



Jamaican Self-Help Annual Report 2006-2007

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As my tenure as President of Jamaican Self-Help winds down and I have more time to reflect, I still marvel at what our very committed staff and dedicated volunteers do each day to support our partners in Jamaica. This year I was fortunate enough to spend nine days in Jamaica monitoring our projects on behalf of all of our donors. I am convinced that what we do is of value both to individuals and to Jamaican society in general.

I shall cite two examples of how our organization is evolving.

For the first time I visited all three schools in the Annotto Bay area where we support the St Theresa's Literacy Project. I was favourably impressed, particularly with the work being done in the two small rural schools, and with the steps that Sisters Ann and Nancy have taken in strengthening the local Board, as they prepare to leave Jamaica and their project becomes community-driven. Certainly I wish both Sisters well as they assume new challenges back here in Canada.

Our Global Education program initiated a new link with Trent University this year. A third-year half course on Jamaica was organized jointly by the university and JSH. Preceded by a series of lectures, 14 International Development students and a few mature learners spent 12 days in Jamaica witnessing and learning about many aspects of Jamaican development and life. We welcomed this opportunity to connect with the university in a mutually beneficial way.



Photo by Dawn Straka

In the winter, we had a planning session to review and re-affirm JSH's strategic plan, and set goals and work assignments for each committee. We feel positive about our initiatives with Canadian youth, our work with both the Canadian and Ontario Councils for International Cooperation, as well as our work in Jamaica with both our longer-term projects and the two new school projects we began this year.

With our amazing staff, very committed and responsible volunteers and our donors, we continue to carry on our work in Jamaica as well as Canada. My sincere appreciation is extended to one and all.

Respectfully submitted.

Dawn E. M. Straka

129^{1/2} Hunter St. W.
P.O. Box 1992
Peterborough, ON
K9J 7X7

Ph: (705) 743-1671
Fax: (705) 743-4020
jsh@nexicom.net
www.jshcanada.org

Business No.
89733 7150RR0001

JAMAICAN PROGRAMME

“Youth, Education & Leadership” - April 2006 ~ March 2007

In April 2006, Jamaican Self-Help embarked on a new three-year programme funded in part by the Canadian International Development Agency. This new programme continues to work on the themes of education, youth and leadership through projects undertaken by six Jamaican organizations in communities where JSH has had a long-standing relationship and commitment. Over this past year there have been both challenges and positive steps in these communities.

S-Corner Clinic & Community Development Organization organizes activities for children and youth in its community. 32 primary children received additional help to prepare for their Grade 6 exams. Youth in the community participated in the “Learn to Earn” programme that combines academic upgrading with computer training and life skills development. The reproductive health nurse offered education and support on HIV/AIDS, family planning, safe sex practices and even malaria prevention. In the fall of 2006 the S-Corner community experienced a spike in violence that significantly impacted the staff and community. Grief counselling was greatly needed to help the organization and the wider community deal with the trauma they experienced.

JSH supports a variety of programmes at **St. Peter Claver Primary School** that aims to assist the students academically and socially. The Tour of the Ensemble to Canada was a huge highlight for the participating students. The school also extended its extra-curricular activities to include an arts club, a scouts and brownie pack, a drama club and a “builder’s club” (a children’s service club). St. Peter Claver continued to attract many



parents to workshops and to participate in the school’s activities. It’s Knowledge Centre specifically helped students with literacy, as well as developing a strong pride in Jamaican culture.

The focus of **St. Theresa’s Literacy Project (Annotto Bay)** is on literacy – for both primary school children and high school and adult learners. For the children, the remedial reading programmes were highly successful this year in the three schools – May River, Mt. Joseph and Annotto Bay All Ages. Some parents in the rural community even transferred their children to these schools because of the reading programme! The adult literacy project was not as successful; after some changes in teaching staff, and efforts by the co-ordinators to make improvements, it was decided to close the project as adult “literacy” and shift the focus to the local high school. 27 high school students enrolled in remedial reading/literacy classes in January 2007 and have shown marked improvement with the extra attention.

At **St. Margaret’s Human Resources Centre**, JSH supports the vocational training of over 60 students each year. The courses in woodworking and garment making were accompanied by literacy training to prepare the students to qualify for HEART, the national vocational training institute. In addition, St. Margaret’s community library offered a safe place for study and encouraged reading for both students at the Centre and the broader community. The Centre also encouraged parents to be actively involved in their children’s education through parenting skills workshops and other activities.

