

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, through sister-parish and other strategic relationships. JOP provides funds, goods and services for health care, food, clothing, housing, community facilities, and education, to improve the lives of the poor in Jamaica without regard to religious affiliation, personal history, gender, age or race.”

Fall- 2013 Newsletter

Since 1997

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!

JOP extends sincere gratitude to Dr. Al Kerns for his dedication since 1997; he retired from the Board this year, but will continue to volunteer. This annual newsletter will summarize our fiscal year 2012-2013 results. We have been richly blessed in our ministry to the poor of Jamaica this past year. May God bless all those who pray for us, our volunteers and donors. **THANK YOU!**

Volunteers.... We would be at a loss without them..... *By Martha Mador*



JOP volunteers come in all shapes and sizes, professions and interests. The opportunities for volunteering are many and very often the same people serve on multiple tasks throughout the year. The estimates below show what and how much time our volunteers spent on just some of the JOP initiatives in 2012-13.

6 Board of Directors & 21 Advisory Board (1,585 hours); 56 Missionaries to Jamaica (6,720 hours); 95 Tea, Festival & Concert Volunteers (370 hours); 7 Sewing Ladies (84 hours); 16 Hosts of Jamaican Choir (1,080 hours); 36 Food Drive volunteers (102 hours); 50 Other tasks (768 hours); 55 Pocket Change volunteers (55 hours). The best estimate of total hours donated to the JOP this year is **10,784 hours**. These are estimates because when we ask people...“How many hours did you give to JOP last year?” We get a blank stare, a shrug of the shoulders and a “Who’s counting?” kind of an estimate. So we depend on our chairmen to give us the numbers. Those numbers turned out to be staggering and impressive. Volunteers are the source of energy for any non-profit. The JOP would be at a significant loss without the dedication of our volunteers and we extend **10,784 bouquets of gratitude to a deserving group of generous and loyal participants in our work.**

Oct.1, 2012 - Sept.30, 2013 Highlights

- ☺ 877 Eye exams, 625 eyeglasses delivered, 71 cataract surgeries
- ☺ 863 boxes of food delivered
- ☺ over 6,000 patient visits to the St. Pius medical clinic were made
- ☺ 417 dental patients treated
- ☺ 109 students got aid for tuition, supplies, books, lunch or uniforms
- ☺ 25 housing units were built for the poor
- ☺ over 200 people volunteered (56 went on mission trips)
- ☺ 69 young adults received job skills training
- ☺ 156 items of clothing were made for the children

AND MORE... see inside for details.

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Optical Report

During the last year, four optical trips were staged by JOP teams from Florida, Ohio, and Kentucky. Twenty-four volunteers from OH, KY, and SW Florida supported the professionals who donated their time, talent, and often medicines and glasses to the eye care clinic at the St Pius X compound.

The first trip to St. Pius X began October 31, 2012 with the help of Dr. Sara Lemay (KY) and Dr. Lauren Lodholz (KY), supported by 8 volunteers from KY/OH and FL. Included in the count for eyeglasses prescribed and delivered, 89 single vision glasses were made on-site by Paul Connor and delivered within a day or two of the exam. Pharmaceutical suppliers Alcon and Allergan donated eye drops for exams and to treat various eye conditions.

The second trip was held in November 2012 with Dr. Jason Eugenides (FL) and the team from Blessed Pope John XXIII (Ft. Myers). This team trucked the autorefractor & eyeglass frames from the St Pius clinic and did basic eye exams in the school building at St. Martin de Porres, their sister parish.



During a six day stay in April, 2013, an Ohio team led by Dr. Brian Stahl and assisted by the VanBuskirks staged a surgical trip performing 71 cataract and one glaucoma surgery. The operations were performed at the surgical center of Dr. William Lee of Kingston who donated the facility for this extraordinary mission trip. Father Burchell, Father Thomas Dynetius, and Vivienne Bradford, served as invaluable support to the project. Patients were transported, treated and fed throughout the process in a weekend full of wonder and gratitude for the people who benefitted from the surgeries. Sally VanBuskirk summed it all up in the following words, "The Ohio team operated like a well-oiled machine and their caring and compassion for our patients was among the most beautiful examples of "The Body of Christ" one would ever hope to see. "

The fourth trip in this past fiscal year was led by Dr. Jeffrey Zimm, of Naples FL, and included an optician and 3 volunteers in August, 2013. Dr Zimm is JOP's new Eye Care Coordinator and we welcomed him to the JOP Advisory Board this year. In addition, in November 2012, Dr. Zimm donated his services here in Naples and arranged for the cornea transplant of a Jamaican patient. There are many patients still waiting for eye surgery and vision care.

