



JAMAICA – A PATHFINDER COUNTRY:
2018 Road Map for Ending Violence Against Children



The findings cited in this document are drawn from the “National Plan of Action for an Integrated Response to Children and Violence, 2018-2023.”

The findings and conclusions of this report are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official position of the United Nations Children’s Fund. Any policy recommendations contained within this document with regard to budget allocations or statutory changes are the recommendations of the NPACV Technical Working Group.

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Objective



To reduce violence against children through an integrated approach so that all Jamaican children can enjoy their rights and grow to be productive citizens.



Foreword

The Government of Jamaica is wholly committed to ending violence against children. This road map is based on the revised National Plan of Action for an Integrated Response to Children and Violence, 2018-2023 (NPACV) and guided by its goal of creating and maintaining a protective environment, supportive of and responsive to the issues of children and violence. The objective of the NPACV is to reduce the impact of violence on children through an integrated approach. This approach consists of preventing, mitigating and improving the response to violence against children so that children may preserve their rights and grow to be productive citizens of Jamaica. Similar to the NPACV, the road map is heavily influenced by the perspectives and experiences of the children themselves and sets out Jamaica's pathway to achieve the goal of ending violence against children.

In 2015, world leaders made a commitment to end all forms of violence against children by 2030 as part of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. Achieving Target 16.2 of the SDGs which aims to “end abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence and torture against children” will only be possible with renewed commitment, momentum and sustained energy from all key players in the government, civil society, media, the private sector and indeed from all Jamaicans.

In 2016 the Global Partnership to End Violence against Children was created to help achieve this ambitious undertaking. As part of its remit to create accelerated action, the Global Partnership has designated fifteen Pathfinder Countries, each charged with the commitment of three to five years



of fast-tracked action to reduce violence against children. Jamaica was designated as a Pathfinder Country in 2016. Pathfinder countries are guided by the INSPIRE strategies, a technical package developed by the World Health Organization consisting of seven strategies that together provide a framework for ending violence against children. Stakeholders, including six Cabinet Ministers and representatives from key government line agencies, the United Nations, the private sector, aca-

demia, youth and civil society met at the Office of the Prime Minister (OPM) for a high-level launch of the Jamaican Pathfinder initiative in 2016.

Prime Minister Andrew Holness stressed the need for urgent combined commitment to deal with the threat of violence:

“As a pathfinder country, Jamaica is committed to providing comprehensive, coordinated and multi-sectoral services for preventing and responding to violence. We are prepared to strengthen legislation to protect children from all forms of violence and exploitation by bringing all sectors together in a movement to end violence and provide children with a meaningful role at the heart of that movement. Through this partnership, we are making use of a key opportunity to take the lead in making a difference and we owe it to our beloved children to do so.”^{1,2}

Leader of the Opposition, Dr. Peter Phillips stated:

“It is obvious that our children are our future. We must therefore do all in our power to protect and nurture them. That, in fact, will be the only guarantee of a bright future for our country. Violence against children is unacceptable and can never be justified. As a country let us unite to end violence against all our children”.

Faced with rising levels of violence against children and under the commitment of accelerated action, the Jamaican government decided to review existing interventions, policies and legislation to enable greater combined action for children. Accordingly, the NPACV was guided by the seven INSPIRE strategies.

In 2016, Prime Minister Holness appointed a high level National Inter-Ministerial Steering Committee led by the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade and the Minister of State in the Ministry of Education, Youth and Information to lead the overall coordination of the review and implementation of the NPACV and engender political support at the highest level. A Technical Working Group was also established to convene consultations, better coordinate national reporting and response systems, update the NPACV and to create a road map.

Over the past year, significant steps have been made by key Ministries, Departments and Agencies, many of which were supported by UNICEF. These have included the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade (MFAFT), the Ministry of Education, Youth and Information (MOEYI), the Ministry of Health (MOH), the Ministry of Labour and Social Security (MLSS), the Ministry of National Security (MNS), the Ministry of Justice (MOJ), the Child Protection and Family Services Agency (CPFSA), the Office of the Children's Advocate (OCA) and the National Parenting Support Commission (NPSC). They have all shown a strong commitment to protecting

children in Jamaica from violence and we would like to commend them for their contributions.

This road map sets out Jamaica's pathway to achieve the goal of reducing violence against children. As the leading Ministries, we renew our commitment to take action to prevent and respond to all forms of violence against our children. We would like to thank UNICEF for its unwavering support for the welfare of our nation's children. Additionally, we call on all sectors, public, private and religious, as well as the media, to help us build momentum and urgently invest the resources required to ensure that our children grow up in a violence-free Jamaica that is "the place of choice to live, work, raise families and do business."³



***The time for action is now.
Let us join together to end violence
against children.***

Senator, the Hon. Kamina Johnson Smith
Minister of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade

The Hon. Floyd Green, MP
Minister of State of Education, Youth and Information

Violence Against Children Explained

According to the World Health Organization, violence is “the intentional use of physical force or power, threatened or actual, against oneself, another person, or against a group or community, which either results in or has a high likelihood of resulting in injury, death, psychological harm, maldevelopment, or deprivation.” The Global Partnership to End Violence explains the four main types of interpersonal violence that affect children.⁴



FORMS OF INTERPERSONAL VIOLENCE:

SEXUAL VIOLENCE:
Any form of sexual abuse and exploitation

PHYSICAL VIOLENCE:
Fatal and non-fatal physical violence

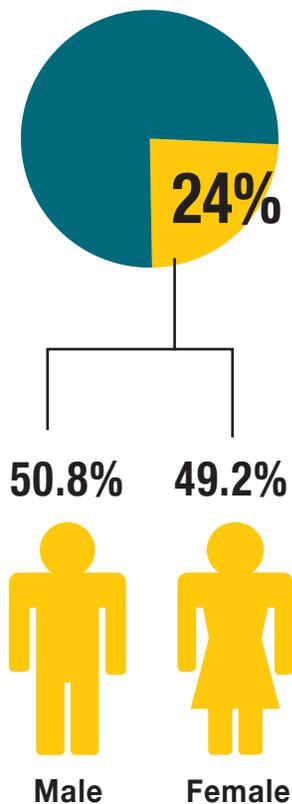
EMOTIONAL VIOLENCE:
Psychological maltreatment, mental abuse, verbal abuse and emotional abuse or neglect

NEGLECT OR NEGLIGENT TREATMENT
The deliberate failure to meet children’s physical and psychological needs, protect them from danger or obtain medical, birth registration or other services when those responsible for their care have the means, knowledge and access to services to do so.



