

# Jamaica Outreach Program

## OUR MISSION:

*“Jamaica Outreach Program (JOP) is a non-profit 501 (c)(3) public charity whose mission is to help the poor in Jamaica. JOP provides love, respect, funds, goods and services for health care, education and basic support to improve the lives of the poor in Jamaica without regard to religious affiliation, personal history, gender, age or race.”*

Fall- 2017 Newsletter

Since 1997

## Our past and our future... for the glory of God

### Happy 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary JOP!

The end of 2017 marks our 20<sup>th</sup> year in service to the poor in Jamaica, and we still remain an all-volunteer organization. Many of the children you helped 20 years ago are now employed productive adults. Yet we still find so many in need; Jesus said: “The poor will always be with you”, and how right He is! May God’s blessings be upon every volunteer, every donor, every poverty-stricken beneficiary and every person who prays for the success of our mission.

We are indeed grateful and thankful to all of you for your past, present and future support.



Archbishop Richards with students

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### Oct.1, 2016 - Sept.30, 2017 Highlights

- ☺ 573 Eye exams, 430 eyeglasses delivered, 28 cataract surgeries
  - ☺ 570 boxes of food and 340 text books were delivered
  - ☺ over 1,716 Patients treated at two supported Medical Clinics
  - ☺ 3,594 dental patients were treated in 7 dental missions
  - ☺ 232 students received aid for tuition, supplies, backpacks, books, or uniforms
  - ☺ 50 young adults received job skills training
  - ☺ 10 housing units were built for the poor
  - ☺ over 200 people volunteered (94 went on mission trips)
- AND MORE...** see inside for details.

## Message from Archbishop Richards

Greetings from the Archdiocese of Kingston! We owe a huge debt of gratitude to the Jamaica Outreach Program, its volunteers from all over the USA, and St John the Evangelist parishioners. You have assisted the poor in our region for 20 years and the many lives you have touched are blessed by your financial, spiritual and hands-on support. Thank you for your dental, medical, and vision care, which reaches so many who would otherwise live with pain or diminished health. Your education, food and housing programs are major blessings which offer hope to your brothers and sisters in Jamaica for a better life. May God continue to bless your wonderful volunteers and donors for their selfless acts of kindness and generosity. Thank you!

Yours in Christ,  
Most Reverend Kenneth Richards  
Archbishop of Kingston

## Volunteers Are Essential in Our Service to Jamaica



The need for volunteers is always ongoing. In Naples, we need and depend on host families willing to welcome Jamaicans who visit Naples for medical treatment or JOP events. Our greatest needs are people in leadership roles who can chair fundraising events, mission trips, bookkeeping and administrative tasks.

We need a new Volunteer Coordinator! Martha Mador who served in this capacity for the past several years has retired and we are ever-so-grateful for all her, and her husband Jean's, 20 years of service to JOP.

To staff mission trips, we need optometrists, opticians, dentists, dental hygienists/assistants, doctors, and nurses from any part of the USA!

New volunteers are always considered heaven-sent and an answer to our prayers. Anyone interested in becoming an active volunteer is invited to contact any Board member (see box below for contact info).



**Interested in learning more ?** Gen. Info: Joe Gagnier, President 239-260-2871 Medical: Dr. Al Kerns 239-514-1553 Vision Care: Dr. Jeff Zimm 592-5511

Housing & Dental: Roger Plante 239-948-2145 Education & Food Drive: Ray Shawcross 401-862-0590 Donations & Events: Jeanne Stamant 239-248-3248

Optical Equipment : Paul Connor 330-784-6623 Education & Bulletin : John Roy 212-740-0007 Website & Publications: Jeff Meyerson 239-592-5781

## Financial Report for the Fiscal Year Ended 9-30-17 — Jamaica Outreach Program

### Statement of Activities

<b>Support and revenues</b>	
Contributions & Grants	\$ 245,036
Special events, net	\$ 18,458
Donated food, goods & services	\$ 374,904
Investments & Other Income*	\$ 5,593
Total Revenues \$ 643,991	
<b>Expenses</b>	
Program services (97.4%)	\$ 647,639
General & administrative (1.4%)**	\$ 9,099
Fundraising (1.2%)	\$ 7,981
Total expenses \$ 664,719	
<b>Increase (decr) in net assets</b>	<b>\$ (20,728)</b>
<b>Net assets - beginning of year</b>	<b>\$ 198,287</b>
<b>Net assets - end of year</b>	<b>\$ 177,559</b>
Unrestricted net assets \$ 170,362	
Temporarily restricted net assets*** \$ 7,197	

### 97.4 % Spent on Programs for the Poor

Fortunately, our fixed expenses are minimal because we have no rent and no paid staff. We try to retain 6-months' operating expenses (approximately \$60,000) as unrestricted assets. Periodic audits of the records of our grantees help to confirm that grants were used as intended. We also have an annual internal audit to verify that JOP's policies on checks and balances have been followed. Our books are open to anyone who wants a more detailed view of our finances.