The youth programmes at **St. Anne’s Community Centre of Concern** strive to assist children and youth in the community to do well academically and to deal with the daily challenges of living in poverty and in an unstable community. The youth-at-risk programme featured the “Positive Vibes” group – 16 teenagers met weekly to discuss issues of concern, learn ways to deal with conflict and participate in fun activities. There was significant improvement in their behaviour towards each other and at school over the past year. The Primary School dance programme included 20 girls who performed in community and national functions. Similar to the Choir at St. Peter Claver, the dance group built self-esteem and discipline and was a source of school and community pride. The reading programme at the

JAMAICAN PROGRAMME

“Youth, Education & Leadership” - April 2006 ~ March 2007



Primary School focused on Grade 2 students and Grade 4 students preparing to take the national Grade 4 literacy test. High school students were also supported in their efforts to prepare for their exams – some needed basic literacy help, while others

needed the additional attention for subjects such as math and social studies.

At **St. Pius X Training Centre**, between 30-40 young people enrol in one of three vocational training courses each year: catering, sewing or cosmetology. Over the year, the students learned the practical and theoretical skills associated with their chosen area; as well, they attended literacy classes each morning, and have special sessions on life skills such as opening a bank account or applying for a job. The program is open to women and men and this past year, three men participated in the catering class. With the changes in management over the year, the Centre co-ordinators worked to improve procedures and policies, and hope to revise their programme in the future to enable their students to qualify for the HEART programme.

The year was also marked by transitions within the organizations with which JSH works. The leadership of four of the six partners changed:

- Margaret Bolt, the long-time principal at St. Peter Claver Primary School was seconded to the Ministry of Education several years ago. Mrs. Karen Reynolds became the acting principal at the school. This spring, Margaret accepted a permanent position with the Ministry. She remains a strong support to the school and a close ally of JSH for the broader education strategy.

- Fr. Peter McIsaac who co-ordinates the programme at St. Anne’s Community Centre of Concern, took over the role of General Superior for the Jesuits in Jamaica from Fr. Jim Webb. Just as his predecessor carried on his work in the field, Peter has made a

commitment to continue to work with St. Anne’s community and JSH.

- After many years at St. Pius X Church, Fr. Burchell MacPherson moved to a new parish, and a new priest, Fr. Collin Henriques took over the supervision of the Training Centre in February 2007.

- In Annotto Bay, Sisters Ann and Nancy have spent the year preparing for their imminent departure from Jamaica in June. They have worked hard to create a functioning Board of Directors and staff from the local community to continue to oversee their work, including the remedial reading programmes supported by JSH.

While these changes created some challenges to the ongoing work of the organizations they have also opened doors to new perspectives and approaches. In each case, JSH anticipates a period of adjustment for the programmes, and then a strengthening of the work that is carried out by its Jamaican partners.

JSH also took on a new and innovative initiative this past year – the replication of successful strategies from St. Peter Claver Primary School to two other inner-city schools: St. Anne’s Primary School and Whitfield All Ages School. These two schools were selected through recommendations of our contacts in Jamaica. Paula Wagar from our Programme Committee began leading the project which we hope will result in significant improvements in the learning environments for the children of these two schools.



Photos by Dawn Straka

CANADIAN PROGRAMME

“Youth, Education & Leadership” - April 2006 ~ March 2007

Over the past year JSH maintained its focus on youth engagement and public education through annual activities such as the Ganley Lecture, the One World Dinner and the Travelling World Film Festival, as well as ongoing work such as the Make Poverty History committee.

Speakers brought to Peterborough this year included Phyllis Walker, Pamela Mordecai, and Nan Peacocke. The Ganley Lecture featured academic and feminist activist Honor Ford-Smith who spoke on the topic of “Memory, Neoliberalism, and the Circulation of Violence.”

A highlight of the year was the return to Peterborough of the St. Peter Claver Children’s Ensemble. The Ensemble spent a week in Peterborough billeted with local families from two schools: Armour Heights School and Immaculate Conception School. The Jamaican children and teachers spent most days in the classroom with their peers, and also giving performances in the schools and in the public. The Jamaicans greatly appreciated their time with the Canadian families learning about the similarities and differences between the two cultures. The group then travelled to Ottawa for several days. In Ottawa, the Ensemble performed at CIDA and toured various national museums and sites. They held a sold-out performance on their final evening in Canada.