Background // Background to Violence against Children in Jamaica

24% of victims of violence-related injuries seen at hospital were 19 years & under ⁵



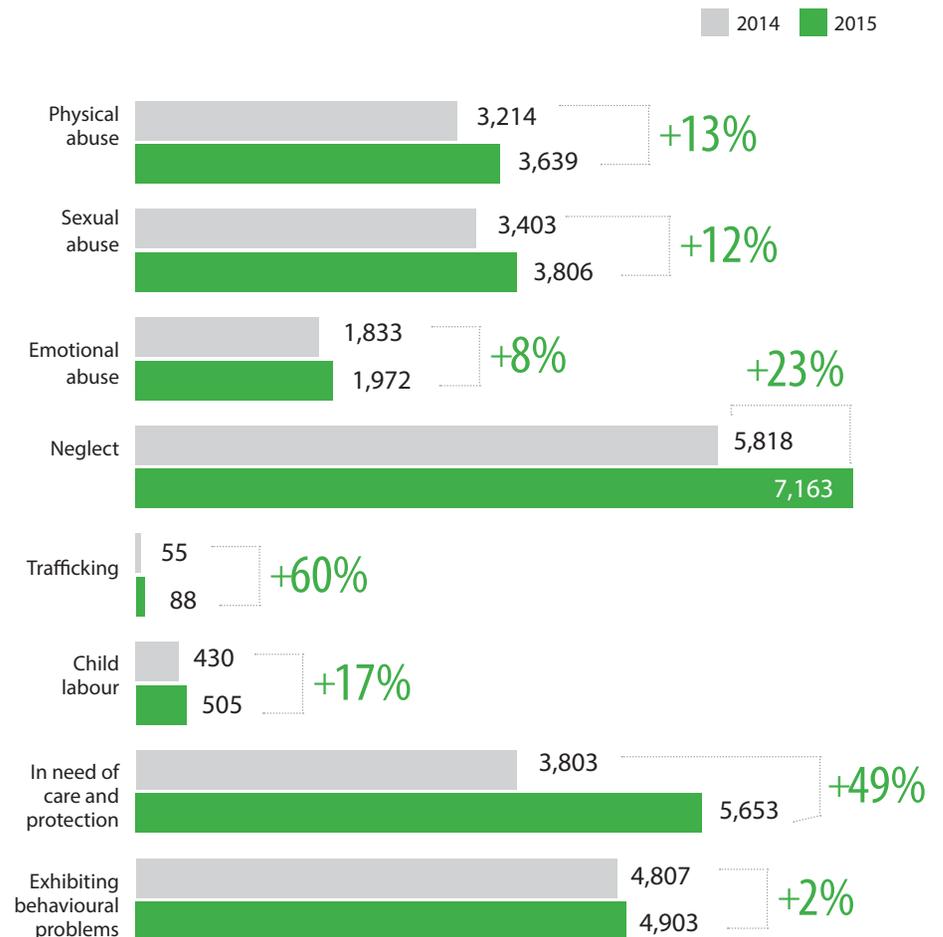
An alarming number of Jamaica's children find themselves in various situations of abuse, neglect, exploitation and violence. Violence against children – in all its forms – is a horrifying epidemic. Not giving children the right type of support from their earliest years into adolescence is a significant contributor to the violence in our society today. Research indicates that early intervention is necessary to disrupt the cycle of violence that has been perpetuated in families and communities for generations.⁷

While data is inadequate, there are enough studies and reports from government ministries, departments and agencies, civil society and international development partners to indicate that the number of children in need of special protection has grown over the last few years.

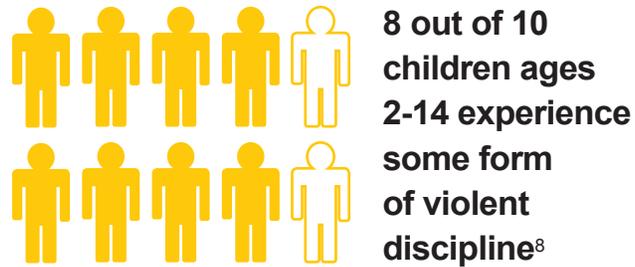
Jamaica is among the ten countries with the highest mortality rates from homicide (deaths per 100,000) and also from collective violence among girls aged 10 to 19 years in 2015.⁸

Figures for 2015 from the National Children's Registry show an overall increase of 19 percent over 2014 in all forms of reported child abuse (Table 1).

Table 1: Reported Cases of Child Abuse received by the OCR by Type, 2014 & 2015⁶



Source: Office of the Children's Registry
Formerly National Children's Registry



Importantly, the total number of cases of child abuse processed tends to be significantly below the number reported due to staffing constraints.

When directed against girls or boys because of their biological sex or gender identity, any of these types of violence can also constitute gender-based violence.

Research indicates that all forms of violence are interconnected and violence tends to start in the home, with very young children. Worldwide, some 300 million (3 in 4) children aged two to four are violently disciplined by their parents/caregivers on a regular basis⁸. In Jamaica, 8 out of 10 children ages two to fourteen experience some form of violent discipline⁶. Boys, children from poorer households and children in rural communities are most likely to be subjected to violent discipline.⁹ Younger children are more likely to be subjected to physical punishment compared to their older counterparts.

Much of this happens when parents are angry, stressed and frustrated and do not know alternate ways to curb their child's unwanted behaviour. Much physical punishment results from parents not



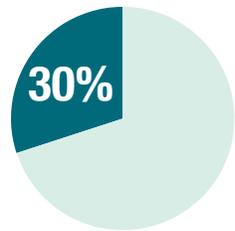
knowing what is normal behaviour at various stages of a child's development and often not knowing how to manage and control their own emotions.

