



# **THE GENERAL SECRETARY'S ANNUAL REPORT 2023**



**Motto:**

**Taken From John 17:21,  
“That They All May Be One.”**

**Vision:**

**“Every Youth Makes A Positive Impact On Society”**

**Mission:**

**“Enabling The Development Of Youth By  
Targeting  
Spirit, Mind And Body Through Christian  
Values Of  
Love, Peace, Service And Justice”.**



*We thank God  
for our accomplishments over the year 2023 in review.  
Despite the challenges we persevered.*



# Our Programmes and Services

- **Aquatic**
  - Learn to Swim
  - Aqua-aerobics
  - Master swimming
  - Swim Championship
- **Badminton**
- **Youth Development Programme**
- **After School the YMCA LAC**
- **Leadership Development Training Programme**
- **Summer Camp**
- **Taekwondo**



**Aquatic:** Training continued for our Master swimmers and members of the Swim clubs as scheduled.

Learn to swim classes for Schools Groups has been scheduled on a term basis and began in September 2023. Lessons were offered five days per week, Mondays to Fridays. Lessons for individuals were increased from five days per week to six days per week. Mondays to Saturdays. This has been facilitated by volunteers and staff (part time and full time) to whom we are very grateful. We could not achieve the goals set without their involvement.

*Thank You* to the everyone in our Aquatic Department!



## YOUTH DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME



The YMCA Youth Development Programme (formerly the Street Corner Boys' Programme) continued with fulltime classes. The new school year began in September 2023.

The programme in partnership with HEART Trust/NSTA provided Educational, Recreational and Life Coping Skills to approximately 35 male students, ages 11 -15 years old. A significant reduction in the school population. The programme was administered with the use of best practises teaching methods in Literacy, Numeracy, Computer Technology, Barbering Techniques, Guidance Counselling, Swimming and Badminton, during the year.

The programme continued to have a 100% pass rate of students being successful in the Grade Nine Achievement Test (GNAT) set by the Ministry of Education for placement in high schools in and around the corporate area.

35 students sat the Examinations in 2023, were successful and gained entries into High Schools of their choices, and in near proximity to their homes.

Heartiest Congratulations to every students for their achievement!

## Challenges

Some students were often absent from school and this created a weakened interest in their educational development.

The behaviors displayed by the students at times resulted in damage to school furniture and the physical plant.

## Concerns

Financial constraints being experienced by some of our parents contributed to their inability to provide breakfast for their child or ward to attend school.

Students were able to obtain breakfast at school, for a minimal fee.



## Thank you

Thank you to our Youth Development Programme Coordinator, Mr. Patrick Burke, the Teachers Misses Babara Fender, Chayzan Barnett, Barbara Shepherd, Debra McCarthy and Mesdames Novelette Morgan Whittaker and Judene Cole-Henry, and all the Volunteers, Social Work Practicum Students, for their support of the Youth Development Programme and recognizing the work of the YMCA, over the year.

They remain unwavering in their commitment to the mission of ensuring that all students were given opportunities to develop good behavioral practices and ethics, so that they can become productive citizens and nation builders.

## **LATIN AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN ALLIANCE OF YMCAS AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAMME/JAMAICA**

The programme was set up for YMCAs, sponsored by the YMCA of the Latin American and Caribbean (YMCA LAC) in partnership with CIBC/FCIB.

The commitment was to strengthening the impact of YMCAs in the region through a programme designed to impact At Risk Youth.

The Kingston YMCA operate its Afterschool Programme at two locations – 21 Hope Road, Kingston 10 and at the Boys' Town Outreach Centre, 6 Collie Smith Drive, Kingston 12, in the parish of St. Andrew.

At 21 Hope Road, Eighteen (18) students from our Youth Development Programme (YDP), who live in and around Kingston & St. Andrew communities, such as Papine, Red Hills Road, Cassava Piece, Mountain View and Swallowfield, participated in scheduled activities such as Guidance and Counselling/Personal Development, Computer Technology, Phonics, Mathematics and Swimming.

The students attended the programme two days per week over the year. A proposed increase, from the previous year one day per week.

Boys' Town activities included 31 students who attended regularly of which two (2) were girls. These youngsters live in close proximity to the Boys' Town community, namely, Wilton Gardens, Federal Gardens, Rose Town, Arnett Gardens, Trench Town and Denham Town which made it easy for that group to attend the activities regularly.

The students attended the programme three days per week, Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays between the hours of 1:30 pm - 3:30 pm. and once per month on Saturdays, for mentorship sessions.

Nutritional support were provided for the children at both Centres.

