

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 – 2018 Newsletter

Since 1997

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



20th Anniversary Celebration – February, 2018

Thank You!

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.

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Oct.1, 2017 - Sept.30, 2018 Highlights

- ☺ 540 Eye exams, 398 eyeglasses delivered, 40 cataract surgeries
- ☺ Over 30 boxes of clothing delivered
- ☺ 297 children's items (clothing blankets, etc) made by St. John's Sewing Group.
- ☺ 1,169 Patients treated at two supported Medical Clinics
- ☺ 2,625 dental patients were treated in 4 dental missions
- ☺ 368 students received aid for tuition, supplies, backpacks, books, or uniforms
- ☺ 48 young adults received job skills training
- ☺ 7 housing units were built for the poor
- ☺ over 100 people volunteered (52 went on mission trips)

AND MORE... see inside for details.

Message from Archbishop Richards

Dear Board Members of JOP,

On Behalf of the Roman Catholic Archbishop of Kingston, we would like to express our deepest gratitude and appreciation for your ongoing support of the following churches, St. Pius X Church, St. Pius X Skills Training Center, St. Peter Claver, St. Benedict, Dupont Primary and Infant School, African Martyrs of Uganda Early Childhood Institute, Holy Trinity Cathedral Art Literacy School, and Immaculate Conception Church and Missions.

This support continues to provide well needed assistance. These include, but not limited to: parish operations, education fund, housing, medical clinic (St. Pius X), school supplies and repairs, and to salaries for teachers. We are also deeply grateful for the ongoing dental, optical and medical missions, which continue to provide wholesome health care for those in our communities who are in most need.

The Roman Catholic Archbishop of Kingston appreciates this initiative and continued support and generosity, through which the lives of many of our people have been impacted in a very positive and meaningful way.

"I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brethren of mine, you did for me" (Matt. 25:40).

May God richly all your endeavors and your ministry and mission.

Sincerely in Christ,

Most Rev. Kenneth D. Richards, DD, Roman Catholic 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.

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 welcomed. Anyone interested in becoming an active volunteer is invited to contact any Board member (see box below for contact info).



Founders: Fr. Tom Glackin, Bishop Burchell McPherson, Wally Kasputis



Left :Martha & Jean Mador.

*Right: Kevin Williams, Vivienne Bradford ,
Boxer McEwan*



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

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

Optical Equipment : Paul Connor 330-784-6623

Food and Goods : Jeff Meyerson 239-592-5781

Website & Publications: Jeff Meyerson 239-592-5781

Financial Report for the Fiscal Year Ended 9-30-18 — Jamaica Outreach Program

Statement of Activities

Support and revenues

Contributions & Grants	\$ 208,653
Special events, net	\$ 7,593
Donated food, goods & services	\$ 500,963
Investments & Other Income*	\$ 2,689

Total Revenues \$ 719,898

Expenses

Program services (98%)	\$ 722,324
General & administrative (1%)**	\$ 7,339
Fundraising (1%)	\$ 7,657

Total expenses \$ 737,321

Increase (decr) in net assets \$ (17,423)

Net assets - beginning of year \$ 181,331

Net assets - end of year \$ 163,908

Unrestricted net assets \$ 162,009

Temporarily restricted net assets*** \$ 1,899

98 % 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: \$1,899 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. **Seventeen volunteers** from OH, KY and FL donated their time, talent, medicines and glasses to the eye care clinic at St Pius X and Sacred Heart in Montego Bay region.

The November, 2017 trip to St. Pius X included **Dr Tom Kelly (OH)**, Paul Connor (OH), Amy Kuzma (OH), Peggy Johnson (KY), and Jeanne Stamant. The team completed 192 eye exams.

In February 2018, **Dr. Philip Baier (FL)** travelled to Bishop Burchell's rural territory in Seaford Town with Paul Curti (FL) where they saw 148 patients.



The **April 2018 Cataract Surgery mission trip** was led by Dr Jeffrey Zimm (Naples, FL) with Dr. Lynn Byerly, four staff from All Saints Eye Center and support from Jamaican ophthalmic assistants. They performed 40 cataract surgeries. 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.

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Education Report

This year Jamaica Outreach Program funded significant educational programs in the both the Kingston and Montego Bay regions of Jamaica. Over two hundred students were awarded scholarships to attend secondary schools. These grants partially paid for books and fees for students, who without this aid would be unable to attend these schools. In Jamaica, unlike the United States, the government does not provide for completely free secondary education. Therefore, children from poor families can be deprived of an education due to finances. Even though the cost may seem small to us, this is where JOP donors do make a difference.

