



USAID/JAMAICA— WEEKLY REPORT

May 22, 2012 Highlights:



Tracey Ann Brown (left) a student from the Prince's School of Traditional Arts (PSTA) explains the intricacies of pottery making to mission director of USAID Denise Herbol (centre), Member of Parliament from the UK, Dave Watts, British High Commissioner of Jamaica, His Excellency Howard Drake and Member of Parliament of the UK Andrew Rosindell, while 14 year old Omar Brown of PSTA looks on.



Pictured here are JA staff members, teachers of the deaf, sign language interpreters and USAID/Jamaica Mission personnel at the Junior Achievement workshop to review year one of the two-year "Expanding to the Deaf" component of the USAID/Jamaica -sponsored JA Jamaica program. This was held from May 14-16, 2012 at the Beaches Sandy Bay Hotel, Negril.

- ◆ **Opening Ceremony of the Rose Town Foundation of the Built Community (RTFBC), May 16:** USAID/Jamaica has partnered with the Prince's Foundation for Building Community Development (UK) to assist with the implementation of a community based micro-enterprise development in Rose Town through a grant to the Rose Town Foundation of the Built Community (RTFBC). The micro-enterprise development will be based around the improved water supply that is being funded by the Prince's Foundation. In addition, USAID/Jamaica will support efforts to set up governance structures in the community to facilitate fair and transparent payment for these updated services once they are in place.

The Opening Ceremony highlighted the past work done by the Prince's Foundation and the way forward for the community of Rose Town.

Participants at the ceremony included public and private sector stakeholders including British High Commissioner to Jamaica, His Excellency Howard Drake who was accompanied by a delegation from the members of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the House of Commons from the United Kingdom, former U.S. Ambassador to Jamaica Brenda Larrange-Johnson and Mrs. Michele Rollins from the Rose Hall Foundation.

- ◆ **Globalization, Junior Achievement (JA), May 14-16:** Over the period May 14-16, 2012 Junior Achievement (JA) hosted a workshop to review year one of the two-year "Expanding to the Deaf" component of the USAID/Jamaica -sponsored Junior Achievement Jamaica program. The workshop brought together JA staff, teachers of the deaf and sign language interpreters for the seven deaf schools/units who participated in the program to share best practices on the delivery of the modules; critique the draft Jamaican Sign Language Resource material (manual and DVD) that is currently being piloted in select schools; discuss the Year 1 external evaluation report; concretize plans for year two and project sustainability beyond year two and explore the "scalability" of the project to the wider Latin America and Caribbean region.

The year one external review was conducted by the mostly in-kind support of the University of Minnesota in March 2012. University of Minnesota will present their findings via video-conferencing.

Sandals Foundation, a member of the Sandals chain of hotels in the Caribbean and one of the primary sponsors of this component of the JA program, sponsored the workshop venue (Beaches Sandy Bay Hotel, Negril) and included overnight stay for the participants. FirstCaribbean International Bank also provided support to the workshop.



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Upcoming Events:

- ◆ **Mission Visits:** Regional Environmental Officer, Joe Torres is visiting the Mission from May 21– 25, 2012 and Luis Garcia the Regional Contracting Officer is at the Mission until May 23, 2012. Both officers are visiting from the USAID/Dominican Republic Mission.
- ◆ **Agriculture/Environment:** E's (Environment, Economic Growth and Education Bureau) Global Climate Change (GCC) team will be visiting the Mission June 4-8, 2012 to do some additional sectoral meetings as well as make final in-country preparations for the July GCC planning event with the Government of Jamaica.