

Medical Mission to Jamaica 6/21/2023 - 06/25/2023

The team: Dr. Joseph 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. Mary's in Cambridge and St. Paul's Mission in Glendevon - and returned to Seaford Town.

We were pretty well set with medications on this mission. Most were donated, 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 and other major issues.

We did some diagnostic testing - urine analysis, pregnancy test, glucose test and ekgs. We did not perform any hearing tests because we need to upgrade our audiometer. We only did visual screening in Seaford where we had more volunteers.

Day 1 Wednesday 6/21/2023 Arrived at Montego Bay Airport. Deacon Powell picked us up and took us to lunch and then to the Hostel at Good Hope Clinic near the Cathedral.

Testing

	Seaford Town	St. Mary's	St. Paul's	Totals
Hearing	0	0	0	0
FS Glucose	20	35	28	83
UA	5	0	2	7
Vision	40	0	0	40
EKG	1	10	12	23
U Preg	0	1	0	1
COVID	0	0	0	0

Day 2 Thursday 6/22/2023 Father Morris picked us up and took us to Seaford Town.



There had been a storm the night before and all electricity was out until about noon. It was exceedingly hot and difficult to work without even a fan. Also, due to a lack of rain, we ran out of water in the afternoon.

Sister Monika provided us with a lovely lunch, delicious fresh pineapples and avocados. We ate in the clinic and resumed our work within 30 minutes. It was a successful visit. Sister Monika took the only photo that day.

Father Morris took us back to Montego Bay and we pick-up Chinese food on our way back to the hostel. It was hard to sleep because of the extreme heat. We were the only guests staying at the hostel and they no longer have a cook. Deacon Powell took us to a grocery store and Dr. Joe was our breakfast chef!

2023.06.22 44 Patients

Age	0-5	6-11	12-20	21-40	41-59	60-80	81	
Males	2	1	0	3	1	4	0	11
Females	1	4	4	6	9	9	0	33
								44

Day 3 Friday 6/23/2023 St. Mary's Cambridge Fr. Peter

Same road that we take up to Seaford Town, but much closer to Montego Bay. The church was our Clinic. The altar was our pharmacy. We had a lovely assistant who managed the flow of the patients into the church. The heat was relentless and stifling.



We also met Sister Rita, who runs a large clinic in Maggotty, St. Elizabeth. She invited us to do a mission at her clinic. It is remote but there's sleeping accommodations and many patients. We will try to gather more information

Father Peter gave us a tour of the school at lunch time. The children were delightful - happy, friendly, well behaved and fond of Father Peter. The school was clean and neat.



After lunch we returned to work in the church. Unfortunately, N.P. Bova took a fall coming off the altar. She was in a great deal of pain and we were all concerned about her hip (which was just fixed last year). Nonetheless, she continued to see patients till the end of the mission!!

St. Mary's Cambridge

Age	0-5	6-11	12-20	21-40	41-59	60-80	81	
Males	3	1	0	2	5	8	2	21
Females	0	0	2	8	6	13	1	30
								51

Day 4 St. Paul's Mission Glendevon



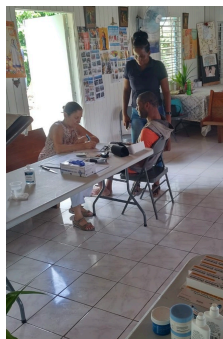
It's a steep walk for parishioners to get up to St. Paul's Church and Mission in the inner city. The church sits on a strip of land that separates - and has become a recognized neutral ground - two warring gangs. There is a government clinic nearby but the doctor comes once every other week and the members of the community are in need of care - medical and dental.

The grounds and church are lovingly maintained by Delta May Hall 84 years old and going strong. She wields her machete with great skill to clear the grounds of weeds. She has her tool kit to make small repairs. She cleans the church and was the first person to greet us when arrived.



We saw patients inside the small church. We had a wonderful volunteer, Kadian Anderson, bringing patients in and helping us communicate with some of them. Ann Marie saw patients despite her pain. She is a real trooper! We had a fan and a toilet (but not enough water to flush!).

A great many of the patients had terrible teeth. Many were elderly and they walked up the hill slowly but with no complaints. They were very grateful for our help.



St. Paul's Glendevon

Age	0-5	6-11	12-20	21-40	41-59	60-80	81	
Males	0	4	2	4	2	5	2	19
Females	1	0	2	1	10	6	1	21
								40

We had a lovely dinner at the original Sandal's, courtesy of Deacon Powell. We enjoyed the food, the beautiful surroundings and the air conditioning!!!
Sunday morning we attended Mass at the Cathedral and left for the airport.



The major problem in the last 2 sites was patient privacy. The patients were not as concerned as we were about the lack of privacy.

Need for next medical Mission:

Trained assistant for BP, O2, temperature (only available in Seaford Town)

Assistant for vision test (only one was in Seaford Town)

Someone to control number of people in doors and children

New machine for hearing test

Drapes to cover patients

Medications:

Metformin

Amlodipine 5 mg & 10mg

Glipizide 5 mg

Enalapril 10mg

Cipro

Flagyl 250

Antifungals - Diflucan 150

Immodium

Antidepressant

Cortisone Cream

Tylenol

Voltaren Gel

KY Gel

Flomax

Pregnancy Tests

Children and Adult vitamins

Motrin

Montelukast 10mg, Zyrtec (Cetirizine 10 mg)

Scissors

Exercises for low back pain and shoulder pain