The DuPont School, supported by JOP, is in the inner-city area of Kingston and serves children from the age of 3 to 12. A recent study undertaken of truant students showed that some children were not attending school because their families were unable to afford the uniforms or to buy shoes. This year JOP provided shoes and uniforms for 40 children. This assistance helped these youngsters who would otherwise be unable to attend school. Also, we were instrumental in establishing a remedial after school literacy program for parents. This program enables and empowers parents to fully participate in their child's educational studies. Parents who struggled with reading comprehension had their self-esteem raised by this program. In the Montego Bay area of Cambridge, Jamaica we made a significant contribution to the St. Mary Basic School. This school serves children from ages 3 to 6 and prepares them for entry into primary grades. More importantly, the school, staffed by the Sisters of the Immaculate Conception imparts Christian values to these youngsters of tender years. Although the school is only in its fourth year it has been highly successful and acclaimed throughout the region.



St. Mary's Pre-School

JOP supported the operation of St Pius Skills Training Center. This school equipped young men and women with job skills to obtain employment. The instruction included computer skills, money management, communication and entrepreneurial skills. Forty-eight students attended the school last year. The graduates found employment in the food and tourist industry as well as cosmetology. JOP funded a 3-week Arts and Literacy summer camp which served 40 children at Holy Trinity High School. This camp provided the participants with an intense immersion in learning and creativity. The students, between the ages of 4 to 12, were afforded a safe environment to experience the creative arts including dance, music, visual arts as well as reading and literacy skills building. This year the camp was so successful that it was featured on a morning television program in Jamaica and newspaper articles.

For more information contact: Ray Shawcross 401-862-0590

For more information on JOP education initiatives in Jamaica contact Ray Shawcross at reshaw1@verizon.net or 401-862-0590.

VISION CARE (Continued from page 3...)

In May **Dr. Eric Donaghy** and his team did cataract patient follow-ups and other eye exams on 200 patients.

Paul Connor, JOP Board member and optical equipment professional, has been a God-send in the production of all the prescription eyeglasses resulting from our mission trips over the years. In the past fiscal year, **398 pairs of eyeglasses** were delivered to Jamaica by Paul at incredible savings to JOP. Paul also repairs and maintains the equipment in our eye clinics, and has solicited hundreds of new eyeglass frames from his contacts in the optical profession.

Dr. Jeffrey Zimm is JOP's Eye Care Coordinator, has been going to Jamaica for 14 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



St. Pius Clinic Staff : Marie, Tania (R.I.P.), & Jody

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 87 patients visit the clinic per month, and last fiscal year there were 1,070 visits for the 12-month period. Jamaica Outreach Program supplies the clinic with medicine dispensed to patients free of charge.

The Sacred Heart clinic at remote Seaford Town in Montego Bay region saw 99 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 9-30-18	Total since 1998
Purchased with donations from St. John parishioners & JOP donors	\$13,202	\$ 301,012

20th Anniversary Celebration February, 2018



Christmas Tea

The December 2018 event has been **cancelled** because the ballroom at St John's is unavailable during church repairs and renovations, which will not be completed by early December .

We thank you for your support of our events past, present and future.

Mark your calendars for our concert by
the Ave Maria Univ. Music Dept.
March 14, 2019, 6:30 pm.

Expect a great mix of
Broadway, Opera & Sacred Music

Dental Clinic Report

Thanks to the generosity of our many missionaries and volunteers, this has been another great year for our mission outreach health care program.

Four missions were conducted in this fiscal year: two DENTAL MISSIONS at the St. Pius Campus in Kingston, one dental mission and one multi-discipline mission at the Sacred Heart compound in Seaford Town (Montego Bay area).



JOP was extremely blessed with the generous giving of their time and effort by 35 missionaries who participated in our missions: 14 from Florida, 3 from California, 8 from South Carolina, 3 from Georgia, 2 from Tennessee and singles coming from Illinois, Colorado, Massachusetts, Delaware, and Maine.

At the **Kingston missions** held in February and April, our missionaries took care of all of the 1,900+ students at the DuPont School and at the St. Peter Claver School, treating each with a dose of fluoride varnish and performing a full dental evaluation on each student. Many were treated at the clinics for situations needing immediate attention. Those two missions also brought great results at the dental clinic, including the treatment of 225 patients, and nearly 100 surgical extractions.

