



Vital Signs

Partnership



From the beginning of time partnerships were part of God's design, for at the heart of partnership is relationship. Genesis 1:26,27 recounts the conversation that the Triune God has with Himself regarding His desire to share

the perfect relationship He enjoys as the Three in One with beings like Himself – so He creates mankind in His own image, male and female. He creates them. He then goes on to explain to them their role in this partnership of not only naming creation but even in the creation process itself and ruling over all creation as the pinnacle of creation they were designed to be. God's first partners were Adam and Eve, each with different giftedness and different roles to play – without any part of which would cause there to be something lacking. In the new Testament,

Paul refers to fellow workers, fellow heirs, and partners. He speaks of us being a body, a building, and a family. Relationships are central to who we are as human beings and partnerships are one of the ways those relationships manifest themselves. Today there are many who partner with God and with each other to accomplish what God has designed us to be and do. Thank you for partnering with us, TEAMS for Medical Missions, to minister to the people of Jamaica. Without your giftedness, availability, generosity, and involvement, there would be something greatly lacking in our mutual ministry. With it, the ministry flourishes and together we experience the blessings of shared joy and accomplishment.

Partnering in Giving

On October 13 we hosted our first Fundraiser Dinner at First Baptist Church of Allentown. While we have hosted other dinners in the past where giving was encouraged, this was our first dinner whose main purpose was to raise significant funds for the ministry. Our purpose was three-fold:

- 1.** to raise funds to cover the Heartbeat Fund and the TEAMS House Fund for the coming year;
- 2.** to provide an opportunity for J-Teamers and the TEAMS for Medical Mission faithful to connect with each other; and **3.** to introduce TEAMS to people who have never interacted with us before. We want to give a big thank you to all who attended and to those who could not attend but shared with us generously anyway. We were able to raise \$25,000 which will go a long way to meeting our needs this next year! We had over 40 past and present

J-Teamers in attendance, many who were reunited after much time apart, and some meeting each other for the first time. Stories were shared, good times remembered, friendships rekindled, and desires were stoked to go again on a future J-Team. There were also several folks brand new to TEAMS who left with a better understanding of who we are and what we do and how they could be a part of this ministry. It was a wonderful evening, and a good time had by all.

Giving opportunities: Although the fundraiser provided us a huge jump on this next year, ministry dictates that we still have a number of ongoing financial needs. While one-time gifts are greatly appreciated and needed, monthly commitments enable us to better plan and carry out the ministry. If you are not already a recurring financial partner,

please consider joining this part of the team. You can designate your regular giving to specific funds or to where most needed. All gifts are welcome. If you are looking for a specific area to give an end of the year gift toward, please see our list of designated funds below:

Heartbeat – general fund need: \$5,500/month

TEAMS House – need: \$1,300/month

Medicine – need: \$1,350/month (\$4,000/J-Team)

Construction – need: \$1,600/month
(\$4,500-\$5,000/J-Team)

Bible Training Center – need: \$500/month

Vehicles – maintenance, repair

Special Projects – will need to replace our bus in next two years (\$25,000-\$35,000)

Partnering in Going

Since our last Vital Signs we have led two J-Teams to Jamaica.

AUGUST 2018 J-TEAM

- The advance team in August was able to finish counting the meds early in the afternoon and on Saturday were able to do house visits for 10 of our homebound patients – what a blessing!
- Each August we get to celebrate Jamaica's Independence Day and Emancipation Day. The highlight for us is the privilege of singing the Jamaican national anthem every day – it is an amazing prayer.
- Wednesday clinic at Boscobel United was moved to a new location – the first floor where the school used to be. We thought it might be too cramped, but it worked out beautifully and was even cooler with the cross breeze.
- We saw 609 patients and gave out 2205 prescriptions – while we wish more patients had come to be seen, it did give us the opportunity to spend quality time with the patients who did come, encouraging them and praying with them.
- Our building project was adding a classroom to an existing basic school our teachers visit each quarter, helping them address some of their space requirements needed for certification.
- It was very evident that T4mm is making a relational impact on this corner of Jamaica as was seen in conversations, connections, and reception of our team.