Violence in schools

Globally, one in two school-age children (732 million) between ages six and seventeen live in countries where corporal punishment at school is not fully prohibited.⁸ While Jamaica has banned corporal punishment in early childhood institutions,

Voice of the Children:

“Parents quarrelling at home affects my thinking. I fret and cry at school and lose my concentration.”



of students surveyed feared going to school because of bullying.¹⁰

this has not been legislated for school children over the age of six. Along with this legislation, there is a need to build the capacity of teachers to strengthen classroom management and use alternative forms of discipline.. Our children face another fear at school: six in ten Jamaican students say they have been bullied at some point in their lives.¹⁰ In fact, almost 30% of students who took part in a UNICEF funded survey feared going to school because of bullying and nine in ten students have seen a child being bullied at school.¹⁰ Data from Jamaica’s Ministry of Education Safe School Programme indicates that on average, over 3,000 students are cited for antisocial behaviours of varying degrees annually.¹³

According to the most recent data available, 30% of young women ages 15 to 24 have experienced some form of intimate partner violence whether verbal, physical or sexual.¹² This form of violence steals dignity, trust and self-esteem and can leave children with lasting emotional wounds. World-wide, around 15 million adolescent girls ages 15 to 19 have experienced forced sex in their lifetime. In Jamaica, 24 per cent of girls ages 10-15 say their first experience of sex was forced.¹²

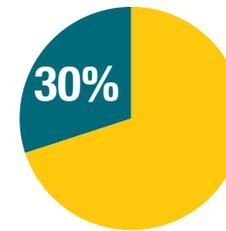


of girls ages 10-15 say their first experience of sex was forced.¹¹

Murder

The number of children murdered continues to rise and Jamaican teenagers face critical dangers as data from 2011 to 2015 indicate that the majority of child victims murdered during this period were males ages 11 to 17. Boys were three times more likely to be murdered than girls.^{14**} The development and security of youth have taken on greater priority given the 10% increase in the country’s homicide rate in 2017 compared to the previous year.¹⁵ Most of these killings occurred in vulnerable and marginalized communities. According to informal accounts from the Jamaica Constabulary Force (JCF), gangs thrive in these spaces and nearly 80% of all homicides are a result of gang activities.

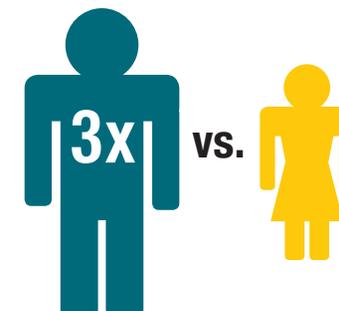
Children have a right to respect for their human dignity, physical safety and to equal protection under the law. At the macro level, the rights of children are often violated either wilfully or through ignorance of such rights. Additionally, legislative and regulatory mechanisms are not always enforced. It is important, however, that the government of Jamaica as a signatory to the Convention on the Rights of the Child takes “all appropriate



of women ages 15-24 have experienced some form of intimate partner violence whether verbal, physical or sexual.¹²

legislative, administrative, social and educational measures to protect the child from all forms of physical or mental violence, injury or abuse, neglect or negligent treatment, maltreatment or exploitation”.¹⁶

The dimension of exposure to violence requires particular attention based on the Jamaican context of high crime rates, with murders at 56 per 100,000 in 2017¹⁷. The environment in which some of our children are brought up is less than optimal. The breakdown and instability in family structures and the lack of transmission of wholesome values have contributed to behavioural problems that are manifested in our society ranging from delinquency to hardcore crimes by youth.¹⁸



Boys were three times more likely to be murdered than girls.



The Road Ahead

In response to this alarming data, the Prime Minister made the necessary steps to launch Jamaica as a Pathfinder Country, raising the issue of violence against children to one of national importance and demonstrating the country's commitment to this issue.

The Inter-Ministerial Steering Committee on Children and Violence (IMCCV) and Technical Working Group (TWG) were established to continue consultation with Jamaicans of all ages and across all sectors.

This established the NPACV's overarching goal as to create and maintain a protective environment, support and respond to the issues of children and violence. The main approaches are aligned with the INSPIRE strategies¹⁹ and focus attention on:

- **Reducing the rate of child homicide.**
- **Strengthening social services for children who have experienced violence, particularly victims of sexual violence.**
- **Outlawing the use of violent discipline in schools.**
- **Educating children, parents, teachers and community members to recognize violence in all its many forms and to use alternative non-violent methods of discipline.**
- **Collecting disaggregated data that is used to guide prevention and monitor responses to violence against children.**

Outcomes to Achieve by 2023

The NPACV's five Key Outcomes were developed to cut across multiple sectors and cover the lifecycle of the child. Together they represent thoughtful, holistic, and multi-sectoral activities for the government and its international and civil society partners:

OUTCOME 1: Strengthened policy, legal and regulatory framework to ensure the protection of children from all forms of violence and exploitation.

OUTCOME 2: Improved quality of and access to services for children affected by violence.

OUTCOME 3: Strengthened family and community capacities to address issues related to children and violence.

OUTCOME 4: Enhanced public education sensitization and training in violence prevention, the care of child victims of violence and children's rights.

OUTCOME 5: Establishment of an integrated framework for the effective coordination, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the NPACV.



The Outcomes

Research indicates that all forms of violence are interconnected and violence tends to start in the home with very young children.

