

**Date: November 29, 2015**  
**To: Jamaican Outreach Program Board of Directors**  
**Re: November Dental Mission**  
**From: Robyn DeVille**

This month's dental mission at the Van Domelen Dental Clinic at St. Pius X compound took place on November 18<sup>th</sup> thru November 22<sup>nd</sup> with two days for travel. It was staffed with six volunteers, and the following individuals participated:

- Dr. Mary Teresa Prendiville - Tampa, FL
- Joann Eudy-Alta, RDH - Charlotte, NC
- Trina Graham, RDH - Charlotte, NC
- Wendy Mills, RDH - Columbus, OH
- Kathleen Shields, RDH- Boston, MA
- Robyn DeVille - Naples, FL

Additional full-time support was provided by the St. Pius Staff. Chewayne and Rosemarie were invaluable assets. Along with Dr. Anissa Holmes who provided licensed dental assistants on each of the three days; Trecia, Marcia and Saskia worked side-by-side with Dr. Mary Teresa. Chewayne was taught by Dr. Holmes assistant Trecia to operate the X-ray machine and develop the film. This was a true blessing! None of us volunteers were familiar with the procedure.

Father Raphael, Vivienne and Dr. Martin all came to visit the clinic and offer any assistance if required. As usual Boxer was our liaison and Paul was our chauffer.

We saw a total of 267 in the three day mission. There were four no-show's for the dentists (but the appointment slots were filled) and there were twenty no-show's for the hygienists.

Following is the breakdown:

|                                  | November 19 <sup>th</sup> | November 20 <sup>th</sup> | November 21 <sup>st</sup> | Totals |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|--------|
| Extractions                      | 25                        | 34                        | 47                        | 106    |
| Fillings                         | 4                         | 2                         | 0                         | 6      |
| Dr. Exam Only                    | 8                         | 5                         | 10                        | 23     |
| Cleaning                         | 37                        | 45                        | 54                        | 136    |
| Fluoride Tx                      | 37                        | 45                        | 54                        | 136    |
| X-rays                           | 5                         | 4                         | 5                         | 14     |
| Referred                         | 0                         | 2                         | 2                         | 4      |
| Priority for Next Dental Mission | 8                         | 10                        | 14                        | 32     |

We referred two patients to Dr. Annissa Holmes (one for a crown and the other for dentures). There were two young patients that Dr. Mary Teresa referred to Dr. NallaPatta & Dr. PK White for root canals. The challenge is that although it would save a viable tooth the costs for this are \$300,000 (\$3K US). It is my assumption that these two youngsters will unfortunately be back at a later mission for an extraction.

Most all the patients were given a bag with instructions', toothbrush, toothpaste, and floss. The surgery patients were given hand-written post-op instructions, Ibuprofen 600mg for 3 days, 2X2 gauze, and if indicated antibiotics for 7 days. Dr. Martin provided us with Cipro 500mg and Amoxicillin 500mg.

There are thirty-two patients (list will be a separate report) who will need to be seen at the next dental mission. We have their telephone numbers and the procedure that is required. The majority of the patients will be seen for fillings. We had only the one dentist this trip. Dr. Mary Teresa wanted to concentrate on extractions rather than the time-consuming filling procedures.

As you are aware all our missionaries are passionate about their jobs. It is unfortunate that our time is so limited and the need so great. Over the past missions the dentist's time is pre-booked upon our arrival. We allow slots for a couple emergencies and stay late when necessary. The hygienist however are to bring to the attention of the dentists any blaring problems such as an abscess, an infection, a rotten tooth, a deep cavity or if they are in pain. All other patients are asked to come back at the next mission for a continuation of treatment. Not the best scenario but the best we can do. With that said, on the last day of the mission Dr. Mary Teresa requested to see all the patients that the hygienists have seen (she stated it is required by her US professional license). It would be logistically impossible for her or any dentist to see 90 patients a day weaving in and out of the two other hygienists exam rooms. I attempted to resolve this with her but was unsuccessful. I did stay with her an extra two hours so that she could see the last patients of the day. I will leave this for Roger to address, explain his procedures and his recommendations.

There was need for three repairs during the mission to the equipment in rooms 1, 3 and 4. Each time we were able to get it resolved in a timely manner. We had to make additional order for supplies and Vivienne was able to have it delivered quickly.

Roger had sent over some donated floss and adult toothbrushes. The hygienists also brought many in-kind donations; such as angle prophys, fluoride, masks, goodie-bags, surge lines (list will be a separate report). Two of the ladies brought a 48 pound box of clothes, shoes and toys.

Dr. Mary Teresa provided us a list of instruments that she would like added to our inventory:

- Bite blocks
- Rongeurs
- #9 Periosteal elevators
- East-West
- Minnesotas (1) (3)
- #301 Elevators
- Straight hemostats
- Cat gut suture 3-0
- Composite supplies & flowable
- Good light to cure

The hygienists helped create a list of 'lessons learned' that we will pass on to the next missions. We also hung a note board above the sink in the autoclave room to leave notes. Their input was valuable and made the clinic run smooth, save time and expense. A list will be provided to Roger for the next missions.

Our lodgings at Immaculate Conception were wonderful as always. The six of us ate, swam and slept in comfort. The bill was given to Vivienne and I paid Odette with a check.

Boxer was able to tour the missionaries WhiteWing and see the Mustard Seed. We were able to get to the mega-mart for two personal shopping days. One evening Boxer took the ladies to a 'look-out' point to see Kingston at night. And on the way to the air-port we stopped at the Devon House for ice-cream.

The missionaries' have created a private FACEBook page for their trip. They have posted multiple photographs and are sharing their good times together. They are aware of the rules for posting pictures of patients in the clinic. The site is *private* and any dental work does not show the patients face.

The trip was very successful. It was a privilege being able to go on this dental mission and I am impressed with the team. And I have new friends. ....