**THANK YOU for your faithful support of our mission.**

\* Other Income and Other Program Services include mission trip expenses contributed by trip volunteers.

\*\* General/admin expenses are largely CPA financial services & insurance.

\*\*\* Temporarily Restricted Net Assets include donations restricted for distribution after the close of our fiscal year: \$7,197 Eye Surgery.

Sean Nolan, CPA, of RWHSB prepares JOP's reviewed financial statements, but the final product was not available at press time. A copy of their complete report will be available on our website or by calling Jeanne Stamant 239-248-3248

### Vision Care Report

During the last year, four optical trips were staged by JOP teams. Nineteen volunteers from OH, KY, NY and FL including the professionals, who donated their time, talent, medicines and glasses to the eye care clinic at St Pius X and Sacred Heart in Montego Bay region. The St Pius X staff of Ms. Bradford, Peta-Gaye, Chawayne, Boxer, Paul and Tanicia were extremely helpful and took care of appointment-setting, registration, frame selection and general services including provision of transportation, food and supplies.

In the Montego Bay Diocese, Sacred Heart's pastor Father Lukasz Szweda (a Polish missionary), two missionary sisters and several parishioners hosted the first eye mission in that very poor mountainous region where the residents have minimal access to health care.

The first trip to St. Pius X began **November 2, 2016**. This team included Dr. Alanna Edwards (GA), Dr. Paul Russo (NY), Amy Kuzma (OH), Peggy Johnson (KY), Paul Connor (OH), Ashaunda Edwards (OH) and FL team: Jeanne Stamant and Ginny Lazar. The team completed 275 eye exams, 223 pairs of prescription eyeglasses followed, many reading glasses dispensed, 32 cataracts diagnosed, and 26 glaucoma patients were given medicine. This team is devoted to our ministry to help the poor; they were great to work with and are people with huge caring hearts. Two doctors new to our mission did not have any trouble acclimating to our clinic facilities and worked so efficiently we were ready to close the clinic and eyeglass dispensary on time each evening.



Dr. Zimm and Staff

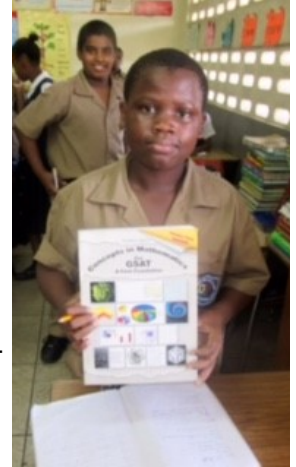
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## Education Report

The DuPont School received funding for much needed repairs to the roof. During the rainy season several classrooms were totally inoperable. Also 75 impoverished students received uniforms and shoes from JOP which enabled them to attend school.

As a result of JOP funding over 80 students received grants for tuition and supplies to attend high schools and colleges. The recipients were selected based on need by their individual parish. Also in Kingston the AMU Basic School received funding to assist in paying teacher salaries. This 65 student school was in danger of closing prior to receiving JOP funding.

As a new initiative this year, we funded the Holy Trinity Cathedral Summer Arts and Literacy Camp. This three week camp conducted during the month of July, offers youngsters a wide range of activities in the Visual and Performing Arts. The camp encourages individual expression and the acquisition of creative skills.



All of our efforts assisting in the education of the poor in Jamaica were only possible due to the generosity of our donors.

For more information on education activities contact Ray Shawcross at 401-862-0590.

### VISION CARE (Continued from page 3...)

From **March 15th to 19th, 2017** **Dr. Philip Baier (FL), Paul Connor (OH)** and **Helen Fusco (OH)** travelled to Bishop Burchell's rural territory in Seaford Town to set up a small eye clinic at Sacred Heart. This was the first eye mission there; they saw 106 patients and followed up with 79 pairs of prescription eyeglasses.

**Dr. Eric Donaghy's team** from All Saints Eye Center, Naples, FL included Liulim Chon, Elizabeth Donaghy, Hazell Puerto and Diana Velesquez. They conducted a mission at St Pius X **April 1st & 2nd, 2017**, performed 192 exams and followed up with 128 pairs of eyeglasses.