OUTCOME 1

Strengthened Policy, Legal and Regulatory Framework to Ensure the Protection of Children from all Forms of Violence and Exploitation



INSPIRE Strategy:
Implementation & enforcement of laws

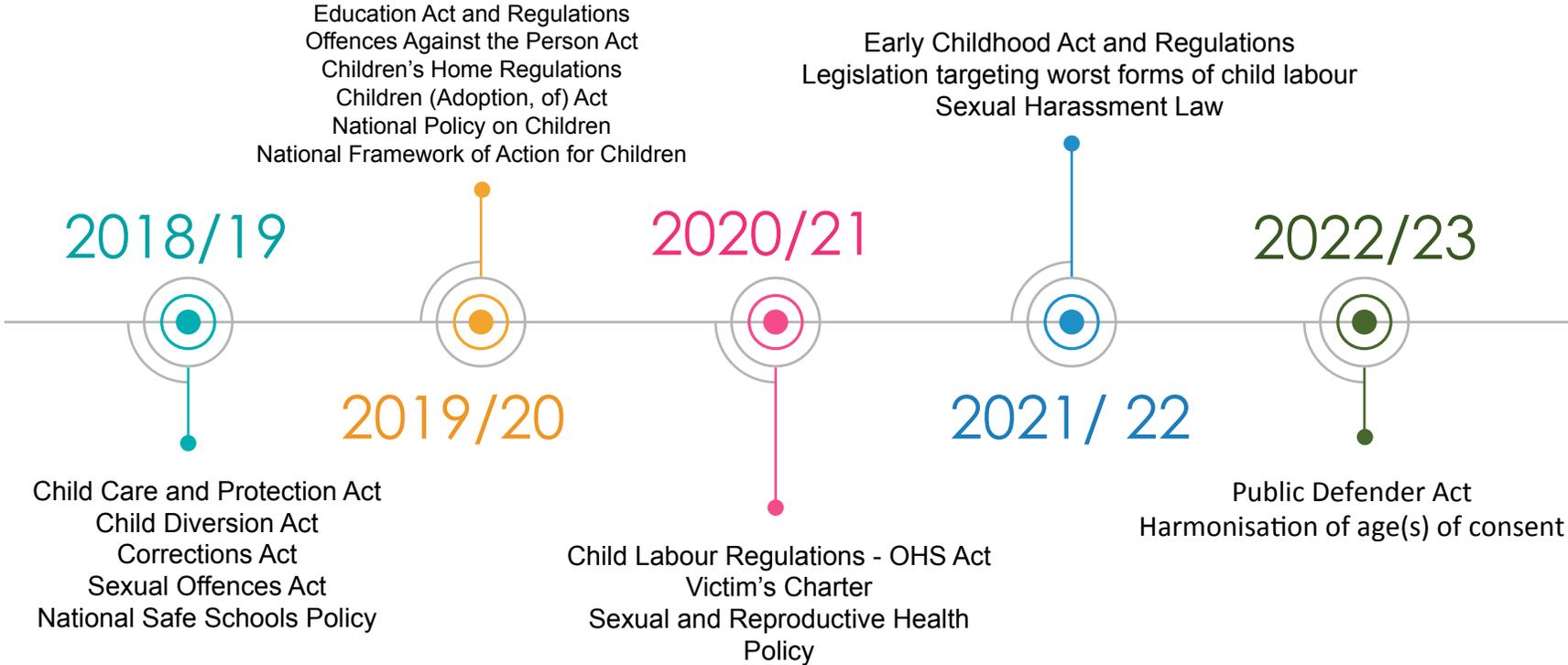
| Key Strategic Actions | Lead Stakeholder Groups | Supporting | | | | | |
|---|-------------------------|---|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| | | | 2018/19 | 2019/20 | 2020/21 | 2021/22 | 2022/23 |
| a) Review and amend existing legal provisions and develop new legal provisions and laws as required in line with the Convention on the Rights of the Child to ensure the rights of children to protection from all forms of violence and abuse. | MOEYI, CPFSA, OCA, MOJ | Relevant Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) as per laws, policies or plans | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| b) Establish a participation mechanism for the periodic review and monitoring of laws, policies and plans to ensure their relevance and effectiveness in protecting the rights and upholding the best interests of children. | MOJ, MOEYI, CPFSA, OCA | Relevant MDAs including MOJ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| c) Advocate for the prioritization of child violence and abuse cases in the courts and the need for timely adjudication of all cases including any backlog of cases. | MOEYI, CPFSA, OCA | Court Management Services, Ministry of Justice | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| d) Lobby for penalties that are commensurate with the severity of the crime and fines that are based on current reality. | MOEYI, CPFSA, OCA, MOJ | CPFSA | | ✓ | | ✓ | |
| e) Support the strengthening of media monitoring to prevent programming that promotes violence in all its forms. | MOEYI, OCA | Broadcasting Commission, MOJ, CPFSA | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| f) Collaborate with training institutions to amend curricula to incorporate courses/information on policies, laws and regulations relating to children, violence and child rights. | MOEYI | Teachers colleges, Norman Manley Law School, CARIMAC | | ✓ | | ✓ | |
| g) Engage with Parliamentarians to place child protection issues and concerns high on the national political and legislative attention agenda. | MOEYI, OCA | CPFSA, Office of the Children’s Advocate, BWA | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |

Target: The review or revision of specified laws, policies and plans within the stipulated timeframe to ensure the protection of children.

Headline Indicator

- Number of laws, policies, national plans of action and protocols developed or revised in line with the CRC to protect children from violence.

NPACV Legislative Reform Timeline



Voice of the Children: *“One day two men kicked down my door and forced themselves on top of me and my friend in the house. My father walked into the house and the two men ran away. He told the police but the police never came.”*