## LEADERSHIP TRAINING PROGRAMME APRIL – JUNE 2023

The Kingston YMCA carried out its Leadership Development Training Programme during the months of April to June 2023. Over 30 young people between the ages of 14-25 years of age were engaged in the training. The 10 week Training Programme was conducted as part of our preparations for our 2023 Summer Camp scheduled for July and August.



The following topics were shared presented:

- History, Philosophy and Mission of the YMCA
- Programmes of the YMCA & Youth Volunteerism
- Stress Management
- Rules of the YMCA/Programme Outline
- Leadership Qualities and Development
- Resource Use & Initiative
- Art & Craft
- Deportment and Conduct on Job
- Etiquette
- Conflict Resolution
- Motivational Skills

- Basic First Aid
- Financial Empowerment
- Grooming and Personal Hygiene
- Reproductive Health
- Public Speaking
- Career Planning/Goal Setting
- Stress Management
- Communication, Programme Planning,
- Games and Sing-a-long

The Training Sessions ended with presentations of certificates of participation to those who attended 70% or more of the training sessions.

# LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT TRAINING PROGRAMME

## APRIL – JUNE 2023

### IN PHOTO







**Burger King/YMCA**



## **Preparatory & Primary Schools Swim Meet 2023**

Burger King/YMCA hosted the 20<sup>th</sup> Renewal of the Preparatory & Primary Schools Swim Championship. This was held on Friday, May 5, 2023 at the National Stadium Pool. Many thanks to our sponsor Burger King that made it possible. Both children and coaches were awarded.

The month of May has always been recognized as CHILD'S MONTH in Jamaica and also by the Kingston YMCA. This was carried out as our Child's Months activity for our children.







# SUMMER CAMP

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## DAY CAMP & LEARN TO SWIM



Summer Camp 2023 began July 10, 2023. The Day Camp ran for 7 weeks, Mondays to Fridays, through to August 25, 2023.

There were an average of two hundred campers enrolled in Day Camp and two hundred and fifty, in our summer learn-to-swim programme.

We had a Camp Director, Supervisors, Counsellors, Staff and Volunteers, monitoring the campers over the period.

*Hat day in Camp:  
Camp Director, Aunty Sash  
shows off her hat*







# WORLD YWCA AND WORLD YMCA WEEK OF PRAYER AND WORLD FELLOWSHIP 2023



The Week of Prayer and World Fellowship was recognised across the world November 12-19, 2023. The Theme was “Seed to Blossoms; Cultivating Hope and Love in Solidarity”.

The week began on Sunday, November 12, 2023 focusing on the theme; “Nourishing the Ground with hope for growth” *Chronicles 7:14 & Act: 4:31-32*.

Activities were planned along the week’s daily themes. Everyone was encouraged to participate and be engaged in the Week of World Prayer.





**World YMCA and World YWCA  
Week of Prayer and World Fellowship  
November 12 -19, 2023**



**Week of Activities**

**DAY 1      SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2023**

Theme: "Nourishing the Ground with hope for growth"  
*2 Chronicles 7:14 & Act 4:31-32*

**DAY 2      MONDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2023**

Theme: "Sowing the Seeds of Solidarity, for a Flourishing Future"  
*Corinthians 3: 4-8*

**Youth Fellowship Meditation** – *Kingston YMCA Auditorium - 10:30 a.m.*  
21 Hope Road, Kingston 10  
Lead by: Ministerial Students - United Theological College

**DAY 3      TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2023**

Theme: "Tending with Care; towards nurturing environments"  
*Genesis 24: 28*    Kingston YWCA, 51 Arnold Road, Kingston 5



**DAY 4      WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2023**

**Theme: “Guardians of Growth; enhancing solidarity building”**

*Ruth Chapters 1- 4*

**Mid-Week Meditation**

Kingston YMCA Auditorium: 21 Hope Road, Kingston 10

11:00 a.m.

Lead by: Bishop Gerard Brown, Bethel New Testament Church of God

**DAY 5      THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2023**

**Theme: Pruning for Resilience to Shape Transformation**

*Ruth 1:1-4*      Kingston YWCA, 51 Arnold Road, Kingston 5



**DAY 6      FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2023**

Theme: "Harvesting the Fruits of Unity with Love and Kindness"

*John 15: 1-4, 9-17*

**Y's Men's Club Family Games Evening:** Music & Games

Light Refreshment on Sale

4:00 p.m.