The Annual Youth Awareness Trip to Jamaica was once again a successful programme. 16 students from 4 area high schools participated in the 2-week trip. Their programme combined volunteer placements at St. Peter Claver Primary School, Dupont Primary School or Maxfield Children’s Home with workshops and guest speakers who helped the students explore current issues in Jamaica and globally. Leaders for this year’s group were Tucker Barton, Peter Mullins, Jen Pattinson and Caileigh McKnight (youth leader).

JSH was pleased to work together with Trent University in organizing a third-year international development studies field course focused on Jamaica. 14 students and two JSH supporters travelled to Jamaica for a 10-day in-depth learning programme featuring key academic and community leaders. The trip was led by Rosemary Ganley and Professor David Morrison, with assistance from Peter Stewart in Jamaica. Upon return to Peterborough, the students fundraised to support a women’s chicken project at S-Corner in Kingston.

JSH hosted three high school co-op students: Jolene Tanner from Crestwood Secondary School, Emma McNamara from Thomas A. Stewart Secondary School and Amy Bowen from Kenner Collegiate. All three students were welcome additions to the JSH team. Emma and Amy were involved in the Make Poverty History Youth (MPH) Committee, co-ordinated by Julia Anderson. The MPH Committee expanded over the year to include high school students from 5 area schools. With funding from the Laidlaw Foundation, the MPH Committee participated in a variety of activities: from trips to Ottawa to learn about NGOs, CIDA and development policy work, to a research project on local attitudes towards global poverty. The committee continued to be a vibrant part of JSH’s public engagement programme.

JSH was selected as one of four pilot projects across Canada to participate in a “Public Engagement Practices” Action-Research project. Co-ordinated through the Canadian Council for International Co-operation, this project will assist JSH to evaluate its youth global education programmes using participatory practices.

JSH was active with the Ontario Council for International Co-operation and the Canadian Council for International Co-operation. Both councils offer many opportunities for NGOs to share their experiences and contribute to the provincial and national discussions on global development.



March 2007 Awareness Trip

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Auditor: Stéphane W. Delorme, Peterborough, Ontario

April 1, 2006 ~ March 31, 2007

| BALANCE SHEET AS AT MARCH 31, 2007 | | | SCHEDULE OF REVENUE FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2007 | | |
|--|-----------|-----------|---|-----------|-----------|
| | 2007 | 2006 | | 2007 | 2006 |
| Current Assets | | | Self-Generated Funding | | |
| Cash | \$138,068 | \$123,140 | Donations | \$ 62,174 | \$ 48,507 |
| Accounts receivable | 1,939 | 839 | Other fundraising proceeds | 56,784 | 56,988 |
| Prepaid expenses | 131 | 404 | Interest | 1,228 | 1,077 |
| | 140,138 | 124,383 | Donations-in-kind | 12,584 | 12,696 |
| Restricted Cash | | | Global Education | 67,800 | 63,378 |
| re: Global Education Bursary | 2,700 | 2,700 | Other | 447 | 1,038 |
| Capital Assets | 1,792 | 1,716 | | 201,017 | 183,684 |
| | \$144,630 | \$128,799 | Other Funding | 171,000 | 180,374 |
| | | | CIDA – current project | \$372,071 | \$364,058 |
| Current Liabilities | | | | | |
| Accounts payable | \$ 4,563 | \$ 3,611 | | | |
| and accrued liabilities | 25,442 | 12,190 | | | |
| Deferred revenue-other | - | - | | | |
| Deferred revenue – CIDA | 30,005 | 15,801 | | | |
| Net Assets | | | | | |
| Net assets accumulated | | | | | |
| in capital assets | 1,792 | 412 | | | |
| Net assets restricted for | | | | | |
| bursary purposes | 2,393 | 2,393 | | | |
| Net assets restricted for Ganley Fund | 12,552 | 12,552 | | | |
| Internally restricted net assets | 43,000 | 43,540 | | | |
| Unrestricted net assets | 52,888 | 54,101 | | | |
| | 114,625 | 112,998 | | | |
| | \$144,630 | \$128,799 | | | |
| | | | | | |
| ADMINISTRATION EXPENSES FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2007 | | | STATEMENT OF REVENUES AND EXPENSES FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2007 | | |
| | 2007 | 2006 | | 2007 | 2006 |
| Telephone | \$ 1,585 | \$ 1,364 | Revenues | | |
| Supplies | 699 | 1,061 | Total Revenue | \$372,704 | \$381,610 |
| Meetings | 501 | 787 | Expenses | | |
| Audit | 2,454 | 2,457 | Programme | | |
| Equipment maintenance | 526 | 167 | Projects | 175,398 | 179,633 |
| Insurance | 3,402 | 3,402 | Evaluation & Monitoring | 21,335 | 17,828 |
| Memberships | 1,227 | - | Global Education | | |
| Miscellaneous and postage | 1,751 | 2,115 | Awareness Trips | 69,079 | 58,813 |
| Office rental | 4,330 | 3,974 | Public Engagement | 35,070 | 37,727 |
| Office and administrative wages | 23,720 | 26,789 | | 300,882 | 294,001 |
| | \$ 40,195 | \$ 42,116 | Administration | 40,195 | 42,116 |
| | | | Amortization | 822 | 685 |
| | | | Donations-in-kind | 12,584 | 12,696 |
| | | | Newsletter, promotion | | |
| | | | and fundraising | 16,430 | 14,758 |
| | | | Crestwood award | - | 100 |
| | | | Loss on disposal of securities | 164 | - |
| | | | Excess of Revenues | 371,077 | 364,356 |
| | | | Over Expenses for the Year | \$1,627 | \$ 17,254 |

