



John and Adele Swift Development & Enrichment Center (JADE)

"...hard work and education will carry you through the world."

Mrs. Adele Swift

Newsletter for Summer 2023

JADE's Vision

To change lives today for a better tomorrow.

JADE's Mission

To develop partnerships in communities to transform lives now in hope of a better future.

JADE's Partnerships

JADE is a tax-exempt non-profit organization based in Rialto, CA. JADE was created for public and charitable purposes to provide funding for education and humanitarian needs. JADE has developed partnerships in communities within the Inland Empire, Belize City, and rural communities of Belize to provide tuition assistance for education, package and deliver food to the homeless, offer free vocational classes, and provide transportation and spiritual support.

From JADE's President – Evadne Swift

Greetings everyone. Even though the rainy season began in June, the weather has been warm with only intermittent rain. It is also hurricane season, but so far, hurricanes have stayed away from the country.

After two years of looking at mango trees with no mangoes, this year was an exception. There was an abundance of mangoes in July and August which were enjoyed by humans, birds, and squirrels.

We are truly blessed. I continue to thank God for His goodness and mercy to us here at JADE. Thanks to our sponsors who continue to faithfully give to JADE. May God continue to bless each one who actively

gives to and prays for us. We cherish your prayers and financial support and invite you to visit us in the future.

Summer was a busy season at JADE. A summary of activities follows:

Celebrating the Next Chapter

On July 16, 2023, a luncheon was held to recognize graduating high school senior Isreal Moody, students being promoted from one grade to the next, and new students being accepted into JADE's tuition assistance program. The guest speaker was the Honorable Gilroy Usher, Minister of State for Youth Sports and Transport and Area Representative for Port Loyola.



Mr. Usher attended St. Isabella School in Bermudian Landing, before moving on and graduating from St John's Junior College, St. John's College Extension, Belize Teachers' College, and the University of Belize with a BS in Business Management. He taught in primary and high schools for over 25 years before entering politics in 2020.



Participants at the luncheon

Math & English Language Arts Workshops

Several academic workshops were conducted for high school students in July and August. Many students fell behind during the pandemic and needed additional instruction. Workshops were supervised by Math Teacher Mr. Minor Lopez and Ms. Gloria Swift, a retired educator, published writer, and world-class traveler.

As a result of requests from students and parents for additional tutoring in Math and with funding from the Rotary Club of Rialto, California, Mr. Lopez was hired to provide Math tutoring once a month beginning in September.



Students in Math class

Breakaway

A two-hour program “Breakaway” was established to coincide with the tutoring program. Its mission is “Creating a positive

environment to enhance knowledge and skills which leads to a productive life.” Students participate in youth activities which include Bible devotion and discussion. The teachers are Mr. & Mrs. Edmund Simpson, Ms. Rose Joseph, Ms. Margie Swift, and I.

Dr. Richard & Mrs. Robin Hart



Dr. Hart returned to Belize for a week having left more than 50 years ago. Mr. Hart came to the village of Bermudian Landing in 1969 as a young college graduate and was the first teacher for the Baptist Primary School. During his four years here, he walked to several villages within eight square miles and provided humanitarian services including first aid and conducted nightly devotions. Mr. Hart even found time to tutor a student who attended the Catholic School. After leaving Belize and getting married, he and his wife Robin became missionaries to Jordan where they served for more than 30 years.

During their recent visit, the Harts attended the ladies’ small group and participated in a trivia quiz about their previous lesson “Christ in the Home.” Mrs. Hart was the guest speaker. Her topic focused on the husband and wife having Christ at the center of their marriage and home. Then the Harts joined the ladies in a “Sing-along”, karaoke style. The ladies were eager to “tune their pipes” as they prepared to celebrate Belizean St. George’s Caye Day

on September 10 and Independence Day on September 21.



Some of the women from the Weekly Bible Study



Aracely Herrera to the Board of Directors

My name is Aracely Herrera. I was born in Torrance, CA but grew up in Rialto, CA, which is still my home. I am the eldest of four children.

While working full-time as a retail supervisor, I attended the University of Riverside and earned a BA in Sociology. Eventually, I became an assistant store manager. I led teams of over 30 employees, ran high volume stores, and exceeded all metrics from recruiting to sales to employee retention.

My interest in sports began when I was in high school. I was actively involved in volleyball and softball. In my spare time, I enjoy spending quiet and peaceful time outdoors, watching sporting events, listening to music, and playing volleyball in the park with my family. Indoors, my family and I play board games.

My biggest blessing is having a supportive and loving family. I cherish the

time we spend having dinner as a family. Another blessing is meeting people who have been and continue to be beacons of light in my darkest moments.

As God continues to guide me, I hope I can be a beacon to others. We live in a difficult world so we need people we can lean on and support those who need our help. I believe in and support JADE's Mission, having spent the past year fundraising with and shadowing Director Gloria Swift.

Upcoming Activities

Fundraiser: Turkey Dinner for the Women's Ministry will be held Saturday on October 14.

Ladies' Conference will be held on November 20. It is being sponsored by a church in a neighboring village.

Christmas Program: The third annual Christmas Program will be performed on December 16.

Authors

Dr. Richard Kenneth Hart and Margery Louise Swift cowrote the book *"Bermudian Landing Baptist Church History: Memories of Friends from the Church, School, and Community."* The book is available on Amazon.

"If anyone has material possessions and sees his brother in need but has no pity on him, how can the love of God be in him? Dear children, let us not love with words or tongue but with actions and in truth. 1Jn 3:17-18 NIV

JADE's Partnership with Hand in Hand

Hand-in-Hand is a 501(c)(3) organization operating in Belize. It is the only organization in Belize that provides for children with HIV/AIDS. Hand-in-Hand has partnered with JADE to provide vitamin and iron supplements for the children.

Daily Acts of Kindness

Directors Gloria Swift and Alma Edison continue to distribute food and care packages to the homeless on the streets and in encampments in the Inland Empire.



JADE is at Work with its Partners providing:

- financial support to 19 high school and two (2) primary school students in the form of tuition payments to schools,
- transportation for women to and from small groups ministry,
- outreach and counseling to villagers,
- multivitamins and iron supplements to children with HIV/aids, and
- daily acts of kindness based on human needs.

JADE's Board of Directors

Evadne Swift	President
Johnnel Cole	Vice President
Cheryl Russell	Secretary
Margery Swift	Treasurer
Directors: Earl Allen, Alma Edison, Araceli Herrera, and Gloria Swift	

You are invited



We invite missionary groups to visit us in Belize. Please visit JADE's website landingessentials.org for more information.

Donations

Your generous donation, which is tax-deductible within the limits prescribed by law, will enable us to provide tuition assistance to students, provide emergency food packages, vocational training, and transportation to those in need.

You can donate now and **Zelle to jadeidollyMS@gmail.com or Zelle to (909)576-1180.**

JADE is also accepting donations at

**John and Adele Swift Development and Enrichment Center (JADE)
P.O. Box 2285, Rialto, CA 92377-2285
(909) 873-9434**

Inquiries can be sent to swiftsgardens@gmail.com and landingessentials.org

**JADE's next meeting is October 13, 2023,
6 P.M. PST via WhatsApp.**