



Never too old for new roles

Missions requires flexibility and this is true for each trip to Jamaica. On the May J-Team our medical team was short on nurses. We were blessed to have three experienced pharmacists to operate the pharmacy and this freed me up to serve as a nurse. I thoroughly enjoyed my new role even if it was a stretch for me. Identifying the patient's top reasons for coming to the clinic and providing documentation for the doctors was very natural for me. As a nurse I encountered two patients who recently had Dengue Fever. We were able to bond as I shared that I had Dengue in February and that the recovery was slow. We laughed that I was becoming more and more Jamaican as I am empathetic to what it is like to have an unpleasant mosquito illness.

Another new role for me is right around the corner. I am becoming a preceptor for two pharmacy school students from High Pont University in NC. They will be joining me on the August J-Team. It is a huge responsibility to take on this teaching and mentoring role. The challenge of instructing will keep me on my toes. It is a wonderful opportunity for these students to combine pharmacy education with missions. I hope they will be hooked on missions for a lifetime as they serve God in Jamaica.



My nursing debut

Upcoming Visit to NC

I will be going to North Carolina in September to visit supporting churches and prayer partners. I would love to see local folks while I am there to share of what God is doing in Jamaica. Please feel free to contact me to see if we can connect.

Scheduled so far:

September 22, Baptist Grove Church, Fuquay-Varina

iLove Church, Fuquay-Varina

September 29, First Baptist Church, Creedmoor



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Jamaica
Because God Is at work



Meeting Benjamin—99 years young!

Invaluable Investment

Benjamin is one of our newest patients. He is 99 years old and his only medical problem is occasional aches and pains. He came to our clinic for the first time in May for a checkup. He was given Tylenol and vitamins and he was so grateful for the free care and these medicines. Every prescription we provide is a blessing!

Yet, medication costs are on the rise. As the medical coordinator for TEAMS my job is to stretch every dollar allocated towards medicines. We use older reliable generic medicines to keep our costs down. Fewer drug manufacturers are making generic drugs because the profit margin is less. This is causing prices to increase due to limited supply. Many drugs are now on back order and hard to find in adequate quantities. I am reevaluating our formulary to see if cheaper alternative drugs are available.

There is a way you or your church can help. We are always looking for new partners for our medicine fund. It takes between \$3500 to \$4000 per J-Team to provide the medicines for our patients. We treat around 690 people per trip. The average amount spent per patient is \$4.75. This is extraordinary considering patients with chronic illnesses like diabetes or high blood pressure receive a 100-day supply of medicines. The average cost of each prescription we donate is \$1.40. Here in the US the cheapest generic medicines are \$12.00 for a 90-day supply and most cost much more than this. TEAMS is purchasing medicines at an **88 percent savings**. So, you can see TEAMS is being an extremely good steward in keep our drug costs down. Please pray God will continue to provide the funds needed for essential medicines for the patients we serve.

Here are some examples of how your donation would bless the Jamaicans we serve:

\$25 would provide Tylenol for **65 adults** relieving aches and pain

\$50 would provide vitamins for **100 children** helping to prevent malnutrition

\$100 would provide high blood pressure medicines for **75 patients** greatly impacting their health