

## MISSION REPORT, MAY, 2016

Memo to: Board of Directors, Advisory Board and Friends of the Dental mission Program of JOP

From: Roger Plante, Jamaica Outreach Program

Date: June 4, 2016

The VanDomelen Dental Clinic was bustling with activity on May 24, 25 and 26 for this dental mission. This was by far our largest endeavor out of our 19 dental mission history and it was necessitated to bring the education/fluoride programs at the St. Peter Claver and the DuPont schools into unison. Hence, all of the students at DuPont have received two applications of Fluoride in the last year and a half, and all those students at St. Peter Claver School have had one application. It is difficult to quantify the results of our fluoridation effort, but before we started the program, our hygienists' assessments in 2014 revealed that 65 % of the children needed to see the dentist. We have now established a grading system for evaluating the children and that data currently shows that some 35 – 40 % of the children seen need to see the dentist which in itself is a significant improvement.

From here, we can start fresh in September devoting three of the school time missions to Clinic + DuPont and two of them to Clinic + St Peter Claver.... just serving one school per mission. The July mission will continue to be a "Clinic only mission".

This May mission team consisted of 14 dental persons, all coming from various U.S.Air Force bases and three lay persons, for a total of 17 participants.

The team consisted of:

Vincent Cardillo, MA, Mission leader

Jacob Botzman, SC mission leader

Roger Plante, RI & FL, Dental Chairperson for Jamaica Outreach

Dr. Joshua Nardone, U. S. A. F. , FL

Dr. Ben Pass, U. S. A. F. , FL

Dr. Jay Fedorowicz, U. S. A. F. , FL

Caroline Bunce, U. S. A. F., SC RDH

Brooke Mortense, U. S. A. F., SC, RDH

Shawanda Jackson, U. S. A. F. , FL, RDH

Jo-Anne Banks, U. S. A. F. , FL , RDH

Sharon Palmer, U. S. A. F. , FL, dental tech.

Deandra Lamons, U. S. A. F., FL, dental tech./asst.

Olivia Perry, U. S. A. F. , FL, dental tech.

Monica Braden, U. S. A. F., FL, dental tech/asst.

Whitney Zant, U. S. A. F. , FL, dental asst.

Hayden Perusek, U.S.A.F., MA dental tech./asst.

Christa Miller, U. S. A. F., FL, Prophy Tech.



Following is a tally of the numbers of patients treated during this three day mission:

Day	Clinic Patients	Clinic Extractions	Clinic Fillings	Clinic Cleanings	DuPont	Ptr Cl.
1	56	46	33	22	189	98
2	69	36	19	26	289	103
3	<u>69</u>	<u>39</u>	<u>27</u>	<u>28</u>	<u>269</u>	<u>140</u>
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>194</b>	121	79	76	<b>747</b>	<b>341</b>

Additionally 17 patients were evaluated and for some reason or another were not treated...some referred out, some had medical issues & others refused recommended treatment or were afraid.

In all, 1,299 patients were seen at this mission.

As usual, Father Raphael, Deacon Vivian, Miss Bradford, Rose and Boxer were very instrumental in making this all happen. They are part of all the work that goes into organizing any of our missions. All five of them, on numerous occasions expressed gratitude to the missionaries for their participation at this mission.

Our July mission is fully staffed with returning Drs. Eric Hall (Atlanta, GA) and Maria Linden (Naples, FL) who will be joined by Dr. Clair Flinn (Naples, FL). This will be our only "clinic only" mission of the year as the two schools are not in session in July. This team will consist of nine persons, and all positions are filled.

They may however see several of the students who could not be seen at the May mission.....and who will call in for appointments.

Our September mission is all booked also with 12 persons and with school involvement at the DuPont School. Hopefully we will have the opportunity to train two additional dental mission leaders who have signed up for the job at this mission. If this goes according to plan, this will bring our total trained leaders for the Kingston dental missions to six; accordingly each one will only need to do one mission in Kingston per year.

Our November mission will be devoted to clinic and outreach at the Peter Claver School. This mission has a good number of persons signed up and should be fully staffed real soon.

In October, we are planning our first Medical/Dental mission in the **Montego Bay** diocese headed by **Bishop Burchell McPherson** with a three day outreach at Sacred Heart Mission in Seaford Town, Westmorland. (Seaford Town is very poor community, about 25 miles from the center of Montego Bay...about 40 minutes drive) We have our dentist, we have our hygienist and also our dental assistant (all members of prior dental teams) Our M.D. is on board and all we are lacking is a nurse. I do not anticipate any problems and have several inquiring about the job. It would be nice to have a nurse with some E.R. or similar clinical experience. Additionally, in February, we will be conducting a one month mission at the same Mo-Bay location with a Canadian dentist and his assistant donating three days of work per week for four weeks at our clinic.

### Missionary comments: (the wonderful people we worked with)

*Thank you for coordinating such a memorable humanitarian dental trip for our large group. It was an experience that I will not soon forget! I know that it may not have been the smoothest mission you've experienced, and there were certainly many personalities at play, but I think, in the end, some real good work was accomplished, and that's what we set out to do. Speaking for myself, I participated in this mission to help and serve as many of the poor and needy of Kingston as I could. I saw a variety of patients, from the child to the elderly, from the destitute to the just-trying-to-make-ends-meet, from the entitled to the very grateful. My favorite part was interacting with all of these patients. Putting dentistry aside, if I was able to bless even just one person for the better, then I consider this to be a successful trip for me. Thank you again and God bless!*

*The children were constantly calling out Mr. Jacob", wanting to high-five, or hold my hand as I walked. It was such a moving experience for me and made being there all the more worth-while. These kids clearly had much less than I did, and yet seemed to be joyful and content with what they had. They were also extremely respectful and modest. I really did love working with these kids and I feel our mission group was able to show a lot of love to this whole community, both to the kids and the adults.*



Team members demonstrate proper oral hygiene for the children at DuPont School