Kingston YMCA Auditorium: 21 Hope Road, Kingston 10

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2023**

**Church Service of Thanksgiving Celebrating Boys' Town YMCA**

**83<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary and World YMCA/YWCA Week of Prayer & World Fellowship**

**Boys' Town Playfield**

6 Collie Smith Drive, Kingston

**10:30 a.m.**

*Bus Leaves Kingston YMCA, 21 Hope Rd. at 9:45 a.m. (return)*

## A JOINT MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENTS OF WORLD YWCA AND WORLD YMCA



As we prepare to embark on our Week of Prayer and World Fellowship this year, under the theme, ‘Seeds to Blossoms: Cultivating Hope and Love in Solidarity,’ we invite you to reflect on the profound connection that binds us together as part of the global YWCA-YMCA movement and family. We are an assorted garden of individuals, each unique and requiring different care to thrive, much like the various plants we can cultivate, while pushing together toward a brighter future right now and for generations to come.

In our movements, we embrace a diversity of backgrounds, cultures, and perspectives. Just as in a garden, where we can cultivate an array of plants, we encourage you to recognise the beauty and strength that comes from this diversity. Some may require more sunlight, while others flourish in the shade. Some need regular watering, while others thrive with occasional nurturing. Our differences can indeed be our strength; in recognising this, we honoured the essence of intergenerational solidarity and shared leadership that can go beyond any potential barrier.

Much like the gardener who tends to each plant's specific needs, we can nurture one another by listening, learning, and adapting our support to ensure that every individual within the communities we serve can grow and bloom. By acknowledging and respecting each person's uniqueness as a human being with human rights, we embody the true spirit of solidarity and contribute to the global garden of peace, justice, and equity.

As we reflect on the journey from seeds to blossoms, let us also remember that the care we provide today may not yield immediate results. Just as a tiny seed takes time to grow into a mighty tree, our efforts in supporting one another may require patience as well as the creation of the right environment. We may plant the seeds of positive change today, and future generations may enjoy the fruits of our labour. But this can be an opportunity for us as individuals and as a global community to learn and adapt to the understanding that our actions today can be the foundation of a more vibrant and inclusive YWCA-YMCA movement tomorrow.



In this Week of Prayer 2023, we invite you to come together in prayer with open hearts, embracing the diversity that enriches our movements. Let us reflect on the gardeners who tend to each other's needs and can create a safe space and environment where every seed can grow into a beautiful blossom. May this Week of Prayer inspire us to cultivate hope and love, strengthening the bonds that unite us for positive change.

We look forward to our collective reflections, prayers, and actions as we navigate this inspiring journey together.

With warmth and solidarity,

Mira Rizeq  
President, World YWCA

Soheila Hayek  
President, World YMCA

November 1, 2023



## CONVERSATION FOR GREATNESS WORKSHOP



The JMMB Joan Duncan Foundation hosted a Workshop – “A Conversation for Greatness” for members of Staff and Volunteers of the Kingston YMCA on Friday, April 14, 2023.

Members of the Board, Staff, Volunteers and a YDP student were in attendance. The Workshop was held at the JMMB Conference/Hospitality Centre located at 22 Phoenix Avenue, Kingston 10. The “Conversation for Greatness” was initiated by Mr. Anthony Brodber, Board Member. The day’s sessions were pleasing, and the discussion and information shared were gratifying.



# CONVERSATION FOR GREATNESS WORKSHOP – FOR STAFF & VOLUNTEERS IN PICTURE



## WHAT IS GOING GOOD FOR THE 'Y'

- ✓ Inspirational/respected leadership & teamwork
- ✓ Committed Staff & Volunteers
- ✓ Healthy lifestyle through programmes offered such as Swimming, Tae-kwon-do and Badminton
- ✓ Competitive Swim Club – Y Speedos
- ✓ Empowering Of Young People through our Youth Development Programme and our Leadership Development Training Programme
- ✓ Volunteerism, Social Services Interventions, Counselling, and Referrals Etc.
- ✓ Positive public image/influence

- ✓ Membership organization
- ✓ Registered charity
- ✓ Up to date Audited Financial Report
- ✓ Multi purpose Auditorium
- ✓ Facilities: 2 Swimming Pools -18m & 25m
- ✓ 2 Computer Labs
- ✓ Documentation
- ✓ Networking
- ✓ Close proximity to Half Way Tree, schools and its environs
- ✓ Programmes for the entire family



# THE FUTURE AT THE YMCA



- Increase in Members
- Increase community involvement and public awareness of the YMCA
- Improved maintenance and development of our facilities
- Re-development of Camp Hamilton, Caymanas Bay, St. Catherine
- Enhanced programme and services delivery to customers, through improved staff competencies and loftier customer service
- Improved income generation, financial sustainability and efficiency in operations
- Continued positive impact on lives, especially “*at risk youth*”, through leadership mentoring and life-skills – based on the YMCA Mission and Vision Statements.