In total, the number of patients served were:

| | |
|--------------|--------------------------------------|
| 877 | patients received eye exams |
| 71 | patients received cataract surgeries |
| 115 | cataract conditions diagnosed |
| Unrecorded # | glaucoma patients given Rx's |
| 9 | corneal transplant needs identified |
| 29 | other eye diseases diagnosed. |

For those of us who serve the JOP in a variety of ways there is no greater source of fulfillment than serving the poor in Kingston. We thank our volunteers, donors, and supporters for giving us the opportunity to do so.

For more information contact :

Dr Jeffrey Zimm 592-5511

Financial Report for the Fiscal Year Ended 9-30-13 — Jamaica Outreach Program

Statement of Activities

| | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Support and revenues | |
| Contributions & Grants | \$ 257,244 |
| Special events, net | \$ 19,941 |
| Donated food, goods & services | \$ 265,738 |
| Investments & Other* Income | \$ 8,814 |
| Total Revenues \$ 551,737 | |
| Expenses | |
| Program services (96.7%) | \$ 518,749 |
| General & administrative** (1.6%) | \$ 8,769 |
| Fundraising (1.7%) | \$ 8,823 |
| Total expenses \$ 536,341 | |
| Increase (decr) in net assets | \$ 15,396 |
| Net assets - beginning of year | \$ 135,308 |
| Net assets - end of year | \$ 150,704 |
| Unrestricted net assets | \$ 132,219 |
| Temporarily restricted net assets*** | \$ 18,485 |

96.7% Spent on Programs for the Poor

Fortunately, our fixed expenses are minimal because we have no office rent, no buildings, and no paid staff. In spite of many challenges, we were able to continue to deliver most of the services needed by our constituents in Jamaica. We try to retain 6-months' operating expenses (approx. \$60,000) as unrestricted assets. Periodic audits of the records of St. Pius X and other 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: \$1,168 Housing, \$11,363 Optical, Dental \$5,954.

Sean Nolan, CPA, of RWHSG 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 239-514-0290

Food & Goods



As we advocate for the poor and dispossessed in the parishes of St. Pius X and St Martin de Porres in Kingston, we appreciate anew the support extended to JOP by the parishioners of St. John the Evangelist in Naples, FL and Blessed Pope John XXIII in Ft. Myers, FL. This past year, an ocean-going container was filled with food valued at \$25,375 headed for the food pantry at St Pius and food valued at \$4,830 was sent to St. Martin de Porres.

While we no longer collect and ship clothing and household goods, we do occasionally accept special items which we take to Food for the Poor (FFP) in Coconut Creek FL; they in turn ship the items to Jamaica for us. This past year these items included school books, eyeglass frames and medicines. The mission of

JOP continues, our dedication endures, and our gratitude grows daily for all those who do whatever they can to help us bear witness in Jamaica to Christ's teachings and example.

For more information contact: Martha Mador 992-2646.

Interested in learning more ? Gen. Info: Joe Gagnier, President 254-9090 Medical : Dr. Al Kerns 514-1553 Optical : Dr. Jeff Zimm 592-5511

St. Martin de Porres: Richard VanBuskirk 225-1212

Housing & Dental: Roger Plante 948-2145

Education: Deacon Rob Chalhoub 414-791-4523

Donations/Events: Jeanne Stamant 514-0290

Sewing: Nancy Cote 514-0410

Volunteering & Food Drive: Martha Mador 992-2646

Education Report



Laquita N.
St Pius X scholarship recipient

This past fiscal year's accomplishments include assistance to needy students through grants to the Education & Scholarship Funds of several parishes, for help with books, tuition, school supplies, uniforms, and school lunch fees. 15 Students at St Pius X, 52 at St Benedict, 8 at St. Peter Claver and 34 at St Martin dePorres were awarded assistance.

Grants to the St. Pius X and St Peter Claver Skills Training Centers are helping 69 young adults improve their literacy/math/computer proficiencies and develop job skills.

JOP also made a grant for a 2013 summer youth retreat conducted by Fr. Stephen and Fr. Collin. 34 young people attended.

African Martyrs of Uganda (AMU) Catholic Church has a parochial "Basic School" with 79 students ages 3-6, and they receive support from JOP. Studies show that pre-school graduates are better prepared for primary school and long term benefits include higher graduation rates, lower criminal activity and higher earning capacity. The staff at AMU docu-

mented the children's progress in a special 8-page report to JOP. The Principal, Ms Tanya Gosling, wrote *"African Martyrs continues to play a vital role in the community in which it is situated. Though the institution is challenged in obtaining the funds it needs to operate, and most parents are having difficulties with the payment of fees, the institution continues to accept them and assist in whatever ways it can... To ensure that we start the lives of these young ones right, we have morals and values sessions once per week during devotions... We would like to thank all our sponsors and well wishers who contributed their time, treasure and talent to us this year and we look forward in working with you for the next school year. May the Lord continue to bless you richly."*

For more information: Rob Chalhoub 414-791-4523



AMU Basic School students & teacher

Sewing 156 items for Jamaica



Nov. 2012 Optical Mission Team

Medical Report

Dr. Lee Martin sees as many as 150 patients per week in the medical clinic at St. Pius X. Fewer come when there is no free medicine to dispense.

