

JAMAICA OUTREACH PROGRAM

REPORT TO: BOARD OF DIRECTORS & other interested parties

Re: Dental Mission to St. Pius—Kingston, Jamaica; November 10-14, 2024

From: Michele LaBasi, MEd, BS, RDH



November 2024 Clinical Team and Jamaican Support Staff

The November mission focused on providing dental treatment to DuPont students identified through the Oral Hygiene (OH) education and screening program in September as needing additional care. A total of 51 students received treatment during this outreach.

TALLY REPORT - NOVEMBER 2024 MISSION				
	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	TOTAL
HYGIENISTS	20	31	28	79
FILLINGS	7	11	8	26
EXTRACTIONS	11	9	7	27
Ex, Ref, or Elev B/P	1	1	3	5
SDF and Sealant Pts	2	4	5	11
TOTAL PTS SEEN	35	47	46	128

CLINICAL New: Dr. Adam Hagan (GA), Jennifer Herrera, RDH (GA), Charissa Younce, RDH (GA), Windy Dowling, RDH (GA), Jamie Carmack, DA (GA), Christina Niver, DA (GA) **Returning:** Denisha Stewart, DA (JA) Michele LaBasi (OH)

Team Contributions

We were privileged to host a team from [Surfside Kids Pediatric Dentistry](#) in Richmond Hill, Georgia. Their expertise in pediatric dentistry was invaluable, enabling high-quality care tailored to this population. Additionally, their generous supply donations significantly offset mission costs. The team demonstrated exceptional synergy and compassion, fostering a positive environment for our young patients, in addition to providing care for adults as well.

Recognizing US Military Vets on Veterans Day, 11-11, Dr. Hagan (Army) and Charissa Younce, RDH (USAF) for their service.



School Support

Special thanks go to Mrs. Morris-James, Interim Principal, and Mr. Gregory Williams, Guidance Counselor, for their outstanding collaboration. Mr. Williams was instrumental in organizing and escorting students to their appointments, ensuring access to care they otherwise would not receive.

Treatments Provided

Procedures included fillings, extractions, sealants, silver diamine fluoride (SDF) applications, and cleanings. SDF played a critical role in arresting generalized decay in primary and permanent teeth, particularly for cases where restorative work or extractions were impractical due to the lack of sedation options. Dr. Hagan

proposed the possibility of incorporating nitrous oxide for future missions, which could expand our treatment capabilities.

Students receiving SDF treatments will be monitored throughout their years at DuPont to reapply SDF as necessary and manage decay progression.

Challenges and Infrastructure Updates

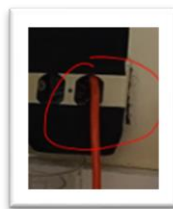
While we arrived shortly after a tropical depression, the threat of a hurricane brought daily downpours, which affected patient turnout. Despite this, the school remaining in session ensured a steady stream of student patients.

Mr. Jolly emphasized the importance of opening the clinic weekly to release heat buildup and prevent equipment damage. I provided a maintenance calendar to Boxer for this purpose.



On the infrastructure side, we were pleased to see significant improvements in the clinic's functionality:

- Additional Vacuum Pump: Installed by Mr. Michael Jolly, doubling suction capacity.
- Electrical Repairs: An electrician replaced a non-functional outlet, installed a new outlet, and added a switch for the compressor and pumps, simplifying operations.



Before



After



Before



After

Maintenance Concerns

Two notable leaks were discovered that may overlap:

1. A hose-related leak at the dental chair prior to the September mission, now resolved.
2. A floor leak identified post-mission, originating on the east side of the building and extending to the pump room. Boxer will investigate, but this issue warrants follow-up to assess structural or plumbing concerns. Ongoing maintenance remains crucial to prevent further deterioration.

Looking Ahead

The next mission is scheduled for January 19–23, 2025, in Kingston. We aim to complete the OH school program and provide care to all identified students. Permission slips will be distributed in advance to ensure maximum participation.

Support Opportunities

For more information about volunteering or donating tax-deductible dental supplies, please contact:

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