

REMARKS

The Hon Kim Wilson, JP, MP

Minister of Health

Mangrove Bay Clinic Renovation

June 18, 2025

In 2023, I announced that \$700,000 in capital funding had been allocated for the renovation of the Mangrove Bay Clinic, covering the building permit, construction drawings, and equipment purchase.

Today, I am pleased to stand before you as we break ground on this long-awaited project.

This clinic represents more than just a new building. It is a commitment to accessible, high-quality healthcare for the people of the West End. Just as residents in the East End have a local clinic, West End residents deserve the same level of care close to home.

Preparation began in 2023/24, paving the way for construction to commence in early 2024/25, following the official permitting and contractor selection process. Once complete, this facility will offer essential health services, including:

Oral health services

- Well-baby visits, including child immunizations and development checks
- Physical therapy, occupational therapy, and speech-language pathology
- Sexual and reproductive health services
- Adult wellness clinics
- Integrated mental health services in partnership with MWI

For too long, West End residents have had to travel outside their community for these critical services. That changes now. This clinic will be a cornerstone of community wellness, ensuring that those in Somerset and the surrounding areas have reliable healthcare right where they live.

Medical clinics play a crucial role in the community by making quality healthcare accessible to those who may face financial or geographic barriers.

By offering free or subsidised essential services close to home, these clinics help ease financial burdens, reduce travel difficulties, and improve overall well-being. Their presence not only strengthens public health but also fosters a sense of support and care, ensuring healthcare is within reach for all.

I have been pushing for this initiative for quite some time because I know firsthand the value it will bring to our community, not just in improving healthcare access, but in strengthening the very fabric of our neighborhoods.

As the Minister of Health and one of the area MP's, this project is near and dear to my heart. More than that, this is my home. I live here, I walk these streets, and I hear directly from residents about how much they look forward to the clinic's return and the impact this clinic will have.

We all appreciate the need for a clinic in this area, and today, I am very happy that we are bringing that vision to life.

Let's celebrate this milestone and look forward to a healthier future for Bermuda, as we strive for Healthy People in Healthy Communities!

Thank you!