During the May mission trip a team, led by Bryce Roberts and Dr. Michelle Boose of OH, did 155 medical exams for pre-schoolers in the St. Pius X area. Bryce wrote: "Over the past eight years Kingston has become a much more health conscious city. In 2006 more people were medically illiterate and lacked understanding of why preventative standards were important when it came to their well-being. In the first years of my experience we would see over 500 young people and be active for over five days facilitating the clinic at St. Pius X. For the past three years the number has dropped to under 200 young people and finishing the clinic in two days. My first reaction is WOW! What an amazing accomplishment for JOP and Jamaica! The clinic started by JOP has been successful. Families now come to the June mission with immunization records, nearly every child was born in hospital with a record of their weight and any issues the child had at birth, the families understand their history and are able to articulate medical problems. Why? Because family physicians perform physicals on their children and the cost has dropped to approximately \$20 American dollars. The progress in the past eight years is absolutely amazing!"

| Medicines, equipment and supplies | Yr. Ended 9-30-13 | Total since 1998 |
|--|-------------------|------------------|
| Purchased with donations from St. John parishioners & JOP donors | \$20,449 | \$ 215,689 |
| Donated by the Catholic Medical Mission Board | \$ 0 | \$3,069,617 |
| Total: | \$20,449 | \$3,285,306 |



Dr. Al Kerns, "Boxer" & Ann Kerns

Dr. Al Kerns retired from the JOP Board this past year. He was one of the original founders of JOP in 1997, served for many years as Chairman of the Board and will continue to serve on JOP's Advisory Board. Our heartfelt thanks go out to him and his wife Ann for their incredible dedication to this ministry for the past 16 years.

Christmas Tea



Wed. December 4, 2013, 12:30 pm

Plan to join us again this year for our annual Christmas Tea, featuring a champagne reception, boutique shopping, sandwiches, scones and sweets. Entertainment by The New Chorale of SWFL will put you in the Christmas spirit. \$35 per person — reserved seating in the St. John's ballroom. Wear your Christmas colors! For tickets call Jeanne 239-514-0290 or buy online at www.jamaicaoutreach.org.

Festival - We be Jammin' Mon!

JOP is having a "Jammin' for Jamaica" Festival, Friday, February 7, 2014 at 5:30 pm in the St John the Evangelist ballroom. Please come to support the poor in Jamaica... the cost is only \$50 per person.



This fundraiser will feature **very casual attire**, an open bar, dinner, music and dancing with DJ Bob Cox along with a fun Treasure Chest event and Auction. For tickets and info, call Jeanne 239-514-0290, or

buy online at www.JamaicaOutreach.org.

Housing Report

This year marked another banner year for the housing endeavors of JOP. A total of 25 houses were built, five from the actual Pocket Change collections and 20 from individual donors. JOP as usual extends a huge THANK YOU to St. John parishioners and other faithful followers who so generously gave of their life savings to help the poorest of God's children.

In addition to houses, we funded a woodworking and multipurpose center at St. Peter Claver with funds that had been earmarked in the prior year for that purpose. The center is under construction and soon many will be taking advantage of the kitchen, woodworking shop, scouts meeting hall and multi-purpose rooms.

At Father John's suggestion this year, the JOP board of directors conducted a major audit of the homes built to determine the impact we are making on otherwise homeless Jamaican families and to confirm that the funds we send to Jamaica were being used wisely. The verifications took many hours of effort, and in addition, in July, Roger Plante, chairman, accompanied by Justice Raymond Shawcross, a member of our advisory board and the housing committee, visited several of the recipient families specifically for that purpose.

The audit reviewed all of the 220 homes donated by St. John parishioners and JOP donors since JOP became a 501(c)3 corporation in 2007. The donations from each donor were tied in with the specific recipients' names and locations where the homes were built. In addition, in their visit to the Kingston area, Roger and Ray conducted unannounced visits to some of the recipients and interviewed several of the families to determine how the generosity of JOP donors had changed their lives. JOP is happy to report that the spot audit and personal visits revealed extremely favorable results.

