

**REPORT TO: BOARD OF DIRECTORS & other interested parties
JAMAICA OUTREACH PROGRAM**

Re: Mission to St. Pius—Kingston, Jamaica September 25, 2022

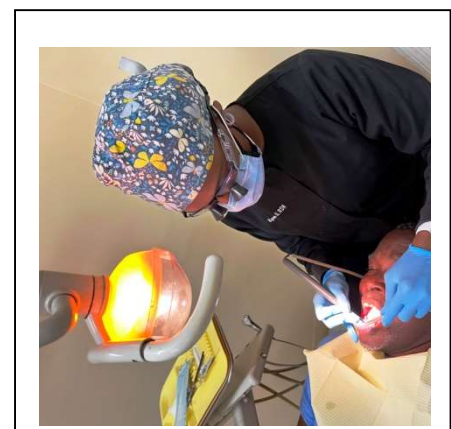
From: Roger Plante

This mission was completed on schedule as planned and the missionaries came from various parts of the US to care for patients at the Van Domelen clinic and for the children at the DuPont School. In addition to working in the clinic and school program, many members of the team visited local surrounding communities and were moved by the level of poverty.

This mission was a long time in organizing because the clinic had not been occupied for over two years due to the pandemic. All perishables had to be discarded and all the equipment had to be overhauled with many moving parts that needed replacing. Thanks to a team of local dental persons led by Sarah Tibby; they went through every piece of inventory in the clinic over a four-day period and our servicemen Michael Jolly did the same to all mechanical equipment. St. Pius staff replaced some of the broken water lines and thanks to all of them, we were up and running.

It seems that we cannot catch a break (either weather, power outages or equipment malfunction) and this mission was not an exception. We were there on the tail end of the hurricane and the rain seemed to never stop. As a result, only 40 of the 1,300 children at the school were present the first day, and school was cancelled on the second day so that left us with a partial student body on days three and four. Additionally, our Pediatric Dentist came down with Covid just a couple of days before the mission, so we were left with just two dentists instead of three; but the team of troopers worked it all out.

The local staff at St. Pius suggested setting up a waiting area for the patients in the old medical clinic, but that was not easy to work with because of the inclement weather and the need of having persons to manage the incoming patients from the waiting area to the clinic.



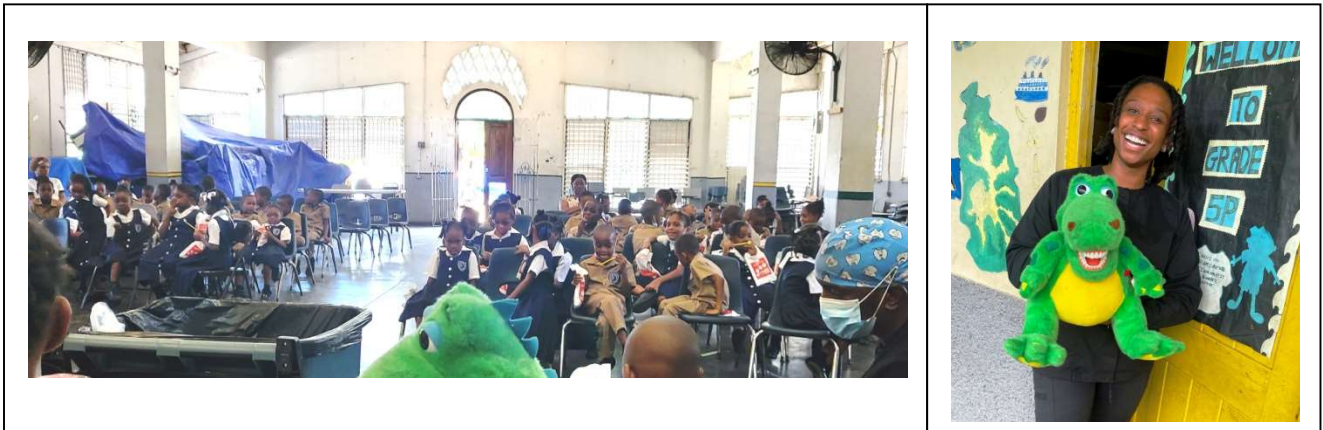
This was organized as a four-day mission. The school outreach with 3 persons was supposed to be completed on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday with some of the RDH from that team

returning home on Thursday, but Mother Nature and the school closing took care of those plans. Further due to the absence of our Pediatric Dentist, all of the children diagnosed with dental issues (over 100 of them) will have to be seen at the January mission. Once I receive all those records, we will begin to plan ahead for those little ones to be seen on a fixed schedule.

The roster of marvelous people for this mission included the following:

Vincent Cardillo	Team leader & Dental Practice Mgt	Longmeadow MA	Returning
Dr. Mary McKay	Family Dentist	Whiting, ME	Returning
Dr. Robert (Cam) Witt	Dentist	Waco, TX	New
Terry-Ann Guy	RDH	Queens, NY	New
Karen Decristofaro	Dental Asst.	Pembroke, MA	Returning
Kyana Upchurch	RDH	Arlington VA.	Returning
Madeline Cornish	Dental Asst.	Vineland, NJ	New
Lourdes Pietri	Dental Asst.	St Petersburg, FL	Returning
Akeem Burns	Dental Asst	Tallahassee, FL	New
Kerryann Richards	Dental Asst	Brooklyn, NY	New
Paulette Johnson	Dental Asst	Chelsea, MI	Returning
Melissa Baker	RDH	Atlanta, GA	New
Tesha Cagle	RDH	Mt. Laurel, NJ	Returning

JOP is very proud to say that over half of the missionaries on this team were returnees with several with 2 or 3 missions under their belt and one of our doctors on her fifth mission to Jamaica.



Following is a matrix of the patients treated at the school and at the clinic.

	9/26	9/27	9/28	9/29	Totals
Patients seen	32	40	59	58	189
Fillings	10	22	18	16	66
Cleanings	21	25	29	23	98
Extractions	15	28	19	22	84
Referred	1	1	3	10	15
Kids at school (Fluoride)	40	0	227	228	495

In all 189 patients were seen at the clinic and since many needed multiple procedures, a total of 251 procedures were performed there. Additionally, 495 children at the DuPont School were treated with fluoride applications, plus given an oral exam and oral education session.

The numbers are low in comparison to prior missions due to the problems enumerated above but the slack will need to be taken up in January. Additionally, the local staff needs to somewhat modify its system of booking appointments as not all available slots had been booked.

We had to cancel the November mission due to my 28-day bout with long Covid, but with that in the past, I am currently working on the January team. God willing, they will be traveling on Sunday, January 23rd (and a few on the 24th) and working 24-25-26-27. They will be returning home on the 28th (with a few people returning on the 27th). Hopefully we will have two pediatric dentists on this team so we can play catch-up with the little ones at the DuPont School.

We have another team organizing for third week of March, and that complement is nearly filled.

Anyone wishing more information on our dental mission program can reach me at 401-769-7444 or at rogerplante10@gmail.com

A couple of comments from the missionaries need mentioning:

****What an outstanding team!***

****My heart was full...***

****Dr. Cam's morning prayers were phenomenal....***

****9 year old Natasha asked me to hold her hand while Dr. Cam extracted her teeth After..... she gave me this huge hug and she wouldn't let go.....***

****To be able to give assistance to people of Jamaica where I was born meant the world to me.....***