very focused on doing the best we can for the individual person and the quality of care we give is that level above.”

It is that approach to customized care, high success rates and ability to stay on top of cutting edge advances in technology that has redounded into the Clinic’s ranking among the top in the world. Dr. Skinner is known for taking the time to communicate and explain everything to her patients, gently and honestly walking with them through a process which can be emotionally taxing. “IVF success rates vary with age and the number of viable embryos a patient has, but we have success rates that are comparable to top clinics in the world and that is something we are really proud of. We make sure they don’t feel like a number on a conveyor belt. For many of our patients who have done treatments in their home countries when they come here the constant feedback is we can’t believe the difference in the level of care and attention. And again as a Barbadian it is amazing to think that we can do that, that we can be a major player and have been for many years. It debunks the mindset that prevails which says oh in the Caribbean it can’t be as good here, no we are, and people come to us for healthcare which really changes that way of thinking.” consider them and my patients. I had to think about where I go and about not bringing home anything to my family. I had to think about going into the hospital with patients who are critically ill and with immune systems that are already weak, I really had to be on alert. I had to be weary especially in the public places, where people weren’t mindful of social distancing and sometimes let people know, they were too close. I had to do a lot of thinking.”

The demand for IVF treatment continues to be in high demand around the world. One in 6 couples has challenges getting pregnant for a variety of reasons. Delaying child bearing while building careers first and then having kids, second marriages all these things contribute to having children at older ages and the biggest impact of fertility is age. IVF Technology has advanced significantly with 60 to 70% chance of pregnancy. Since it was established the Barbados Fertility Centre has expanded and there is a satellite centre in Trinidad and a standalone centre in the Cayman Islands. The staff compliment has grown from 1 nurse to 35 staff members collectively. The BFC has had

patients from every corner of the globe including Hong Kong, Australia, South Africa, Ireland, England, various parts of Europe, Canada the United States and South America. And while the Covid-19 pandemic caused the closure of the Centre for a period, since the reopening it has been extremely busy

On being recognized for her Dr. Skinner is humbled and proud and it wasn’t until the ceremony that it even seemed real. “I’m a pretty humble person and never expected to be recognized in this way. I just sort of move around and do what I do. When I received the call from the Prime Minister I was speechless which is often not the case with me! And watching the transition to Republic status I felt really proud as a Barbadian.” Dr. Skinner has done her country proud and her message to little girls with a big dream is one that was passed onto her from her mother which is “you can do whatever you want to do just work hard you can achieve your dreams and become anything you want to be.” The Management and Staff congratulate Dr. Skinner on her success and look forward to seeing where her limitless thinking takes her next.

## Dr. Petra Crookendale



Internal Medicine Specialist

Within a few minutes of speaking with Specialist in Internal medicine Dr. Petra Crookendale two things are clear, she has a great bedside manner and she is passionate about taking care of her patients. Likening herself to the main character on the television show House, albeit much better looking and a whole lot nicer, Dr. Crookendale says she loves what she does. “I like managing patients who have multiple diagnoses of chronic illnesses because you have to take them apart individually and address each issue.” But the real joy for her is in watching her patients heal and empowering them to become their healthiest best selves, which she does through her practice Lifestyle Medical Services Inc.

From her primary school days when she was diagnosing her toeless dolls as diabetics, to the fascination that over took her on her first day at the hospital as a medical student at University of the West Indies Mona Campus in Jamaica, Dr. Crookendale knew that medicine was her calling. After completing her studies Dr. Crookendale returned to Barbados where she trained and then worked at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital for 14 years. It was during her training that it became clear to her that Internal Medicine was where her heart was. “Throughout internship I started with internal medicine and had a really good grounding there because that was where the bulk of the work was and I not only survived it but I enjoyed it. A lot of internal patients are older people and I love elderly patients.”

While Dr. Crookendale admits that there were significant ups and downs dealing with patients in this area she loves the fact that creating the correct protocols for them can significantly improve quality of life and she always gave it everything she had. “I had two young patients in the ICU unit that I used to pray over and years later I have seen them doing so well... that made me so emotional. I can remember saying Dear Lord, please do not let this patient die, just give me everything I need to make her better. We would get the sickest of the sick and when you see them walk away you felt that all the hard work you put in made it all worth it.” But the workload at the QEH became so significant that it was extremely overwhelming and stressful and made Dr. Crookendale lose sight of why she got into internal medicine to begin with. The 24 hour shifts, stress and practicing poor eating habits during her time at QEH really began to take a toll.

