



St. Jude Hospital



Rising From The Ashes



Rising From The Ashes

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World War II: 1942



A Military Mistake Turned Medical Miracle

Dawn of a New Day

St. Jude Hospital: Rising From The Ashes

Beanefield Military Hospital 1942: Dawn of a New Day

It all began during World War II. Britain desperately needed naval destroyers and so agreed to lease Beanefield and Reduit in Saint Lucia to the Americans in exchange for destroyers. In 1942 the United States made a decision to build a hospital in the Santa Cruz Valley in Trinidad and Tobago.

Somehow, shipments of fabricated materials plus a team of workmen, engineers, carpenters, plumbers and electricians arrived in Saint Lucia and began work on the Beanefield Military Hospital. Halfway through construction, it was discovered that the hospital was being built on the wrong island.

A decoding mix-up caused the construction material and personnel to be sent to DAWN, codename for Saint Lucia instead of LAWN, codename for Trinidad. The construction at the Beanefield Military Hospital was allowed to continue. The war came to an end and the hospital was closed down in 1947 and all the equipment and furniture shipped to Puerto Rico. The hospital remained abandoned for the next decade and a half until a group of religious sisters of the Order of the Sisters of the Sorrowful Mother who were working at Victoria Hospital discovered the abandoned medical facility. ■



Driven By

Sister Mary Irma Hilger of St. Francis
12th July, 1917 – 22nd February, 2003



Sir John Compton
29th April 1925 - 7th September 2007

Compassion For People

St. Jude Hospital: Rising From The Ashes

St. Jude Hospital 1965: Birth of a Community Hospital

On 3rd April 1965, Hogarth Belizaire was asked by Mother Irma to accompany them to visit an abandoned United States military hospital. The Government of Saint Lucia led by then Chief Minister John Compton agreed to allow the Sisters of the Sorrowful Mother to develop and manage what eventually became known as St. Jude Hospital, named after the Patron Saint of Lost Causes.

The former Beanefield Military Hospital in Vieux Fort, built by the United States Air Force in 1942 and abandoned in 1945. The rich tropical vegetation and trees, as well as some animals had invaded the building. It looked like a wreck! With the help and the skills of others, such as Sister Mark Schilling, who taught and supervised a crew of men, the heavy vegetation was removed from the inside. The boilers were cleaned and repaired, and the inside and outside were patched and painted. Some of the men were trained to maintain the equipment and that brought about a wonderful change.



*Come Share With Us
The Service of Giving
Love, Care and Hope
to Others.*



St. Jude Hospital: Rising From The Ashes

On the 5th of September 1966, St. Jude Hospital was formally opened by Mother Irma and the Sisters of the Sorrowful Mother on behalf of the Catholic Church as a Charity hospital, giving care at no charge. The hospital, was dedicated, blessed and opened. In October 1969, the first class of nurses graduated from the hospital. With the help and generosity of doctors, technicians and others from the United States and other countries, the hospital became a model of health care. The change was truly remarkable and gave the message that nothing can daunt these courageous women. In addition to the hospital, a clinic was also opened for outpatients. This filled a very critical need and people walked many miles to get help for themselves, their families and friends.

In a tribute to the Sisters of the Sorrowful Mother, especially Mother Irma, on the tenth anniversary of the hospital, Premier John Compton noted that the hospital had brought excellent health care to that part of the island. This made it possible to have an international airport and hotels for tourists and brought jobs and income to the inhabitants as well as to the government. People of Saint Lucia remember Mother Irma as a friend, a sister, and a mother. ■



Government



Building on a Legacy

St. Jude Hospital: Rising From The Ashes

St. Jude Hospital 1992: Government Builds on a Legacy

In 1992 the St. Jude Hospital was handed over the Saint Lucia Government, ending over two decades of management under the Sisters of the Sorrowful Mother who through their network of hospitals, medical professionals and philanthropists made St. Jude a well reputed hospital. St. Jude operates as a Government statutory organization managed by a board of directors. St. Jude since then has been committed to partnering with individuals and entities in providing the best quality health care services that are accessible, holistic and client focused. It is recognised that these services will contribute to the improved quality of life for our citizens and result in the better development of our nation. St. Jude hospital operated at its maximum as a 110 bed hospital. ■

St. Jude Hospital continues to build on a legacy.

VISION

To be an effective and prudently managed centre for medical excellence, that is patient friendly and contributing to the national development by maintaining the health and well-being of all citizens.

