

**Administrator's Report: ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2010**  
**CUMI ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

Monday, October 25<sup>th</sup>, 2010

The Committee for the Upliftment of the Mentally Ill (CUMI)  
August 2009– July 2010  
Brandon Hill

The Committee for the Upliftment of the Mentally Ill celebrated Twenty years as a committee August 2010 and the Brandon Hill Rehabilitation CUMI Day Centre has been delivering service for Nineteen years.

August 2009 - July 2010, just like other years had its own challenges. However, because of the support from team members, NGO's and the networking partnership mechanisms with the Cornwall Regional Hospital psychiatric department, community partnership mental health delivery has seen some improvement.

The networking organization consist of: the psychiatric department, Type IV Health Centre and community clinics working with NGO's and faith base service providers such as, CUMI rehabilitation day centre, the Open Heart Charitable Mission Care Centre and Night shelter. This partnership has placed St. James in a more favorable position with the delivery of community mental health services.

The ministry of health national theme is - **'There is no good health without good mental health'**. The theme expresses the holistic approach taken in the delivery of good health service and practices that will benefit the needs of the whole person whether it is physical, mental/psychological and social well-being.

St. James has seen a noticeable improvement in available services when we reflect that in 1990 the committee investigation of the services found that there was no resident psychiatrist at the regional hospital and the department of psychiatry services was delivered mainly by the one mental health officer (MHO) and mental health social worker. Today, we can proudly state that each parish has at least two or three mental health officers and resident psychiatrist in the department. ***Special tribute to the late Mr. Vernet Hall-St. James MHO.***

We are still facing challenges and some of our clients have to spend long periods waiting in clinics and especially at the hospital pharmacy. The department of psychiatry is still without an ambulance/bus to support the mental health officers prompt response to community request and St. James is still waiting to have a drug rehabilitation centre up and running to address this sector of major community needs. Even with these existing challenges, we can still be appreciative of the improvements that have been made.

CUMI has presented to the office of the prime minister, letters and proposal concerning the urgent need for the ambulance/bus service for St. James and neighbouring parishes.

We are still anticipating further necessary improvements in community mental health services and practices.

For the best results from the rehabilitation programme, CUMI put emphasis on maintaining an environment in the day centre, which will enhance good mental well-being and the development of the clients. With this in mind, CUMI has been pursuing the matter of maintenance and structural repairs for the CUMI day centre (ceiling and building) with the St. James Parish Council. Correcting these issues plays an important role in creating the ambience in the facility. Another unfortunate hurdle is when efforts are hampered by individuals from the community who persist to impact on the day centre in a negative way by stealing the fencing and garden produce.

For the year 2009 - 2010 the CUMI day centre facilitated 3,768 clients' visits with the ratio of male to female 10:5, new intake/admission to the programme = 4, and the total amount meals served = 6,195 (breakfast & lunch). For this year 7 clients have been in employment (full/part-time) from the rehabilitation programme and are living in the community as productive individuals.

The CUMI day centre services include activities to re-motivate coping skills which empowers the ability of the individual to make the best of their potential. The clients develop their coping skills to understand and manage their mental health and well-being with the goals to play their role in the community and to make their contribution.

Social interactive activities are supported within the programme with the involvement of corporate social groups such as LIME Kindness day luncheon party.

Under the umbrella of CUMI, is the children's programme which is sponsored by Jamaica Money Market Broker's. Working with the various schools, the children's coordinator and the psychologist we provide supportive mechanism with the best learning tools so that each child has the opportunity to realize his or hers full potential.

The children's programme is proud to share the successes in the results in GSAT, CXC, CAPE and tertiary examination passes.

August 27<sup>th</sup>, 2010, thanks to Captain Water-sports, both the children and the clients enjoyed a day trip outing on the glass bottom boat along the coastline.

In 2009, the fundraising committee was formed by a group of energetic and creative individuals. The first event that was launched was the premiere of the CUMI Come Run 2009. The group galvanized support from all sector of society and successfully hosted the September 26<sup>th</sup>, 2009 10k run and 5k walk at the Tryall Club. The event combined with the after party at the Blue Beat venue and the October 18<sup>th</sup> comedy night with Tony 'paleface' Hendricks raised 2 Million Dollars for the CUMI trust fund. The other spectacular fundraising event was the 'White Witch' of Rose Hall featured at Fairfield Theatre.

CUMI also benefited from the annual Pineapple Ball contribution.

CUMI hosted its own annual calendar events for 2009 with its Open Day Seasonal celebration with special guest appearance by 'Mackie Conscious' supported by CUMI choir, Frenz musical band and guest entertainers.

