



"It is good to be back! It is good to see you again my friend! There is so much work to be done, let's get started!"

John and I are experiencing this each quarter as we travel between Pennsylvania and Jamaica. It is great to be more "at home" in both places but it does take a little getting used to. It is a blessing and privilege to minister together with Friends and Ministry Partners in both places. Thankfully, they do get used to our absence and greet us warmly when we return. The downside is that there is always a time of getting back up to speed, a flurry of activity to leave things in order when leaving and the struggle with not being available at all times to either group. Today we write from Pennsylvania to report on the May and August J-Teams, the progress of the building teams, the partnership with Safe Place Ministries, new J-Teamers, and what's ahead for the us as we prepare to return to Jamaica before the November J-Team.



Top - August Building Team with Mr. Rudolph and Miss Jennifer at the house dedication

Mid left - Dani waited years to join a J-Team. What a blessing to have 3 generations serving together!

Mid right - Debbi Harley reading a story at the Boscobel Basic School. This is our first time at this basic school as mentioned in the March newsletter.

Lower left - Jane Consiglio, John, Linda and Jill Sirianni at Regent College of the Caribbean on our Immersion Trip in May

Lower right - With a smaller team in May, we pitched in and helped in different ways. Anne as a nurse and John at the registration table.

J-Teams - Each J-Team is a blessing but each one is definitely unique because of the different team members, different circumstances and different experiences. When we look back at these individual J-Teams we can see God's hand in forming a team and bringing it together for the purposes He had planned for that specific time.

- May J-Team - This team had 14 members from PA, OH, NC, and NY. This was the first J-Team for a doctor, builder and teacher. Without any nurses on this team, Anne Clay and Michele Harms took on those responsibilities and everyone pitched in and helped any way they could. The medical team still saw 701 patients and everything went well at the clinics. The builders built a home in Fellowship Hall not far from a house built by TEAMS years ago. The teachers enjoyed their week with the children at the clinics and at the schools. Tuesday was Read Across Jamaica day and it was fun to see students dressed as their favorite story character and to read together before school. Debbie shared the story of The 99th Sheep with the 6 basic schools and made friends with many children throughout the week. Tracy Hartness is a missionary friend that is local to us and not only did she come help the advance team count pills but she also came 4 days to be our encourager at the clinics. This team enjoyed working together and getting to know so many of our Jamaican friends and ministry partners. What a great team and wonderful time of serving the Lord together.
- August J-Team - This team is the largest team so far and was special in several ways. With 13 first-timers, this was a new experience for more than half of the team. 2 of these first-timers were pharmacy students from High Point University and their participation on the J-Team and work with Anne Clay as their preceptor counted as one of their 9 rotations for pharmacy school requirements. 4 of the J-Teamers had been wanting to come for some time because they had heard the stories of other J-Teams at church or from family members. In addition to John and I, there were 5 family groups on this team! It is a special blessing to serve on a mission team with your family! What a blessing it was to have Judene Williams, a guidance counselor from Kingston join the team for the week.

Building Teams - In 2019, the building teams (as a part of the J-Team) have returned to building homes in our local community. We are very excited about this. The building teams are meeting a need for shelter for someone who cannot provide it for themselves. The builders work together with men in the community to meet this need. This combined building team interacts with others in the community throughout the week as they come to see what is happening. This project can provide some work and work experience for some of the young men that were part of the Bible Club and youth group and be a great opportunity for crosscultural mentorship and encouragement for both Americans and Jamaicans. These building teams provide evidence of faith and God's love in the form of believers sacrificing time, talent and resources for someone they just met. On Friday after the clinic, the whole team assembles at the building site for a house dedication. This time is a highlight of

the week as we sing, pray and present the house recipient with a Bible signed by the J-Team Members with words of encouragement, a cross signed by the building team, and the house keys. We pray a prayer of dedication over the house and for the family.

- The cost for each home is about \$4500 and funds are still needed for the November J-Team Building Project and for each of the J-Teams in 2020. Would building a house in Jamaica be a project that your church or small group would be willing to sponsor?

Safe Place Ministries/ Training Workshops

TEAMS for Medical Missions exists to lead people to obedient faith in Jesus Christ and to equip Jamaican churches for effective ministry at home and abroad.

This is the purpose statement for T4MM. In addition to our medical clinics and Bible Training Center, it has been our desire to bring additional resources and encouragement. So when our friends from Safe Place Ministry, LLC came to us about hosting a Biblically-based trauma care workshop, it fell right in line with our goals. The workshop in February and the immersion trip in May were both received very positively and have led to another opportunity for us to partner with Safe Place in October. A *Children in Crisis* Workshop will be offered to pastors, lay leaders, teachers, BTC students, and other community leaders and a training in *Critical Incident Stress Debriefs* will be presented to the Port Maria Fire Brigade.

- The cost to provide these workshops is \$2000. We are looking for folks who would be interested in sponsoring these workshops and additional workshops in the future.

Praise the Lord!

We thank the Lord for the support we have from our churches and ministry partners. Your financial gifts, your prayers and your promotion of this ministry keep us going! We thank God for sending us great J-Teamers and providing for them to join a J-Team. T4MM is blessed to have a great staff and board of directors in the States who continue to work hard to keep this ministry moving forward and with integrity. We are thankful for Anne Clay, our fellow missionary, who not only works with us in Allentown but with every J-Team in Jamaica! There are many in Jamaica and the number is growing who are coming alongside to help T4MM continue to minister in Jamaica. We praise the Lord for the BTCJ graduation in October and for all of those who have completed this training and are equipped to minister and train others. We are thankful for our friends at Safe Place and for the heart for Jamaica. We thank God for His grace, strength and direction and for wise counselors that continue to enable us to serve Him with TEAMS for Medical Missions.

Here is our schedule for the next few weeks. We would appreciate your prayers for us as we prepare, travel, and take part in these opportunities.

Oct 4-6 - Camp Springs Community Church Mission Conference, Clinton, MD
Oct 19 - T4MM Board Meeting Allentown, PA
Oct 23 - BTCJ4 and BTCJ5 Graduation and BTCJ1-3 Reunion Port Maria
Oct 28-31 - Safe Place Ministry Workshops Port Maria
Oct 31 - Advance Team
Nov 2-10 - November J-Team

Thank you for your interest in us and in our work with TEAMS for Medical Missions,

John and Linda Heater



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