MISSION

To Promote, Restore and Maintain the health of all patients by providing quality, timely, efficient and effective services through a cadre of competent staff, within an enabling environment

GOALS

Medical Excellence, Operational Efficiency, Financial Viability, Effective Human Resource Management, Accountability.



St. Jude Hospital: Rising From The Ashes

St. Jude Hospital 2009: Devastation By Fire

On September 9th, the St. Jude Hospital located in Augier, Vieux Fort was a devastated by fire. St. Jude Hospital was a ninety-seven bed major referral Hospital on the island and was rendered non-functional. The fire destroyed the surgical ward and the operating theatres of an already aging plant. This resulted in significant major disruptions and termination to services in the south of the island. The fire resulted in the unfortunate loss of 3 lives.

As a result of the damage to the components of an already aged facility, the Government of Saint Lucia has taken a policy decision to re-construct the Saint Jude Hospital. This is necessary in order to restore the capacity of the southern region to facilitate the healthcare needs of the population in the South as well as clients from the north which includes almost 66,000 patrons. ■

The goal of the St. Jude Hospital Reconstruction Project is to rebuild St. Jude Hospital to reinstate the core and ancillary health services previously offered to the public as well as the inclusion of new services. This will also be in keeping with National Vision Plan for the country and also Government's health sector objectives.



St. Jude Hospital Finds a Home



Rising From The Ashes

St. Jude Hospital: Rising From The Ashes

St. Jude Hospital 2009: Hospital Moves to George Odlum Stadium

It took less than 24 hours for the George Odlum Stadium to be transformed into a medical facility. Subsequently workmen and engineers, constructed wards, upgraded the water and electrical infrastructure, installed air conditioning units and in a short time, St. Jude Hospital had once again a full service medical facility. It is now a 68 bed facility, at the George Odlum Stadium. ■



2010 and Beyond



Building on a Solid Foundation

St. Jude Hospital: Rising From The Ashes

St. Jude Hospital: 2010 and Beyond

The St. Jude Hospital Reconstruction Project comprises 2 components:

1. Short Term / Temporary Accommodation for St. Jude Hospital at the Original Location:

This would entail the re-construction of the surgical building on the old site as well as the renovation of the other two (2) buildings. The facilities will be made fully functional to allow St. Jude Hospital to relocate from the George Odum Stadium and operate until the new facility is built on the new site. Upon relocation of St. Jude Hospital to the new facility, the old site buildings will developed as a Medical Research Facility or for other medically related use.

2. Medium Term / Permanent Facility of St. Jude Hospital on a New Site in the vicinity of the Proposed Site for the National University in Vieux Fort:

This component entails the planning, design and construction of a new 90 bed health care facility for St. Jude Hospital at the new site. This modern, state of the art health care facility will be designed and constructed as a Tropical, Sustainable, Multi -Purpose Hospital. The design is expected to produce an effective and efficient health care facility according to modern day requirements but building on the solid foundation of St. Jude Hospital. St. Jude Hospital has charted a legacy of volunteerism and partnerships geared towards superior healthcare for the community as well as the country in general. Old partnerships will be fostered and New partnerships will also be developed. St. Jude Hospital will be more than just infrastructure. It will be a modern healthcare experience. ■



St. Jude Hospital: Rising From The Ashes

St. Jude Hospital: The Catalyst for the New Frontier

The Government of Saint Lucia has recently approved the National Vision Plan which charts out the future development of the island. This National Vision Plan is a framework through which the entire island can share in a common vision, positioning Saint Lucia at the economic and social heart of the Windward Islands. The future expansion and redevelopment of St. Jude Hospital aligns itself seamlessly with the National Vision for the south. This vision includes developments in tourism, education and industry. The South, often referred to as the New Frontier is no doubt well placed to receive the New St. Jude Hospital Health Care Facility catering for Saint Lucians as well as our Caribbean Family. ■



- Modern Health Care Infrastructure
- Innovative, efficient and affordable Health Care Services.
- Specialized medical care for Saint Lucia and the region.
- Teaching hospital to facilitate training of health care professionals
- Tropical Sustainable design incorporating principles of Energy Efficiency, Water Conservation, Sustainable Environmental Management.



St. Jude Hospital



Thank You for Your Generous Support

St. Jude Hospital



The Future: 2010 and Beyond