OUTCOME 2

Improved Quality of and Access to Services for Children Affected by Violence

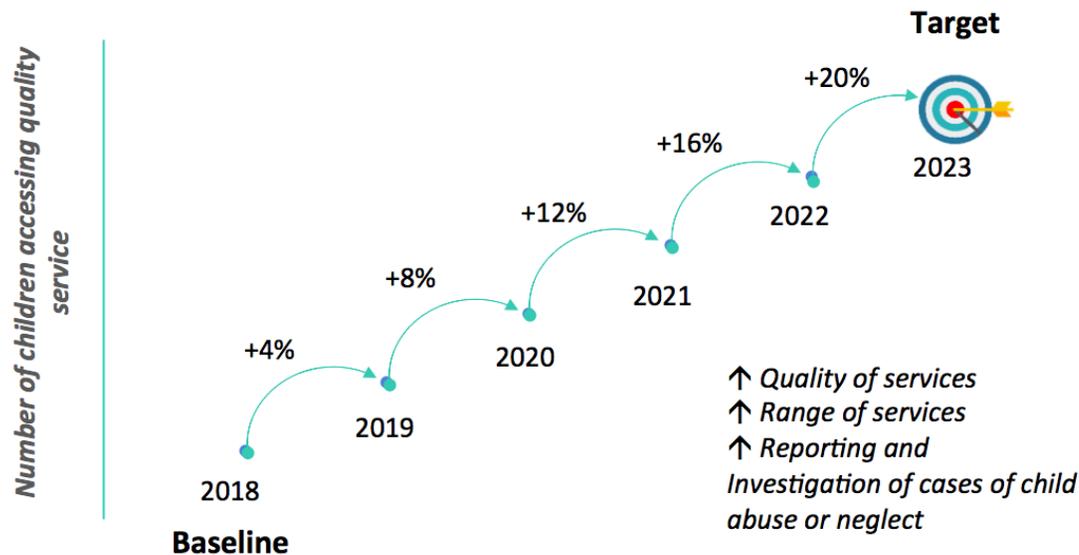


INSPIRE Strategy: Response and support services

| Key Strategic Actions | Lead Stakeholder Groups | Supporting | 2018/19 | 2019/20 | 2020/21 | 2021/22 | 2022/23 |
|--|-------------------------|---|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| | | | | | | | |
| a) Develop, strengthen and implement standards, codes, guidelines and processes, systems and mechanisms for improved service delivery. | CPFSA | OCA, NCR, MOH, MNS/JCF, DCS, CISOCA, MLSS, MOEYI, MOJ, VSD, NGOs, CBOs and Churches | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| b) Institutionalize an effective and efficient reporting, referral and tracking system of incidents of child violence and abuse through all the stages of intervention. | NCR | CPFSA, MOH, MNS/JCF, DCS, CISOCA, MLSS, MOEYI, MOJ, VSU, OCA, MLG&CD | | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| c) Provide the full range of recovery, rehabilitation, reintegration, psychological and social welfare support services to all families and child victims of violence and ensure treatment that is child/family friendly and sensitive | MOEYI | CPFSA, NCR, CISOCA, VSU, MOH, MNS, DCS, MOJ, MOEYI, MOLSS | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| d) Put systems and programmes in place to enable the successful completion of investigation of case reports referred by the OCR. | CPFSA, OCA | NCR, CPFSA – Ananda Alert System, VSU, CISOCA, CGC, MOJ | ✓ | ✓ | | | |
| e) Implement benchmark caseload ratios of 1:40 to enable acceptable staff levels and appropriate and manageable caseloads in key agencies. | CPFSA, OCA | NCR, CPFSA – Ananda Alert System, VSU, CISOCA, CGC, MOJ | ✓ | ✓ | | | |
| f) Fast track the implementation of the child diversion and restorative justice programmes and ensure that they are delivered according to the nature of their offences to reduce incidence of children being held in police lock ups. | MOJ, MNS | CPFSA, OCA, MNS | ✓ | ✓ | | | |
| g) Provide adequate accommodation for those children placed in the custody of the State by the courts and those awaiting appearance before or determination by the courts. | CPFSA, MOJ | | ✓ | ✓ | | | |

| Key Strategic Actions (cont.) | Lead Stakeholder Groups | Supporting | 2018/19 | 2019/20 | 2020/21 | 2021/22 | 2022/23 |
|---|-------------------------|------------|--|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| | | | h) Provide support and rehabilitation services and resources to perpetrators of violence against children. | MNS-DCS | | ✓ | ✓ |
| i) Improve the process of identifying and placing children between the ages of 0-8 years in a foster care or adoption placement for children in residential care. | CPFSA | | ✓ | ✓ | | | |
| j) Monitor existing services to ensure their relevance and effectiveness in protecting the rights and upholding the best interests of children in Jamaica. | CPFSA | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| k) Provide capacity building for all staff/professionals in all settings who work with children specifically those in need of care and protection. | MOEYI | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |

Target: To increase by at least 20% the number of children accessing quality service (by type).



Headline Indicators

- Improve case worker to children in care ratio.
- Number of substantiated cases of violence against children during a 12 month period per 100,000 children.
- Percentage of child victims referred to Reintegration or Psychological Support Services during a 12 month period.
- Percentage of child victims who used Reintegration or Psychological Support Services during a 12-month period.

OUTCOME 3 Family and Community Capacities Strengthened to Address Children and Violence Issues

Strategies:

-  **Income and economic strengthening**
-  **Parent and caregiver support**
-  **Safe environments**
-  **Education and life skills**
-  **Norms and values**

