

Medical Mission to Jamaica 2/01/2023 - 02/05/2023

The team: Dr. Joseph Vento, Dr. Thomas Vento, N.P. Ann Marie Bova and Loretta Vento

Local volunteers were extremely helpful, welcoming and tireless in their efforts.

## **OVERALL ASSESSMENT:**

On this mission the team visited two new sites - St. Benedict's and the Mission Above Rock - and returned to Immaculate Conception Church for the second time.

Another first for the team, was the distribution of bags of food to each family. Dr. Vento coordinated the donation, preparation and delivery of the food with Susan James and Kevin Mayne. The bags were delivered to the chancellery in Kingston. Thanks to Father Rohan and Father Collins, the food bags were then transported to the 3 sites we visited and distributed to the patients. The distribution was orderly and much appreciated by the families. Many thanks to Susan and Kevin!

We were pretty well set with medications on this mission. Many were donated by the Naples Neighborhood Clinic, some were ordered through QualCare and others were purchased through Amazon. As in the past, we found many patients were not following their medication regimens because the medications are too costly. Many patients are diabetic and/or hypertensive. There is a great deal of arthritic and joint pain. STDs present another major issue.





The team saw a total of 246 patients: 79 at St. Benedict's, 82 at Above Rock and 105 at Immaculate Conception Church.

Clinicians						
	St. Benedict	Above Rock	Stony Hill	Totals		
Vento, J	17	25	38	80		
Vento, T	25	39	47	111		
Bova	13	18	20	51		
Total	55	82	105	242		
Student eye check	4			246		

We did some diagnostic testing. We did not perform any hearing tests. On our last trip we did attempt to do hearing tests, but the noise levels were not conducive to accurate assessments with the audiometer we have.

Testing						
	St. Benedict's	Above Rocks	IC Stoneyhill	Totals		
Hearing	0	0	0	0		
FS Glucose	26	41	47	114		
UA	8	6	12	26		
Vision	59	82	105	246		
EKG	3	6	1	10		
U Preg	0	0	0	0		

## Arrival 2/01/2023 Kingston

## Day 1 Upon arrival:

We were picked up by our driver - Claude and taken to St. Benedict's. We were greeted by Pauline Gardner. Pauline showed us the facility. She had the space set up to meet our needs. With a few tweaks we had a good working layout and a plan for patient flow. We were able to set up all our medications and equipment that afternoon, which meant we were ready to work when we arrived the following morning

We then went to Father Rohan's. Mass, dinner, and a good night's rest.

Day 2 St. Benedict's





We can't thank Ms. Gardner enough for her hard work in organizing the site, signing up the patients and making the team feel welcomed and comfortable. The site was spacious, cool, and very clean.

We had 2 volunteers. Claudette is a retired nurse and was with us all day. She also gave us valuable information on how patients could sign up for Jamaica's health care assistance. She brought us copies of the application to give to patients.







## **Day 3 Mission Above Rock:**

Rough road up!!! Thanks to Father Collin and Father Francis we arrived safely! Each clinician had their own room and there was an area for set up of medications and testing equipment. Father Francis had many patients signed up and they waited in a nearby auditorium. They were then brought into a small waiting area in the front room of the building we were working in. Six or seven patients were brought in at a time and a volunteer did the eye chart test with each patient. The turnout was great, and the patient flow was orderly.











Day 4 Immaculate Conception, Stoney Hill Father Collin Henriques









We enjoyed our return visit to Immaculate Conception Church. Since we had been there before, it was an easy set up. The volunteers were great, and the patient flow and distribution of food bags was well organized. We started early and were able to see 105 patients.

**Day 5 Sunday - Departure from Kingston**