The **September 1-4, 2017 Cataract Surgery mission trip** was led by Dr. Jeffrey Zimm (Naples, FL) with a nurse anesthetist, RN and surgical technician from All Saints Eye Center. They performed 28 cataract surgeries in collaboration with Jamaican ophthalmologist Dr. Maynard McIntosh and three of his staff. This was a new testing ground for Dr. Zimm's vision to deliver annual cataract surgeries to the poor we diagnose in our other vision care missions.

We are grateful to **Dr. Zimm and his professional contacts** in the Florida eye care community for their donations of medical supplies and equipment for this new initiative.

**Dr. Jeffrey Zimm** is JOP's Eye Care Coordinator, has been going to Jamaica for 13 years and is part of the JOP Advisory Board. There are many patients still waiting for eye surgery and vision care.

*For more information contact: Dr. Jeffrey Zimm 239-592-5511*



## Medical Report

The medical clinic at St. Pius X in Kingston, Jamaica operates 3 days per week, with a part-time local physician who provides care on a deeply discounted basis. The clinic is open to all indigent patients in the poor neighborhood of St Pius, regardless of ability to pay, or church affiliation. We estimate an average 123 patients visit the clinic per month, i.e. over 1,400 patient visits per year. Jamaica Outreach Program supplies the clinic with medicine and much-needed equipment. The clinic dispensary supplies patients with medications free of charge. The Sacred Heart clinic at remote Seaford Town in Montego Bay region saw 240 patients treated, medicines distributed and medical equipment and supplies donated. The Good Shepherd Foundation clinic in Montego Bay received a grant as well.

*For more information contact: Dr. Al Kerns 514-1553.*

Medicines, equipment and supplies	Yr. Ended 9-30-17	Total since 1998
Purchased with donations from St. John parishioners & JOP donors	\$23,000	\$ 287,810
Donated by the Catholic Medical Mission Board	\$ 0	\$3,069,617
Total:	\$8,000	\$3,335,7427

### Mark your calendars for our 2018 Events

**January 24** 7:00 pm Concert by Opera Naples

**February 10** 6:30 pm 20th Anniversary Party

**March 14** 7:00 pm Concert by Ave Maria University

### "Oh Christmas Tree" Tea

The annual Christmas Tea previously scheduled for Dec 6th, 2017 is cancelled, out of respect for and in support of local SW FL Hurricane Irma relief efforts. We are currently planning a modest fundraiser on February 10, 2018 as part of our 20th anniversary celebration and hope you will plan to join us for that event. We will resume the annual Tea **December 5, 2018**. We thank you for your support of our events past, present and future.



## Dental Clinic Report

### DENTAL MISSIONS TO ST. PIUS COMPOUND IN KINGSTON

Our dental service program at St. Pius mission compound continues with great success and do not let the brevity of this article detract from our heavy commitment to that mission. I am happy to report that our commitment there has been ongoing for seven years. In this fiscal year, JOP conducted five dental mission outreaches at the Van-Domelen Dental Clinic (November '16, Jan '17, March '17, May '17, Sept '17) at which we provided over 1,100 dental treatments to needy recipients in the locale. Additionally our missionaries provided services to the 1,320 students at the DuPont School and 620 students at the St. Peter Claver School including oral health education, fluoride varnish applications and oral examinations. Our 51 dental missionaries in Kingston this year came from various parts of FL and from OH, CA, VA, WI, MA, CT, TN, TX, ME, MD, and AZ.



July Mission Trip

### Jamaica Outreach Extends Service to Montego Bay

Jamaica Outreach has been delighted to extend our service programs to include the Montego Bay Diocese where our friend of over 20 years Bishop Burchell McPherson is Bishop.



Sacred Heart Clinic

### DENTAL, MEDICAL AND OPTICAL OUTREACH TO SACRED HEART MISSION IN SEAFORD TOWN

Nestled on a hilltop in the Westmorland section of Jamaica, and just a little more than an hour outside of scenic but poverty stricken Montego Bay is the little village of Seaford Town. It is a very unassuming settlement, populated by natives, who have made this their home for many generations. The village is modest/almost primitive, with one variety store, one small take-out type food stand and a few meager street vendors. Many

of the people grow their own food and poverty is rampant.

The Catholic Church has established a presence there since 1834 and there is a wonderful little church, clinic, basic school and primary school located at the site. There are about 1500 residents in the immediate area and about 300 of them are members of the Sacred Heart family.



Nov. 2016 Mission Trip

With great pride on our part, this fiscal year saw the establishment and opening of our new outreach at Sacred Heart. The existing medical clinic was enhanced tremendously and we set up two dental stations in time for the October 2016 three day maiden mission. Our medical and dental teams worked tirelessly seeing 246 patients, many of whom were first time visitors to the clinic. Common issues include diabetic and blood pressure problems which require continued monitoring and medications along with rampant tooth decay. Fortunately there are two sisters on staff at the mission who take care of the follow-up treatment for the patients we see.

