

JAMAICA MISSIONS TRIP AUGUST, 2018

On August 6, 2018, Cross Culture Church, of Atlanta GA sponsored a mission's trip to Kingston, Jamaica where a team of 19 individuals from 4 churches- City Life, Tampa FL, Impact Church of Tampa, FL, and First Unity Christian Fellowship partnered with two local churches, Maranatha International Ministries (Pastor Bobby and Marsh McIntosh) and Hope Gospel Assembly (Reverend Peter Garth). These two local churches have been making an impact in some of the worst areas in Kingston through both spiritual and practical measures.

While, the US State Department's travel advisory for Jamaica is a level 2 "Exercise Increased Caution"; the travel advisory for certain areas such as downtown Kingston is a level 4 "Do not travel" (Jan 2018)- same level as Iraq and Iran. "Violence and shootings occur regularly in some areas of Kingston. U.S. government personnel are prohibited from traveling to the following areas: downtown Kingston...Standpipe....."

Through generous donations from our sponsors and churches, we accomplished the following:

- 1) We provided to Maranatha Basic school (inner city school in Waterhouse) \$2,000 USD for school supplies and book fees for all their 70+ students. This covers the entire upcoming school year for all the students.
- 2) We also partnered with Hope Gospel Assembly and provided over \$2,000 USD of school supplies and book scholarships for needy children. That church gave away almost 4,000 back packs (most with school supplies) and over 340 book scholarships to needy children. National coverage & media on page 3:



Noble peace prize recipient Nelson Mandela once said "Education is the most powerful weapon you can use to change the world". Pastors Bobby McIntosh (pictured above) and his wife continue to give of themselves by education the impoverished in Waterhouse. Reverend Garth and his church Hope Gospel (top two photos) hosting their 10th annual back to School Fair are helping to accomplish this in Kingston Jamaica.

3) **Vacation Bible School “Peacemaker”**- our team partnered with Hope Gospel and taught almost 100 kiddos from poorer communities, including Standpipe, Kingston for 4 days for 3-4 hours each day where we shared Christ's love and messages of peace (theme of the VBS). We played games, helped children to make peacemaker crafts, and reinforced how to practice being a peacemaker! We also provided books and tennis balls donated by our sponsors as giveaways which brought so much joy to the children.



4) **Orphanages**- we visited 3 orphanages (National Children's home- special needs and non-special needs, Papine, Kingston and Mustard Seed, Gordon Town) and provided personal toiletry items and “Jesus loves you Teddy Bears” to over 100 orphaned kiddos. We spent time playing games with them, as well as talking with them one on one. Monetary & in kind Donations in excess of \$1,500 were provided to National Children's home orphanage.



5) **Medical Missions**- We visited the area called Waterhouse, largest inner city in Kingston, and did a two day medical missions with 1 Doctor and 2 nurses, where we served over 230 people (39 had never been seen by a healthcare provider). Asthma, diabetes and eczema were the number one problems presented.

This team served in excess of 10 hours. Two young adults from our team were trained by the doctor to perform initial blood pressure checks. We also provided personal toiletries to these 200+ impoverished families. Six residents at Mustard Seed Orphanage were assessed and one inservice on pressure dressings was provided for nursing staff on a separate clinic day. We used more than ~\$2500 USD of medical products for the 3 medical missions sessions. One patient presented with a life threatening medical emergency. Not surrounded by their everyday technology-laden environment, the team utilized the best medicine available, prayer. Without the benefit of emergency response, basic life support standards were put into place. The medical professionals were amazed at this healing as his oxygen level moved from below 30 to 99 in <10 minutes.



http://www.jamaicaobserver.com/news/hope-gospel-assembly-s-10th-annual-back-to-school-fair-this-saturday_140870?profile=1470

<http://jamaica-gleaner.com/article/news/20160424/hot-waterhouse-police-high-alert-following-shooting-balcombe-drive>

<http://jamaica-gleaner.com/article/news/20180409/church-boasts-helping-transform-murder-capital-waterhouse>

<http://jamaica-gleaner.com/article/news/20180815/church-using-back-school-fair-alleviate-crime-and-poverty>



Church using back-to-school fair to alleviate crime and poverty

jamaica-gleaner.com

The mounting concerns of the negative effects of crime and poverty on the society has convinced Reverend Peter Garth that the church's annual back-to-school fair must keep going. The pastor of the Hope Gospel Assembly in Liguanea, St Andrew, told The...