NOVEMBER 2018 J-TEAM

- Full Team** – 23 – largest team we have ever had.
- 2 encouragers** – counselor Dan Goebel, and Pastor Todd Sorrell, both did an extraordinary job and thrived in their positions. Several of our J-Team also took advantage of Dan's training and listening ear back at TEAMS House.
- Videographer** – John Cox took video all week as well as interviewed patients, providers, and church members. The first installment can be seen on our Facebook page and eventually on our website. His videos will be very helpful conveying the work of T4MM.
- Patients** – We saw 712 patients and gave out 2333 prescriptions.
- Team bonding** – this team connected and served together well – they were extremely easy to lead.
- Visited BTCJ Class** – 11 J-Teamers joined us for BTCJ-6 – the class was finishing up book 6 the evening we attended.



PASTOR KIMO CAMPBELL

We were introduced to a young pastor – Kimo Campbell – about three months ago. In that time, we have been exploring some possible ways to collaborate in ministry on the island. One of his requests was that we bring our medical services to his church about forty minutes away. This past month I received a call from Michele Wyatt of CERT International, who is interested in bringing medical and dental teams to our part of the island. She joined this past November's J-Team to see what we do and to hopefully make some connections leading to ministry opportunities. I introduced Michele to Pastor Kimo, and this February, CERT International will be taking a medical and dental team not only to his church, but also to a couple of other churches in his district.

THE BOYS ARE BACK!



We are excited to be building homes again! We had 4 builders on this team plus 3 young Jamaican men and 2 experienced Jamaican men. This first house back happened to be on our own property – we built a caretaker house, using the human foosball court as its foundation. This home enables us to have someone on the property to oversee the security of TEAMS House and the property.

- Construction fund – In our last Vital Signs we asked for prayer for construction funds for our August and November building projects – God provided through your gifts – thank you!
 - Pick a house, any house – while the Construction fund was never closed, it has laid dormant for quite a while, so we invite you to consider being part of its rejuvenation. Present costs for building a house run between \$4,500-\$5,000. We are encouraging churches, small groups, men's ministries, Sunday School classes, etc. to take on funding a house as a project. The plan is to build a house per J-Team which comes to 4 houses a year. John Knox Presbyterian in Ohio has already pledged \$4,500 towards our February J-Team house – that leaves just 3 more houses for the year – first come first served!

PARTNERING WITH JAMAICA



One of our goals is to connect the Church in U.S. with the Church in Jamaica. One of the joys of being part of the body of Christ is being part of the Church universal, meaning, no matter where we go on the planet, when we meet someone who is also part of the body of Christ, there is an immediate connection. Being able to facilitate connecting believers from the U.S. with believers in Jamaica is awesome! And then being able to work together to reach other Jamaicans for Christ is even better. We are able to accomplish this because of the Jamaican churches partnering with us. Specifically, we have 4 churches who host our quarterly clinics: New Testament Assembly of Hamilton Mountain, Ebenezer Community Church of Days Mountain, Boscobel United Methodist Church of Boscobel, and Maranatha Baptist Church of Mango Valley. There are a number of other churches we also interact with in varying degrees as the Lord leads and as time permits. As a ministry we are always looking for other opportunities to connect, encourage, and equip as we are able.

Jamaican Partners of T4MM

In our last *Vital Signs* we talked about the need to explore Jamaican possibilities to join our ministry team. We also talked about pursuing present Jamaican relationships further to see if God was moving in any of them to get more involved with TEAMS for Medical Missions.

Joe Ramcharan – Joe and his wife Elaine have been with us since Harold and Teri first joined TEAMS. They provide our transportation, vehicle maintenance, staff oversight, and most recently they have joined our Jamaican advisory board. In talking with Joe about our plans for the Caretaker house, Joe volunteered to oversee the project. The project could not have been in better hands, for Joe is the one who taught Harold everything Harold knew about building houses.



Omar Vassel – in the Spring 2018 *Vital Signs* we asked for prayer for a foreman for our 2019 housing projects and Omar Vassel has accepted the foreman role for the February J-Team and tentatively for all of 2019. Omar communicated to us that he wanted to give back and was willing to help in any way he could to keep TEAMS' ministry going in Jamaica.

Dillon Mitchell – Dillon grew up through the Bible Club and Youth Ministry of Harold and Teri and has served as our groundskeeper this past year. In addition, he has taken on the role of Caretaker, overseeing the security of TEAMS House and property.

Mitsy, Miss Yvette, and Avery – our ladies have agreed to help us with an experiment this February, hosting a workshop for local professionals (details below).