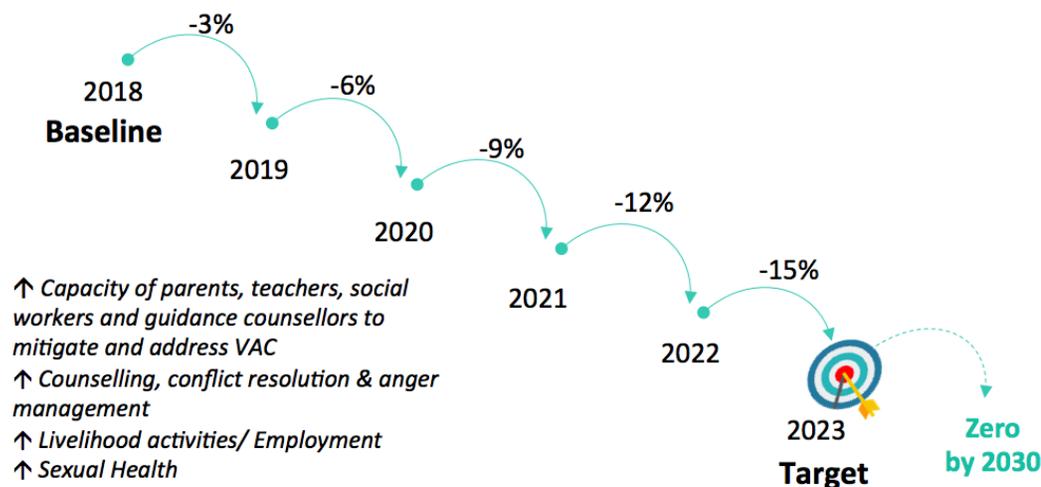
| Key Strategic Actions | Lead Stakeholder Groups | Supporting | | | | | |
|---|-------------------------|--|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| | | | 2018/19 | 2019/20 | 2020/21 | 2021/22 | 2022/23 |
| a) Strengthen and expand programmes that provide parenting skills and counselling services for families and children supported by public and private sectors. | MOEYI, ECC | CPFSA, VSU, OCA, NGOs, IDPs, DCS, Private Sector, churches, CBOs | | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| b) Support livelihood activities and facilitate employment opportunities through targeted programmes (Community Renewal Programme, National Crime Prevention and Community Safety Strategy [NCP.CSS]). | MNS, PIOJ | SDC, MLSS, MOH | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| c) Provide training opportunities for parents/ families/ care givers in violence prevention. | MOEYI, MCGES | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | |
| d) Scale-up interventions to promote abstinence and delay sexual initiation as well as address the risky behaviour of the sexually active population. | MOEYI, MOH, NGOs | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| e) Build and strengthen capacity of teachers, social workers and guidance counsellors to detect, manage, mitigate and refer children as perpetrators and victims of violence. | MOE, CPFSA | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| f) Strengthen and support the institutional capacity of NGOs/CBOs to provide services for child victims (including those living and working on the streets and children with disabilities) and to take an active role in advocacy on behalf of child victims. | MOEYI | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |

| Key Strategic Actions (cont.) | Lead Stakeholder Groups | Supporting | 2018/19 | 2019/20 | 2020/21 | 2021/22 | 2022/23 |
|---|-------------------------|------------------|---|------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| | | | g) Expand social protection including social welfare services for at risk households, and for the development of additional support mechanisms. | MLSS, MOEYI, MOH | PIOJ | | ✓ |
| h) Develop, strengthen and expand partnerships including those with faith-based organizations to strengthen community resilience in relation to violence. | MNS, SDC, CPFSA | NGOs, FBOs, PSOs | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| i) Invest in and expand programmes addressing conflict resolution, anger management, safety in the homes and community safety, particularly among youth. | CPFSA | DRF, NGOs, FBOs | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| j) Promote the development of safe living environments for all children, including the appropriate means for play, recreation and cultural activities for the all-round development of the child. | MNS, CPFSA, SDC | NGOs, FBOs, PSOs | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | |
| k) Ensure the participation of children in structural supervised activities at the community and national level. | CPFSA, MOEYI | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |

Target:

The main target to be achieved under this outcome is to reduce by 15% the number of reported cases of violence against children in targeted communities

Child Victims of Violence



Headline Indicators

- Number of verified cases of violence against children.
- Number of cases seen at hospital from JISS.
- Number of families accessing services.

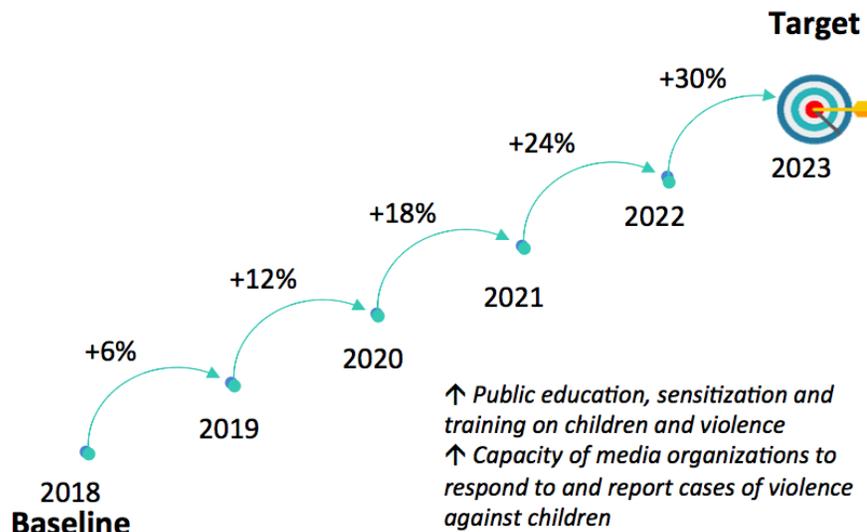
OUTCOME 4

Enhanced Public Education, Sensitization and Training on Violence Prevention, the Care of Children Affected by Violence and Children's Rights to Survival, Development, Protection and Participation

| Key Strategic Actions | Lead Stakeholder Groups | Supporting | | | | | |
|---|--|---|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| | | | 2018/19 | 2019/20 | 2020/21 | 2021/22 | 2022/23 |
| a) Develop a national framework for public education, sensitization and training for children and violence (targeting various audiences and utilizing the appropriate communication media) to align government, civil society, and IDPs' communication plans with the NPACV communication strategy. | MOEYI, CPFSA, PIOJ, NCR, OCA, JIS | MNS, MOJ, other MDAs, Private Sector, NGOs and FBOs | ✓ | ✓ | | | |
| b) Promote information on alternate forms of discipline other than physical violence and conflict management to impact national, parish, community levels. | MOEYI, ECC, MOH; esp. ANC and CGC, NPSC | CPFSA, OCA, DRF | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| c) Conduct activities at all levels (seminars, advocacy campaigns, symposia, focused group discussions) to share information on prevalence and consequences of violence against children. | MOEYI, CPFSA-NCR, OCA, MNS | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| d) Implement awareness programmes targeted at vulnerable groups (i.e. families, communities and youth) to raise awareness of child victims | CPFSA, MOEYI, ECC, MOH, OCA, CARIMAC | Women's Media Watch, CARIMAC, PANOS, VPA | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| e) Increase the capacity of media organizations to respond to and report appropriately and sensitively about violence-related incidents and cases of violence against children | CPFSA, OCA, MOH at ANC and CGC, MOEYI, ECC, MOH, Media | | ✓ | ✓ | | | |
| f) Increase availability of accurate disaggregated and reliable information on children and violence at national and local levels. | MOEYI | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| g) Build awareness of existing childcare and services and how to access them to increase family and community access to information on violence prevention and care for children affected by violence. | CPFSA, OCA, MOEYI | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |

| Key Strategic Actions (cont.) | Lead Stakeholder Groups | Supporting | | | | | |
|---|-------------------------|-----------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| | | | 2018/19 | 2019/20 | 2020/21 | 2021/22 | 2022/23 |
| h) Prioritise the issue of children and violence on the national and local agenda | MOEYI | Government MDAs | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| i) Create opportunities and motivate people to discuss violence prevention strategies among themselves and with decision makers and service providers to change household practices and; social norms; mobilize communities to participate actively in violence prevention. | CPFSA, OCA, MOEYI | | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |

Awareness of link between corporal punishment and trauma and alternatives to violent discipline.



Targets:

- By 2023, 30% of the total adult population can name three rights that children are entitled to and three corresponding violence prevention strategies.
- 50% of child population can name three rights and three corresponding responsibilities to prevent violence.
- Increase by 30% the awareness in the adult population of the link between corporal punishment and trauma as well as alternatives to violent discipline.

Headline Indicators

- Percentage of population who can name three rights that children are entitled to and three corresponding violence prevention strategies.
- Percentage of children who can name three rights and three corresponding responsibilities to prevent violence.
- Number of public education initiatives promoting broad-based support for revised laws, policies and regulations.

OUTCOME 5

Establishment of an integrated framework for the effective coordination, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the NPACV

| Key Strategic Actions | Lead Stakeholder Groups | Supporting | 2018/19 | 2019/20 | 2020/21 | 2021/22 | 2022/23 |
|---|-------------------------|--|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| | | | | | | | |
| a) Establish and operationalize an integrated framework for the effective coordination of NPACV’s implementation, monitoring and evaluation. | MOEYI, PIOJ, CPFSA | | ✓ | | | | |
| b) Prepare an M&E Plan for the NPACV. | PIOJ, CPFSA | | ✓ | | | | |
| c) Create, operationalize and maintain a comprehensive, reliable, up-to-date and gender disaggregated data collection system with interconnection to relevant national, sector, sub-sector and agency databases. | PIOJ – STATIN | CPFSA, NCR , MOH and other relevant agencies | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| d) Strengthen research capacity and facilitate and co-ordinate the use of research findings in programming and policy development. | PIOJ, CPFSA | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| e) Develop public and private partnerships with the International Development Partners (IDPs), private sector, the Jamaican Diaspora community and philanthropic individuals for funding and technical assistance. | MOEYI, MFAFT | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| f) Conduct annual budget expenditure analysis of the provision of child protection services and advocate for adequate budget allocations, and earmark funds for child protection within sector budgets to implement core components of the NPACV. | PIOJ, CPFSA, MOEYI | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |

Targets:

1. Multi-sector coordination mechanism established and operational by 2019 to ensure timely and effective implementation of the NPACV.
2. Increase by at least 5% per annum the budget allocated to children and violence.
3. Improve communication among child protection agencies and other MDAs.



Headline Indicators

- Multi-sector coordination mechanism established and operational
- Percentage of national budget allocated for the protection of children against violence.
- Use of a common case management system.
- Number and type of social sector, justice sector and law enforcement agencies engaged in change management strategies designed to optimise the implementation of revised laws and policies.



From Road Map to Results

Working Together for Action

A key factor in the effective implementation and monitoring and evaluation of the NPACV is the existence of strong institutional mechanisms for its coordination and leadership.

Coordination

Coordination among the relevant entities and several stakeholders is critical to ensure the success of the NPACV. While the implementation of the NPACV will be done by the relevant stakeholders engaged in the child protection system, the Ministry of Education, Youth and Information and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade have ultimate responsibility for coordinating the multi-sectoral response for the implementation of the Plan of Action.

A coordinating framework will be established to provide a common frame of reference and a mechanism for communication among key stakeholders on the state of progress, and the required measures to be applied across the range of issues identified.

To ensure accountability and resourcing for the NPACV in the public sector, both lead ministries will:

- Collaborate with relevant entities in aligning their policies, programmes, and interventions (in their ministries and agencies' corporate/strategic plans) with the outcomes, strategies and actions of the NPACV.
- Engage NGOs, local and international development partners in providing and/or identifying funding support for programmes and initiatives not currently funded by the Government of Jamaica.

- Establish memoranda of cooperation and understanding, where necessary, to ensure that specific elements of the Plan of Action are implemented.

This coordinating framework will promote, monitor and evaluate the implementation of the NPACV and ensure that the government meets its national and international obligations. It will also facilitate the effective and efficient planning, coordination and resource mobilisation efforts among and between government, non-governmental organizations, IDPs and other organizations involved in the provision of services for children and families affected by violence.

Leadership

The Inter-Ministerial Committee on Children and Violence (IMCCV) will assume the overall coordination of the implementation of the Plan of Action. The chairperson for this committee will be the Prime Minister's delegated representative or the Permanent Secretary of the ministry with responsibility for children.

The IMCCV membership is inclusive of permanent secretaries or senior representatives from central ministries such as the Ministry of Education, Youth and Information; Ministry of National Security; Ministry of Justice; Ministry of Health; Ministry of Labour and Social Security; Ministry of Local





Government; heads or senior representatives of Departments and Executive Agencies such as the Child Development Agency, Office of the Children's Advocate, Office of the Children's Registry, Early Childhood Commission, Correctional Services, The Jamaica Constabulary Force (JCF) and the Planning Institute of Jamaica. This body will meet quarterly.

THE IMCCV WILL:

- Ensure greater coherence of efforts by all, in particular the Government, private sector, civil society, the Jamaican Diaspora and the international development community, to implement the NPACV and provide regular and timely public reports on its implementation.

