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PRESS RELEASE

Southern Health Region Receives Ambulances

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On Friday, June 18, 2021, the Southern Health Region of the Ministry of Health & Wellness received two new 2020 Toyota Hiace ambulances procured through a grant of BZ\$398,500. The grant was secured under the Grass-Roots Human Security Projects programme of the Government of Japan.

The donation is in line with the ministry's vision of improving quality health care and response capacity and will contribute to the improvement of emergency response transportation at the Southern Regional Hospital.

During the handing over ceremony, Hon. Michel Chebat, Minister of Health & Wellness, expressed his appreciation to the Government of Japan and the management team at Southern Regional Hospital.

H.E. Kazuhiro Iryu, Ambassador of Japan to Belize, shared his commitment to continue to strengthen Belize and Japan's bilateral relations during his tenure as ambassador.

The agreement for the Grass-Roots Human Security Projects grant was signed on March 11, 2011. The Southern Health Region first started communicating with the Embassy of Japan in 2018 when a project proposal was submitted. The handing over marks the successful completion of the project.

Dr. Deysi Mendez, chief executive officer in the ministry, was present at the ceremony along with Dr. Franelda Gutierrez, Regional Health Manager, Southern Health Region. Dr. Gutierrez was personally handed the keys to the two ambulances, which were transported to Dangriga Town.

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