Marva, Richie, Ockar, Oshane, Romarlo, Derron – all have jumped in to provide the extra help needed during J-team week to make it a successful time of ministry.

Jamarley – pictured standing, is Miss Yvette's grandson, who is very much a part of each J-Team. On this November J-Team, he had a young friend who hurt his knee so badly that he had trouble walking. Jamarley, along with one of his other friends, carried him to TEAMS House to see one of our doctors. He was ministering to his friend.



Caresia Bailey, Maxia Dalrymple-Simpson, and Linda Robinson volunteer their time every J-Team the entire week in the clinics because they believe in the ministry. Caresia helps register and organize the patients prior to the start of each clinic, Maxia helps coordinate and direct the patients once the clinic begins, and Linda provides prayer and spiritual encouragement to the patients throughout the day.

God has provided us with good friends in Jamaica who are choosing to come alongside us. Please continue to pray for wisdom as we continue to explore these partnerships as well as others.

CONTINUING TO SEEK GOD'S DIRECTION

As was stated in our last *Vital Signs*, we are seeking God's direction to determine what additional ministry opportunities to pursue. One of our largest assets to the ministry is TEAMS House, and we have been praying how we could better utilize it for the ministry. One of the biggest needs we have discovered on the island is the need for affordable and practical ministry training. Along with the BTCJ, we also would like to provide training workshops on a variety of topics. This February, immediately following the J-Team week, we will be partnering with Safe Place out of Pennsylvania, to provide a 2-day Trauma Workshop at TEAMS House. Safe Place is a counseling/training ministry headed by Tom and Bethann Miller, who serve as our Member Care providers for our ministry. They are the couple that walked our entire ministry through the grief process when we lost Harold and Randy in 2016. This workshop will be offered to our BTCJ

students, to guidance counselors, pastors, ministry leaders, fire and police. This will be a pilot program to determine if we are to pursue this area of ministry. We appreciate your prayers.

J-Team Openings	Feb 2-10, 2019	May 4-12, 2019	Aug 3-11, 2019	Nov 2-10, 2019
3 Doctors	✓✓✓	✗□□	✗□□	□□□
2 Nurses	✗✗	□□	□□	□□
Patient Screener	✗	✗	✗	□
3-4 Pharmacists	✓✓✓✓	✗□□□	✓✓✓□	✓✓✓✓
1-2 Clinic Clerks	✗✗	□□	✗□	□□
3-5 Builders	✗□□□	□□□□	□□□□	□□□□
2-3 Teachers	✗✗□	✗□□	✗✓□	✓□□
1-2 Encouragers	✗□	□□	□□	□□

THE QUARTERLY UPDATE FROM
TEAMS for MEDICAL MISSIONS

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HEARTBEAT

by
John Heater



Paul's prayer for the Philippians is my prayer for you: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, always offering prayer with joy in my every prayer for you all, in view of your participation in the gospel from the first day until now. For I am confident of this very thing, that He who began a good work in you will perfect it until

the day of Christ Jesus. For it is only right for me to feel this way about you all, because I have you in my heart, since both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel, you all are partakers of grace with me. For God is my witness, how I long for you all with the affection of Christ Jesus. And this I pray, that your love may abound still more and more in real knowledge and all discernment, so that you may approve the

things that are excellent, in order to be sincere and blameless until the day of Christ; having been filled with the fruit of righteousness which comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God. (Philippians 1:2-11)

Thank you for your partnership – it is invaluable to us.

John

CONSIDER SOMETHING MORE

Often when people think of missionaries, they think of someone living in another country serving full-time for the rest of their lives. While that definition can fit, there are lots of other definitions that can fit as well:

Regular – we have several individuals who have chosen to make J-Teams a regular part of their schedule. Some come every other year, some come

yearly, some even come more than once a year. The roles these folks play have grown and continue to grow. Consider joining their ranks.

Seasonal – perhaps you have a larger block of vacation time that you would like to use ministering in Jamaica. Talk to us – opportunities abound!

Short term – perhaps you are between jobs or you have lots of discretionary time or your time is extremely

flexible – talk to us, opportunities for ministry abound!

Targeted – perhaps you have a burden for specific ministry needs in Jamaica – talk to us to determine how you can be a part of ministering to those needs either personally in Jamaica or from afar.

Full-time partners in Jamaica – yes, we also need those kinds of missionaries – living in Jamaica serving full-time, at least for a while, if not for the rest of their lives. Talk to us.