Following are a few excerpts from the audit report:

Ms. Joyce S of Kingston lived in her new home with her god-daughter, husband and her two children. The family was burned out of their home which was on the same site in the summer of 2012 and Ms. S. approached Fr. Thomas for assistance. Her application received express processing and her home was built on the site very quickly using the same foundation. Her comment was that she "put her trust in God and all was taken care of". She showed us a small shrine in her home in honor of the donor.

Ms. Dornett S., also of Kingston confirmed she has lived in the home for approximately two years and that she lives there with her three daughters and two sons and a baby belonging to one of her daughters. Previously, the family was in a one-room rented shack. Ms. S is an asthmatic and could no longer live under the poor conditions of their last rental which only had a dirt floor. The family is extremely happy in their home and they are very grateful to the JOP donor who paid for their housing. Since their move-in, the family has put on an addition to the back of the house, which they are working on as money is available.

Ms. Sheryl G. lives in the very remote village of St. Andrew, high in the Blue Hills of Kingston (Father Burchell McPherson's native village). She moved last summer into her home which is about ¼ mile up a foot-path. Sheryl is 35 and has daughters ages 19, 14 and a son age 8. She is a self employed cosmetologist and she and her home were extremely neat and clean. Her average earnings are \$2.50 (US equivalent) per client and her business is limited to about ten clients per week because of the remoteness of her location. There is no electricity available at her home site but there is running water and the home has a shower and bathroom.

These are but a few of the grateful recipients and we assure you there are still hundreds of families in desperate need of housing, especially in the remote areas around Kingston.

At present, we have been able to take advantage of a Jamaican government matching funds grant to build double-size homes \$6,400 for the price of a smaller home \$3,200.

Interested donors and volunteers may contact Housing Committee chairman Roger Plante at rogerpsold@gmail.com or at 239-948-2145.



**Summer 2013
JOP housing
inspections.**

One home-owner's reaction:
"sincere appreciation from the
bottom of my
heart to all."



The only access to
the house on the
right is the foot-
path pictured left.

The house below was
built into the side of a
steep hill; accessed
by the rocky path be-
low.



Thank You Message from Father Thomas

"What shall I render to the Lord for all His goodness to me?" (Psalm 116.12). These words of the Psalmist reverberate in our hearts as we continue to experience the outpouring of God's gracious providence in and through you, our friends at St. John the Evangelist Parish. We are truly blessed to have your love and support as you enable us to care for our poor and needy, providing education, food, clothing, medical care, and housing ... You have truly made difference in the lives of our people. Please accept our heartfelt thanks on behalf of the people you help at various parishes in Kingston, Jamaica. God bless you.

Rev. Fr. Thomas Dynetius

Pastor: St. Pius X, St. Peter Claver, St. Patrick's, and Christ the Redeemer Catholic Churches

VanDomelen Dental Clinic Flourishes, But Needs Volunteers

Thanks to the generosity of JOP's donors and volunteers, this year brought two hugely successful dental missions to the VanDomelen Dental Clinic at St. Pius X.

In early May, the Boston team was headed by Dr. Alan Merchanthouse, JOP advisory board member, three dental hygienists, one dental assistant and one lay JOP volunteer. This group saw a total of 193 patients involving 20 extractions, 28 fillings, 96 total cleanings and many treatments and evaluations. This was their second mission trip and JOP is extremely grateful for their participation.

The second mission was organized by Leroy Jackson with the help of his friends from the Peace River Murdock Rotary Club in Punta Gorda. Oral surgeon Dr. Roger Lee, periodontist Dr. Carol Stevens and Dr. Winston McIntosh, dentist, were assisted by one dental hygienist and three dental assistants. They came from Pennsylvania, Bonita Springs, Port Charlotte and Punta Gorda. In their three days of work, the team saw a total of 224 patients which involved 25 extractions, 45 fillings, 59 cleanings and many treatments and evaluations. This was the first mission for this team and they are looking forward to doing it again in the future.



May 29, 2013 Dental Mission Team

We need more dentists, hygienists, dental assistants and lay persons to participate in future missions to keep this very rewarding venture alive. Both of these groups had to turn away dozens of patients who just could not be seen in the extended days of office hours. JOP could accommodate five or six such missions per year if the professionals were available. We ask all friends of JOP to just mention our mission volunteer needs when they are having their teeth cleaned or visiting their dentist. The clip out coupon below indicates contact information for volunteers and interested persons.

Dental Volunteers always needed by Jamaica Outreach Program
Contact Roger P. at 239-948-2145 ROGERPSOLD@GMAIL.COM

Jamaica Outreach Program

P.O.Box 110581

Naples, FL 34108-1929

www.JamaicaOutreach.org 239-325-2103

Email: JamaicaOutreach@comcast.net

To make a donation or bequest:

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