

To Board of Directors & other interested parties  
From: Roger Plante  
Re: July 27-28-29 mission to Sacred Heart, Seaford Town  
Date: August 6, 2017

This mission consisted of a dental team and a medical team as there were no volunteers to do the optical part.

As usual, Father Luke and Sister Jhorna were extremely hospitable to the missionaries and they participated in the mission activities from morning to night from the team's arrival at the airport until they departed Sunday morning.

The team members included:

Team leader Essy Mbrini, RDH, Toronto Canada (2<sup>nd</sup> mission)

**MEDICAL:**

Dr. Raysa Hache, Miami, (3<sup>rd</sup> mission)

Allecia Lawrence-Leiba, Nurse Practitioner, Miami, FL

Linda Dosing, R.N., Naples, FL

Shelica Anastaari, Med student...(2<sup>nd</sup> mission) Tampa, FL

**DENTAL:**

DR. Waji Khan, Kingston, Ontario, Canada

Alla Allan, Assistant, Kingston, Ontario, Canada

Alwyn Leiba, RDH, Ph. D., Miami, FL

Boxer our friend from Kingston joined the team for his 3<sup>rd</sup> trip to Sacred Heart and was the all-around "go-for" plus he now has been trained to perform all the sterilizing for both teams.



For the first time, our team traveled to Jamaica with **pre-natal and children's Vitamins** in their luggage. Hopefully this will be the start of a program to provide vitamins to a population who never had access to them. If this pilot program goes off well, this could possibly become a part of our fundraising activities in the future.

In all, the teams saw a total of 243 patients---all from impoverished families and all in direr need of our help.

Temperatures and humidity rose to very uncomfortable levels, but the entire team worked through it like real troopers. Unfortunately, **THERE IS NO AIR CONDITIONING** at the Sacred Heart Mission.

Statistics for this mission are as follows: Total Patients seen: 243 and many of these patients received multiple treatments.

	Medical pts	Extractions	Fillings	Cleanings
Thursday	26	24	7	27
Friday	33	24	7	32
Saturday	<u>19</u>	<u>28</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>37</u>
Totals	78	76	30	96

The medical people were very busy with everything from seriously ulcerated wounds, pre-natal visits, pediatrics, injuries, breast mass, asthma, COPD, skin rashes and infections, but dominating the list were management of blood pressure issues and diabetes.



So many patients to see!

The dental folks barely scratched the surface and the report from these missionaries is the same as previous comments that the demand to see the dentist far exceed the open slots available in the three days the team was there. In depth hygienic work could not be performed as time did not permit, but many patients were diagnosed, given emergency treatment and referred to return at our next mission. The doctor was busy without break from morning to night just tending to the patients who had booked appointments and some walk-in emergencies. The statistics shown above tell the whole story. It is very difficult as we only have two dental chairs at the clinic and only one is equipped to handle the heavy “dentist” type of work. The second station is for cleaning only. The clinic really needs another dentist’s setup.



Left: Dr. Raysa holding newborn who’s mom she treated during pregnancy and whom she befriended during prior Missions.

Plans for future missions are kind of open at this time as no one has stepped forward to take charge. I am in need of help in the organization part as we have too much on the books for one volunteer to handle. Organizers can come from any part of the country, but need to have time and patience to collect data and organize.

We have a full Hygiene and assisting staff for September mission (25-26-27) in Kingston, but no dentist. The word is out and hopefully someone will come forward.

Plans are under way to have a repeat of this mission in Seaford Town in October and JOP is now recruiting members for that mission which is scheduled for October 26-27-28. Some prior missionaries are slated to return for that mission.....but more are needed in three categories MEDICAL---OPTICAL---DENTAL.

If you know of someone who might be interested in these or other future missions at either location, contact Roger Plante at [rogerplante10@gmail.com](mailto:rogerplante10@gmail.com) or 401-769-7444.