Note: The full audited statements, including assets and liability figures are available for any interested party

Philosophy and Mission Statement

Jamaican Self-Help is an organization of Canadians working in solidarity to:

- Foster the development of healthy Jamaican communities through partnership based on mutual respect, understanding, and a shared vision of self-determination, and
- Foster an understanding of global forces, North and South, and their interconnectedness.

FUNDRAISING & VOLUNTEERS

April 2006 ~ March 2007

The projects and activities of Jamaican Self-Help are only possible because of the immense volunteer and financial contributions of the community.

Standing Committees:

- **Executive** – Dawn Straka (President), Liz Sine, Kate Johnston, Chris Boothroyd, Chris Hushagen, Kim Kasperski, Nancy Chesher
- **Jamaican Programme** – Dawn Straka, Liz Sine, Joyce Mackenzie, Peter Mullins, Christine Post, Chris Boriss, Marg Hundt, Paula Wagar
- **Global Education** – Nancy Chesher, Gail Payne, Tucker Barton, John Ganley, Liz Mann, Paula Wagar
- **Fundraising** – Kim Kasperski, Kate Johnston
- **Finance** – Irvin Stewart, Trent Anderson, Chris Boriss, Chris Boothroyd, Chris Hushagen, David Hall

Other Committees:

- **Brunch & Auction 2006 & 2007** – Elaine Orgill, Emily Downie, Pamela St. Onge, Beverley Ralston, Nancy Fox, Linda Conway, Sheila Nabigon-Howlett, Tanya Kranc
- **Choir Tour** – Adam Roberts, Dawn Straka, Jake Fowler, Liz Sine, Pam Boucher, Paula Wagar, Kate Dalglish, Krista McGuiness, Sarah Flyng, Suzanne Gagne, Tina Legris
- **Nominating 2006 & 2007** – Liz Sine, Chris Hushagen, Paula Greenwood, Marg. Hundt, Kathleen Whatley
- **Make Poverty History** – Adam Roberts, Allison Bunting, Amy Bowen, Brooke Stewart, Caleigh McKnight, Emma McNamara, Grace Cullen, Julia Anderson, Kyla Maude, Lauren Van Leeuwen, Leta Montopoli, Lucy Marshall-Kiparissis, Melina Found, Nico Damiani, Rachel Lunn, Rob Sangster-Poole, Sarah Flyng, Shannon Malloy, Stephan Kirkpatrick
- **Ottawa** – Uté Gerbrandt, Irvin Stewart, Lawrence Cumming, Sarah Flyng
- **Toronto** – Rose MacFarlane, Joan Davidson, Sheila McLeod, Shirley Houghton, Elsa Jones

Programme undertaken with the financial support of the Government of Canada provided through the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA).

