

MISSION JAMAICA FEBRUARY 13-20 2008 TEAM REPORT

On February 13, 2008, thirty-four of us left families and friends to journey to Garland Hall Children's Home, Anchovy, St. James, Jamaica. We came together with various hopes and expectations, but all of us hoped to serve God by serving some of his poorest people.

We are:

Red Team:

Dan Lysholm
Katherine Lysholm
Tim Grundler
James Klehr

White Team

Bruce Hanson
Bob Armitage
Beth Bulleigh
Pat Wrucke

Blue Team

Dan Froiland
David Shaw
Karen Parker
Denny Betz
Erin Bulleigh

Black Team

Jim Bulleigh
Jim Sbertoli
Tom Nyman
Mark Wrucke
Rodney Pellow
Pam Gruner
Janet Fulkerson

Orange Team

Denise Grundler
David Swanson (cancelled-ill)

Turquoise Team

Bill Eggers

Green Team

Glenna Sbertoli
Jenell Gagne
Nancy Lysholm
Duane Lysholm
Cheryl Ruud
Carol Jokenin

Yellow Team

Dorothy Krinke
Maxine Enfield
Barb Shaw
Joyce Pellow
Susan Matthees
Adrienne Gregerson-Klehr

We are the only team working at Garland Hall Children's Home, in Anchovy. For the past eight years we have attempted to do the majority of their yearly maintenance during our week there. This year, we had identified eleven projects as most important. Under the construction leadership of Dan Froiland, we decided to try to do them all. The projects are as follows:

1. Dining Room and Stairs to Hall of Lower Level:

Remove loose plaster near entry door and repair wall plaster and joint compound. Spot repair as needed. Paint all walls of dining room, stairs, and lower level hallway two coats of "Antique White." If time permits, touch up ceiling.

2. Boys' Dorm - Lower Level.

Spot repair walls as needed. Paint all walls "Morning Glory Blue." Paint ceiling in adjoining bathroom.

3. Girls' Dorm – First Floor.

Install a new lockset on the entry door.

4. Main Hallway – First Floor.

Spot repair walls as needed. Paint all walls "Morning Glory Blue."

5. Small Children's Dormitory – First Floor

Partition off back corner of the room to form a walk-in closet. Dimensions are to be 7'7" wide by 6' deep by 9'6" high with a 2'6" door opening. Cover outside of new 2x4 partitions with 1/2" plywood. Install a 30" finger jointed two panel door with surface mounted hinges. Install a hasp and a padlock. Install a double row of closet rod on the window side of the closet, the upper rod at a height of 6'4" and the lower rod at a height of 3'2". Install a shelf above the window using 1x12 pine board and 1/3 supports. Install shelves and rod on the opposite wall with the rod height at 5'6" and two 1x12 shelves above. Install mid span support brackets on all new shelves. Paint all new wood of walls and shelving two coats of "Antique White."

Paint all ceilings one coat of "Ceiling White."

6. Outside Wash House and Laundry.

Remove all roofing tin and structural nailers and rafters. Examine base plate of roof/wall junction and replace rotted wood as necessary. Remove ceiling. Install new 2x4 rafters 24" on center. Install new ceiling joists 24" on center. Install 1x6 nailers perpendicular to the rafters 24" on center. Install zinc panel roofing nailed or screwed to 1/6 nailers. Fill in two gable ends with 1/2" plywood (textured T1-11). Install 1/2" plywood as the finished ceiling. Re-route all electrical in conflict with the project. Paint new ceiling and gable ends two coats of "Ceiling White."

7. Normalyn's House. (She was sleeping on an old couch outside).

Construct a new 10'x10' structure built on a base of 4x4 treated lumber on existing leveled out grade. Install 2x4 stud walls 24" on center as per plan and cover with 1/2" plywood – outside only. Install two 2'x3' (approximately) wood slat windows in metal frames for ventilation and light. Install shed style roof system using 2x4 rafters, 1x6" nailers and zinc panels as per plan. Install a two panel finger joint door with two 4" surface hinges. Install 1x2 door stops. Install hasp and padlock. Install throw bolt on inside of door. Install concrete floor if time permits. 8. Kirk's House (It is partially framed and roofed). Finish side walls with new 2x4's. Frame for two slat windows. Frame for door opening. Cover exterior walls

with ½" plywood. Install two 2'x3' (approximately) wood slat windows in metal frames for ventilation and light. Install reused door with mortised hinges and lockset. Install one additional zinc panel (now missing) and add a 4x4 center beam for existing unstructured roof. Install concrete floor if time permits.

9. Omar's House.

Install a 2'6" x 6'8" two panel door with surface mounted 4" hinges. Install a hasp and a padlock.

We also did some other things:

We repaired broken beds.

We helped two girls, whom we scholarshipped to the H.E.A.R.T. Institute, seek employment.

We gave a gift to Edna Harty, the retired Administrator of Garland Hall Children's Home.

We arranged for eye exams for two persons from the Orphanage.

We attended worship at Bickersteth Baptist Church with the children and staff of Garland Hall Children's Home.

Pastor Jim Sbertoli and I preached and helped teach Sunday School.

We took the children and staff to a theater in Montego Bay where we watched *Alvin and the Chipmunks*

We rented a "Bounce-about" for the children, and arranged for a catered meal which we all shared.

We gave gifts bags and quilts to all the children.

We gave gift bags to all the staff.

We gave embroidered shirts to all the children and staff.

We brought linens, a calculator, first aid and other supplies to the Orphanage.

We took Gwen Woodit, the Administrator, grocery shopping.

We provided eighth graders with money to go on a school field trip.

We purchased a new commercial stove for the orphanage.

Why did we do these things? We all experienced a call in one fashion or another. Over 2/3 of us are repeaters. So, for once or twice or many times we have surrendered our self interest to serve some poor kids in Jamaica in the name of God. Each evening, as Pastor Jim Sbertoli led us in devotions, we reflected on how God is good to us and how in giving, we received, and in loving, we were loved.

Sunday was a full day with the children. It was our last day with the children. It was a quiet trip down Long Hill Road and back to the hotel. It was time for reflection and prayer.

I found a prayer recently. It is by Charles de Foucauld, a French aristocrat who joined the French army in Algeria. He left the army there, and lived with the people there, serving the poor. Charles de Foucauld lived from 1858 to 1916. Here is his prayer called The Prayer of Abandonment.

*Father, I abandon myself into your hands;
do with me what you will.*

*Whatever you may do, I thank you:
I am ready for all, I accept all.*

*Let only your will be done in me,
and in all your creatures -
I wish no more than this, O Lord.*

10. Preparation for Party, Decorating, Sorting Gifts

11. New Membrane Roof on Orphanage.

Install rolled rubber 60 mil product on flat roof according to manufacturer's specifications with components as inventoried through our supplier.

*Into your hands I commend my soul:
I offer it to you with all the love of my heart,
for I love you, Lord, and so need to give myself,
to surrender myself into your hands without reserve,
and with boundless confidence,
for you are my Father.*

It is our prayer too.

Respectfully submitted for the team,

Tom Nyman