At the February **multi-discipline mission** at Sacred Heart 99 patients were treated for **medical** conditions. Over 25 % of them for hypertension and many for diabetic symptoms. Education and providing continuation of care are key for these patients and having a nurse (Sisters Theresila and Jhorna) in residency will be a great asset. On the **optical** side 148 patients were examined and 69 pairs of prescription eye glasses were fitted and manufactured for these patients. While we diagnosed many with Cataract and Glaucoma conditions, we have no facilities for treating those at this time in that area. Hopefully, in the future JOP will establish a program for performing those surgeries at the Hope Clinic in Montego Bay. Our **dentist** was very busy treating over 60 patients in the three day period, in addition to performing 14 fillings, she did 35 extractions.

The **dental only mission** to Seaford Town in late August was our first single discipline mission there, and proved to be a huge success. They performed 54 extractions and 14 fillings in addition to providing complete dental cleanings for 76 patients. Dozens of other patients were treated for various conditions.

The mission compound at Seaford Town is being upgraded, thanks to so many generous donors and to the untiring efforts of Father Lukasz. Air conditioning has been installed in the clinic and in the doctors' house.

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Dental (....Continued from page 6)

One of our dentists and great benefactor to the Seaford Town mission has paid for the installation of a third dental station at this clinic in memory of her mom who recently passed away (Mrs. Trudy Howell). That work station is up and running and was utilized at the August mission. Additionally through the generosity of a past board member and one of our dental hygienist missionaries, we were able to purchase a portable X-Ray camera..... which connects to a laptop computer....which can be transported between both of our mission locations. That setup should be ready for our next mission.

Unfortunately, due to the retirement of our dental mission organizer, future missions are in limbo. JOP is in need of someone who can take over the organization of these missions. Full training and orientation will be provided and the function requires someone with a positive attitude, e-mail and basic computer skills and dedication to make things happen. On an average, this function requires 5 – 10 hours per week of dedicated work....maybe a little more in the few weeks before a scheduled mission. JOP has a list of over 500 persons (mostly dental with some optical and medical) who have expressed interest in participation in our mission program and it is a matter of organizing teams to participate.

Anyone interested in finding out more about the position, or in being added to our list of potential missionaries can contact Roger Plante at rogerplante10@gmail.com.



Housing Report - SEVEN NEW HOMES FOR NEEDY JAMAICAN FAMILIES



Once again, through the generosity of our donors, we were able to finance 7 new homes for families. These families were selected by Jamaican churches and Food for the Poor.

Placing a family in a home with indoor plumbing and cooking facilities makes a huge difference in their lives and improves their standard of living dramatically. Over the last 20 years Jamaica Outreach Program has funded the building of over 500 homes.

Interested donors and volunteers may contact Housing Committee chairman Raymond Shawcross at 401-862-0590 or reshaw1@verizon.net

Food & Goods

This year we began to support a new soup kitchen in Montego Bay Diocese. The “Love In Action” soup kitchen is run by Korean sisters and volunteers; it serves hot meals 5 days a week to the poorest of the poor. Thanks to the support of our church and community we were able to ship 30 boxes of clothing to Jamaica. We also had 297 children’s items (clothing, blankets, etc.) made by St. John’s Sewing Group. For more information on Foods and Goods you may contact Jeff Meyerson at jeff@jamaicaoutreach.org

In Memoriam --- Sally VanBuskirk

Sally VanBuskirk left this world to claim her special place in heaven on June 25, 2018. She and her husband Richard were the founders of our optical programs 20 years ago and they led innumerable mission trips to Kingston and Montego Bay over the years. Sally & Richard recruited volunteers, eye doctors, and suppliers of eyewear for our Jamaican patients, many of whom still ask for “Miss Sally”. Sally & Richard served on the JOP Board for many years, and Sally also had leadership roles in many of our fundraising events. She always greeted everyone joyfully with open arms as her sister or brother in Christ. We grieve the loss of our dear friend but we rejoice in the fact that she now rests in the good hands of her Shepherd.



In Memoriam --- John Roy

John Roy was a new volunteer and Board member this past year and he passed away suddenly in July 2018. May he rest in peace.

Jamaican Choir 2018. Choir returns to sing at St John’s masses Feb. 2-3, 2019.



Jamaica Outreach Program

P.O.Box 110581

Naples, FL 34108-1929

www.JamaicaOutreach.org 239-325-2103

Email: info@jamaicaoutreach.org

To make a donation or request:

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.