A very special thank you to all our individual donors, and the following organizations and businesses:

Programme Funders: City of Peterborough Community Grants, Crestwood Secondary School, Demco Limited, Kawartha Pine Ridge District School Board, Ken Lester's Auto Repair Limited, Mackenzie Design, Mark Street United Church Choir, Ontario Teachers' Federation, OSSTF, Peterborough K. M. Hunter Charitable Fdn, Public Service Alliance of Canada, Remax Eastern Realty, Society of The Sacred Heart, Srs. Of Providence, Srs. of St. Joseph of Hamilton, Srs. of St. Joseph of London, Srs. of St. Joseph of Peterborough, Srs. of the Precious Blood, Sr. St. Joseph of Sault Ste Marie, St. Aidans Anglican Church A.C.W., St. Alphonsus CWL, St. John Anglican Sunday School, St. Theresa's Mission Club, The Rotary Club of Peterborough, Trent University Academic Skills Centre, Trent University Rugby Football Club, Trinity College School.

Brunch & Auction 2006 Supporters: 4th Line Theatre, A Moveable Feast, Arlyn's Hair and Nails, Baskin-Robbins Ice Cream, BE Catering, Bennett's Home Furnishings, Black's Photography, Bowlerama Peterborough, Brio Gusto, Capitol Taxi, Champagne's Creative Hair, Charlotte Video, City of Peterborough Waste Management, Color Your World, Cottage Toys, Dan Joyce's, Delasalle Electrolysis and Skin Care, Dreams of Beans Café, Elements, Fandango, First Choice Haircutters, Glidden Paints, Goodlife Fitness, Grady's Feet Essentials, Grainger's Dry Cleaning, Greg & Family Shoe Repair, Griffin's Greenhouses, Happenstance, Hendrix Hotel & Restaurant Equipment, Indian River Reptile Zoo, Juniper Imports, Kuren Hjort-Jensen, Kelcey's Nutrition Centre, King Bethune House, Lakefield Lanes & Links Lifflock and the Riverboat Cruise, Maggie's Garden, Midas, Mr. Sub, New Horizons Hypnosis Centres Inc., Pammett's Flowers, Pasta Plus, Peterborough Downtown Business Improvement Association, Peterborough Inn & Suites, Peterborough Museum & Archives, Phoenix Rising Yogatherapy, Pizza Hut, Ptmigan Kids Clothing Co., Ravi-Inder Soligo, Rocky Ridge Drinking Water, Sharon Creech, Shish Kabob Hut, St. Peter's High School, St. Veronus Tap and Café Room, Starfish Entertainment, Stickling's Bakery, Sunshine Carpet Cleaning, The Black Horse Restaurant, The Main Ingredient, The Moffat House, The Night Kitchen, The Planet Bakery, Toronto Raptors, Trans Canada Nissan, Tribal Voices, The UPS Store, Wild Rock Outfitters, Wine Works.

One World Dinner 2007: Aranka De Szegheo, Between the Lines Publishing, Black Honey, Cassis Bistro, Dreams of Beans Café, East City Café, Fire House Gourmet, Fourth Line Theatre, Island Cream Caribbean Cuisine, Juniper Imports, Knock on Wood, Lakefield Hobby & Game, Peterborough Symphony Orchestra, MARS music, Michael Goldenberg, Nutty Chocolatier, Parkhill on Hunter, Peterborough Green-Up, Planet Bakery, Rocky Ridge Drinking Water, Shish Kabob Hut, Simple, Sol Food, Speak Volumes Bookstore, Sticklings Bakery & Bistro, The Kawartha Candle Company, Title's Bookstore, Tribal Voices.

Board Members

April-June 2006

Dawn Straka
President

Liz Sine
Past President

Nancy Chesher
Vice-President

Chris Boothroyd
Treasurer

Kate Johnston
Secretary

Directors

Chris Hushagen
Kim Kasperski
Joyce Mackenzie
Gail Payne
Ian Ralston
Paula Wagar

2006-2007

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Liz Sine
Past President

Kate Johnston
Vice-President

Chris Hushagen/Nancy Chesher
Treasurer

Kim Kasperski
Secretary

Directors

Trent Anderson
Tucker Barton
Nancy Chesher
Joyce Mackenzie
Peter Mullins
Gail Payne
Ian Ralston
Irvin Stewart

Staff

Permanent

Marisa Kaczmarczyk
Carole Pineau

Contract

Julia Anderson

Coop Students

Jolene Tanner
Emma McNamara
Amy Bowen