During the month of December the St. James College annual Christmas celebration hosted the CUMI clients as VIP. The celebration included the Open Heart Charitable Mission Care Centre and night shelter luncheon for clients and guests at the Care Centre.

The year activities and management was sustained by the combined support from partners and donors, the board of directors, staff and clients, the various networking partners involved in delivering mental health services - Jamaica Money Market Broker's, HART Group of Companies, Mr. Whitfield, Mr. & Mrs. Shirley, Tourism Enhancement Fund and many other contributors.

Gifts-in-kind – Jimmy and Regal Bakeries, Hall's Investment Ltd, Globe Insurance Company, Half-Moon, Burchell Baptist, Faith Temple, St. Paul's United Churches and St. John's Methodist men's fellowship and many other supporters.

Volunteers (local and international) and summer workers from JPS, TPDCo, Citizen Security & Justice Programme and the James Maddison Alternative annual spring-breakers from Virginia, USA gave service.

The psychologist and the administrator supported other parishes with their community homeless programme by attending and providing information at workshops and conferences such as the: Portland Homeless Rehabilitation and the Open Heart NGO conference.

#### Management and team members

The staff in the day centre consists: of nurse administrator, nurse, office assistant, 2 part-time cook and a security personnel; everyone are involved in the daily activities.

CUMI is managed by a voluntary board of directors that meet monthly. The board consists of 7 members chaired by Dr. Pearnell Bell, Treasurer, Jane Fray, Secretary, Dawn Paris, Nurse Administrator, Joy Crooks, Arden Hamilton, Ann Newnham, Norma Graham and supporting associates.

KPMG conduct the auditing for CUMI (up-to 2006).

Jamaica Money Market Broker's manages the CUMI trust fund and other banking at RBTT, Montego Bay branch.

The Committee for the Upliftment of the Mentally Ill (CUMI), a non-governmental organization, registered charity that has been serving and benefiting through the programme of rehabilitation the homeless and mentally ill, acknowledges everyone who have made it all possible for the past 20 years.

The present chairperson, the board of directors, the staff, clients and all other team members salute the founding members:

**CUMI acknowledges past chairpersons:**

The first chairman, the late Mayor Arthur Gilchrist, second chairman, David Lindo and the third chairperson, the late Elizabeth Hall who also held the post of treasurer and the visionary for the CUMI trust fund.

**CUMI acknowledge the founding members:**

Arthur Gilchrist, Elizabeth Hall, Joy Crooks, Cybil Peart, Nella Perrier, Thora Palmer, Eglon Tomlinson.

Other directors: Rose and the late Cecil Morrison, the late Lynn Downie, Vernon Chin, Janet Insang, Verona Carter, Tony Noons, Victor Wong, Bob Fischer, Dennis Meadows, Lloyd B. Smith, Donald Colomathi, and Ron Good

Present chairperson and Directors: Dr. Pearnell Bell, Treasurer, Jane Fray, Secretary Dawn Paris, Nurse Administrator Joy Crooks, Arden Hamilton, Muriel 'Ann' Newnham, Norma Graham  
(Honorary members: Lloyd B. Smith, Victor Wong and Ron Good)

***Thanks to everyone***

**Certificate of appreciation presented to:**

***HART Group of Companies, Hall's Investment, Jamaica Money Market Broker's, Globe Insurance Company, JUTA Tours, Lawrence Rentals & Investment, Richard Whitfield, Victor & Joan Shirley, Robert Golaub, Faith Temple Women's Fellowship, Millicent Gordon, Burchell Baptist Church, Half-Moon Hotel, Victor Wong, Regal Bakery, Jimmy's Bakery, Lloyd G. Young, Nerva Grey, Mae Parchment.***

**CUMI'S MISSION STATEMENT**

To reach out and advocate for the homeless and other mentally ill persons of Montego Bay (St. James) and within the limits of resources available, attempt to improve their level of physical and mental health as well as their basic quality of life.

**CUMI's regular contact information:**

**Telephone: (876) 952 - 8737 Fax: 971 - 4943**

**CUMI's P.O. Box 1751, Montego Bay #2 P.O. St. James, Jamaica. W.I.**

**CUMI's website -- [www.cumimobay.org](http://www.cumimobay.org)**

**E-mail: [cumi@cwjamaica.com](mailto:cumi@cwjamaica.com)**

N.B. CUMI wishes to express appreciation and many thanks for the support for the CUMI Day Centre and Children's Programme, which has taken us through another year. This was made possible because of your valuable role as supporters and team members. We welcome any of our sponsors who wish to extend their interest by becoming a supportive member of the board of directors.

The Annual General Meeting is also open to anyone who which to contribute to the Upliftment of the programme.