Over the ensuing months, JOP established an optical lane at this mission and in early March, we conducted our first medical/optical/dental mission at this compound. In all, 311 patient procedures were performed at this mission and continuing medical care was extended to patients seen at the prior mission.

## Dental (...Continued from page 6)

Our third mission endeavor to this clinic took place in July at which time we offered dental & medical services. 243 patients were treated and cared for in the three days our missionaries spent there. At this mission JOP introduced a pre-natal vitamin program as well as the stocking the shelves with a supply of children's vitamins which was an innovation for the clinic.

There is an on-going need for funds to keep the pharmacy stocked and for missionaries in the dental/optical and medical field to staff these missions.



July Mission Trip

Our 26 missionaries for this mission this year came from various parts of FL, Ontario Canada, GA, ME, MD, WV as well as some of our Kingston faithful friends who helped us organize and execute these missions.

## NEW CONNECTIONS AT THE GOOD SHEPHERD HOPE CLINIC, Montego Bay, JA

This clinic is housed in a new structure built recently by generous donors and it provides services for 40,000 patients per year. The programs are designed for the lower working class and also reach out to the very poor of Montego Bay. Bishop Burchell McPherson has asked that we provide as much help as we can for this clinic as they are in need of staffing as well as money for their day to day operation. This coming year, Jamaica Outreach will appropriate funds to help with the expenses and special projects undertaken there. Additionally, we intend on extending our missionary outreach to include doctors, dentists, optometrists and support staff to participate in periodic missions there to alleviate the overload presently placed on the full time missionary staff working at this clinic.

For more information contact Roger Plante at [RogerPlante10@gmail.com](mailto:RogerPlante10@gmail.com) or at 239-948-2145.

## **Housing Report - TEN NEW HOMES FOR NEEDY JAMAICAN FAMILIES**

Although the Jamaica Outreach Program did not devote any special campaigns for the housing program this year, we were able to provide one new home in the Island-wide funds matching program offered by the Jamaican government. Under this effort, we cannot pick recipients as need and recipients are taken care of by an island-wide screening program.

Additionally, we are very proud to have negotiated a special arrangement with Food For the Poor (our builder in Jamaica) to secure for us privately funded matching monies allowing us to build homes for specific families in our immediate mission areas. Thanks to our generous donors and to this special arrangement we were able to build nine homes for families specifically selected by Bishop Burchell McPherson's diocesan team. **This brings the total number of homes built by JOP donors over the last 20 years to 512.**

Interested donors and volunteers may contact Housing Committee chairman Roger Plante at [RogerPlante10@gmail.com](mailto:RogerPlante10@gmail.com) or at 239-948-2145.



### Before & After Photos

Left: Photo of kitchen this family was living in with their 25-year-old daughter who suffers from Cerebral Palsy.

Right: Photo of their new home made possible through the Jamaica Outreach Program



## Food & Goods

We conducted our annual food drive at St John the Evangelist Church in Naples in March. As a result of the overwhelming generosity of parishioners, we were able to collect over 500 cartons of food valued at \$17,000. We were assisted by 50 volunteers, ranging from high school students to senior citizens, who spent over 2 days collecting, sorting and packing the food. The food was transported by ship to Kingston, Jamaica. Upon reaching Jamaica the food was divided among 4 churches serving the poor.

Along with the food, over 300 textbooks were shipped to Holy Trinity High School in Kingston. The books were the result of a donation from St John Neumann High School in Naples.

Once again this year due to generosity of a donor, we were able to send 100 hand made dresses to Kingston. The dresses arrived in time for Easter and were enthusiastically received by the Jamaican women.

JOP was able to fund a soup kitchen operated by a group of nuns in Montego Bay. This facility provides the poorest of the poor with nutritional hot meals on a daily basis.

You may contact Ray Shawcross at [reshaw1@verizon.net](mailto:reshaw1@verizon.net) for additional information.



Students Helping with the Food

## Jamaican Choir 2017. Choir returns to sing at St John's masses Feb 10-11, 2018.



**Jamaica Outreach Program**  
**P.O.Box 110581**  
**Naples, FL 34108-1929**

**[www.JamaicaOutreach.org](http://www.JamaicaOutreach.org) 239-325-2103**  
**Email: [info@jamaicaoutreach.org](mailto:info@jamaicaoutreach.org)**

### To make a donation or bequest:

Mail your check or credit card information to the address at left or call/email us. Our Federal Tax ID is 20-8041251. We also accept gifts of securities directly. Our account is handled by Ciccarelli Advisory Services, Pershing DTC #0443, Acct # A6G042795.