After being diagnosed with high cholesterol herself, Dr. Crookendale did what she told all of her students to do and that was to become a detective and get to the root of what was causing it. “One of the things I discovered was that my family members all had high cholesterol and in doing research I realized that a lot of how I was feeling was because I was burnt out and it was affecting multiple areas of my life. I started making changes for myself and started feeling really good. Physically, emotionally, mentally, I started feeling really good. And I said to myself if I can feel like this I wonder if I could get my patients to start feeling like this too.” This realization was followed by more research this time into lifestyle medicine and then a decision that it was time to move on from QEH and chart her own path. Dr. Crookendale knew that the volume of patients that she saw there would not allow her to go in-depth with her patients about making the necessary changes needed to improve their quality of life. Time with the patient is critical to helping patients manage their lifestyle and starting her own practice would give her the ability to focus more on the patient and less on the disease that brought them to her.

For Dr. Crookendale making the decision to start her own practice where she can invest that time in her patients was definitely the right one because she has been able to see tangible improvements. “I have a patient who when they walked in here his blood sugar was out of control and his diet was really poor. Each time he came I would give him tips that related to his everyday life that could improve his health. He didn’t seem to be taking on



# Dr. Petra Crookendale (con't)

anything, but I persisted. I even sat with him one day and we watched some tai chi videos and it was cheesy it was like old time kung fu. We talked about things that mattered to him I encouraged him to walk his dog. I was trying to find a way to connect that would correlate with his life and things that interested him. Well something clicked and to date he has lost a total of 56 pounds. His blood sugar is under control, he wears skinny jeans and muscle shirts he is Mr. Swag. He now tests his blood sugar consistently, he plays rugby and now exercises more than I do."

Since starting her practice Dr. Crookendale admits her patients to Bayview Hospital because the established systems work well for what she is trying to accomplish. "I like Bayview because I can see my patients daily. The nurses are on point they give me updates. I get results back quickly; I don't have to worry about running around trying to get x-rays or blood tests. All of this makes it easier for me to update my patients' family members and also allows me to make executive decisions in a timely fashion. That is a big difference."

Dr. Crookendale is affable, engaging and has a bedside manner that encourages her patients to make the changes needed to improve their lives. She uses a holistic approach to medicine which guide her patients to make little changes over a period of time that impacts their overall health and wellbeing. Bayview Hospital is happy to have Dr. Crookendale on its team as a Physician with practicing privileges.

# NURSES WEEK

## CELEBRATING OUR WONDERFUL STAFF MEMBERS



**Chief Nursing Officer**  
Sandra Barrow



**Assistant Hospital Administrator**  
Marilyn Patrick



**Registered Nurse**  
Sibongile Sue



**Registered Nurse**  
Teon Waithe



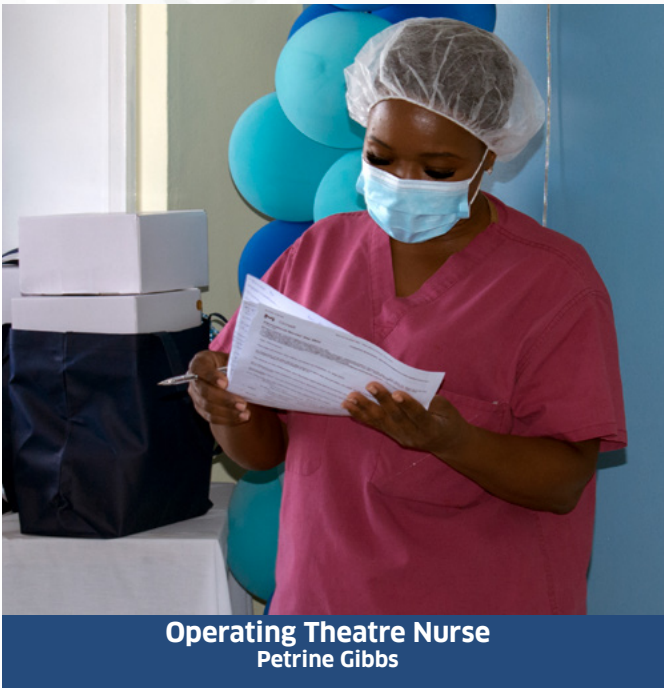
NURSES WEEK

CELEBRATING OUR WONDERFUL STAFF MEMBERS



NURSES WEEK

CELEBRATING OUR WONDERFUL STAFF MEMBERS





# HAPPY RETIREMENT!

BEST WISHES FOR A CAREFREE AND RELAXING RETIREMENT.



Trevor "Pastor" Bynoe  
Orderly



Roslyn Moore  
Kitchen Assistant



Nurse Burnette

## BAYVIEW HOSPITAL AND ROYAL WESTMORELAND LADY GOLFERS SUPPORT BREAST CANCER SCREENING



Yvonne Brewer

Dr Shirley Jagroo

Jules Reid

Bayview Hospital teamed up with the Royal Westmoreland Ladies Golf group as a sponsor in their annual golf tournament. This year's tournament was significantly scaled back due to the Covid-19 pandemic but it was able to raise more than \$17,000 for The Barbados Cancer Society's Breast Screening programme.