- Ensure a fully functional and robust framework for monitoring and evaluation of the NPACV to provide evidence-based policy advice and recommendations that will ensure a protective environment for children.
- Provide directions and leverage resources to address any obstacles or bottlenecks (financial, technical and otherwise) surrounding implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the NPACV.

The IMCCV Technical Working Groups are the technical arm of the IMCCV responsible for tracking implementation and indicator progress at the national and local levels and will perform the following five functions:

- Progress tracking (implementation and indicator) per outcome area
- Research and analysis
- Stakeholder consultation and forging of partnerships
- Policy recommendations
- Communication and reporting

Each TWG is to be chaired by a selected government institution within the child protection system and includes focal point stakeholders identified in the respective NPACV outcomes, representatives from the private sector, civil society, academia and research institutions and international organizations.



Partnership

Partnership

The National Plan of Action is driven by the inspiration, dedication and technical expertise of each of the partners and emboldened by the collective will to transform the lives of Jamaica's children. Partners include private sector organizations, civil society organizations, academia and research institutions, and international organizations.

Jamaica has identified several interventions linked to these five NPACV outcomes which are currently targeting violence against children at school and in communities and represent strong partners for the Plan. Some were showcased at the February 2018 End Violence Solutions Summit in Sweden because they are poised for scale up once given requisite support. As a result, they are highlighted in this road map and in the NPAVC.



School-wide Positive Behaviour in Schools

- An in-school, student support framework aimed at increasing positive values and behaviours in students and reducing fights.
- Successfully piloted in 56 schools and slated for system-wide scale up

Child Resiliency Programme

- Targets children (ages 9 to 11) at risk for violence, abuse and neglect in feeder schools in the neighbouring communities of its two current partners: Boys Town and YMCA, Kingston Jamaica.
- Teaches conflict resolution, anger management, pro-social behaviours and resilient attributes through sports, life skills, academic support, nutrition support and parent/teacher training
- Recently opened a fourth center in Montego Bay, St. James





Peace Management Initiative

- Targets youth to reduce community violence and especially youth perpetration of violence.
- Stabilizing communities through deepening community integration, implementing counselling programmes to those affected by violence and providing alternative livelihoods.

For more information, go to: www.youtube.com/watch?v=50JyK8zM1k0

Children First

- Community-based organization which provides social development and educational programmes for children and youth 10 to 24 years old to reduce violent behaviours.
- Offers remedial education and counselling services, employment and entrepreneurial skills training and edutainment to promote positive social behaviours.



Child Abuse Mitigation Programme

- A hospital-based intervention at the Cornwall Regional Hospital to reduce the effects of violence on children and youth under 25 years.
- Identifies children and youth who are victims of violence and provides the relevant support or social work intervention through counselling and school or home visits.

Rise Life Management

- Provides educational, vocational and health-related services for at-risk populations including prevention programmes aimed at reducing violence and violent behaviours.



Irie Classroom Toolbox

- School-based violence prevention programme implemented in early childhood institutions to reduce the levels of aggression among children at school, and violence against children by teachers.



Reach Up

- An Early Childhood Parenting Programme delivered by weekly home visits by trained community workers.
- Works to build parents' self-confidence and improve children's growth and development.

With its global recognition as a Pathfinder Country and its recent showcasing of key initiatives, Jamaica is well poised to bring about action for its children. Jamaica's implementation of the NPACV will build on previous achievements and make significant steps towards breaking the cycle of violence.

End Notes

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* A feature of many of the reports received by the OCR is the occurrence of two or more forms of abuse against children. Thus, figures shown above reflect the incidence of each category listed and do not add to the total number of reports received by the Registry. In 2015, there was a regional Break the Silence Campaign on exposing abuse against children and so the inflation in numbers may represent increased reporting rather than increased incidence.

** This study references data from 10 out of 14 parishes in Jamaica only.

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Abbreviations and Acronyms

| | |
|---------|---|
| CARIMAC | Caribbean Institute of Media and Communications |
| CBO | Community Based Organization |
| CGC | Child Guidance Clinic |
| CISOCA | Centre for the Investigation of Sexual Offences and Child Abuse |
| CPFSA | Child Protection and Family Services Agency |
| DCS | Department of Correctional Services |
| DRF | Dispute Resolution Foundation |
| ECC | Early Childhood Commission |
| FBO | Faith Based Organization |
| IDPs | International Development Partners |
| IMCCV | Inter-Ministerial Committee on Children and Violence |
| JCF | Jamaica Constabulary Force |
| MCGES | Ministry of Culture, Gender, Entertainment and Sports |
| MDAs | Ministries, Agencies and Departments |
| MFAFT | Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade |
| MLSS | Ministry of Labour and Social Security |
| MNS | Ministry of National Security |
| MOEYI | Ministry of Education, Youth and Information |

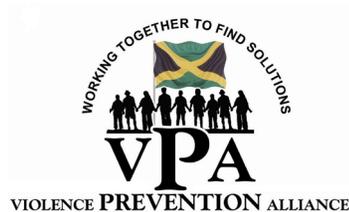
| | |
|--------|---|
| MOH | Ministry of Health |
| MOJ | Ministry of Justice |
| NCR | National Children's Registry |
| NGO | Non-Governmental Organization |
| NPACV | National Plan of Action for an Integrated Response to Children & Violence |
| NPSC | National Parenting Support Commission |
| OCA | Office of Children Advocate |
| OHS | Occupational Health and Safety |
| OPM | Office of the Prime Minister |
| PANOS | Panos Caribbean |
| PIOJ | Planning Institute of Jamaica |
| PSOs | Private Sector Organizations |
| SDC | Social Development Commission |
| STATIN | Statistical Institute of Jamaica |
| TWG | Technical Working Group |
| UNICEF | United Nations Children's Fund |
| VPA | Violence Prevention Alliance |
| VSD | Victim Services Division |



MINISTRY of FOREIGN AFFAIRS
& FOREIGN TRADE



MINISTRY of EDUCATION
YOUTH & INFORMATION



For more information, contact:

Child Protection and Family Services Agency - www.childprotection.gov.jm

Violence Prevention Alliance - www.vpajamaica.org

End Violence.