## THE YMCA STRATEGIC PLAN 2022-2027



The Kingston YMCA has been serving the people of Kingston and its environs, in Jamaica since 1920. As the organization celebrated its 103<sup>rd</sup> anniversary on June 9, 2023, the strategic plan functions as a guide for the Board of Directors and Staff in their daily work, strategic efforts, and management of the organization.

This plan was developed through months of active consultation with key stakeholders, board members and staff, with information gathered through a strategic planning workshop held October 8, 2022. The plan has been in effect, and continued throughout 2023.

## Governance

To continue to operate as a transparent and resilient non-governmental organization (NGO), governance of the KYMCA needs to constantly maintain, and improve the standards set out by the organization's statute.

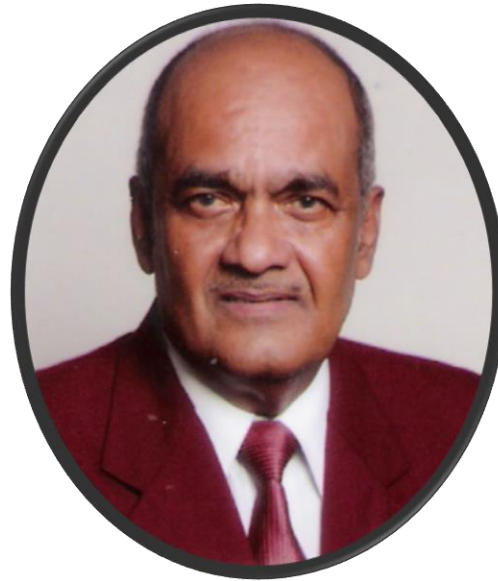
The Strategic Plan reflects the thoughts, ideas and contributions of many people who have intimate knowledge of the members and non-members served by the Kingston YMCA, the history of the organization, the ongoing risks and assets, and the organization's expectations for the future.

## **Financial Stability and Sustainability**

To continue to deliver quality services into the prospective future, the Kingston YMCA must have consistent and sufficient funds to cover operational expenses. Also, the need of an inflow of resources regularly to deliver major projects from time to time.

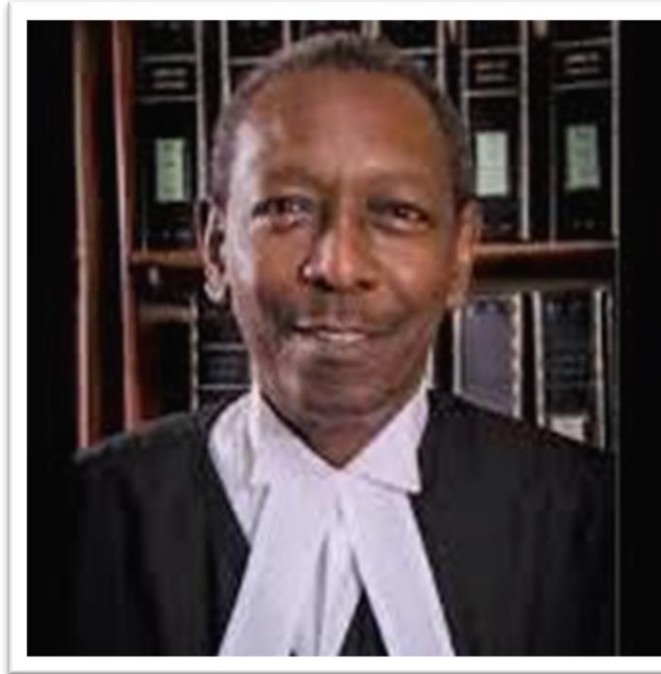
The Kingston YMCA has been making every effort to raise needed funds and ask for the support of the Government, Members, Individuals and Corporate Jamaica to assist with funding where ever possible, to enable us to establish growth and Financial stability.

WE REMEMBER MR. ROY BANARSEE  
HONORARY VICE PRESIDENT  
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE KINGSTON YMCA





WE REMEMBER  
HON. MR. C. DENNIS MORRISON, (RET'D) OJ CD KC  
PAST CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS , OF THE  
KINGSTON YMCA



*His leadership and contribution to the work of the YMCA  
remains a tower of strength. He will always be in our hearts.*

## SPECIAL THANKS TO:

- ❖ OUR PRESIDENT, HONORARY VICE PRESIDENTS, CHAIRMAN, VICE CHAIRMEN, & MEMBERS OF THE YMCA BOARD OF DIRECTORS.
- ❖ BARITA
- ❖ NATIONAL OUTDOOR ADVERTISING (IPRINT)
- ❖ CALEDONIA OUTDOOR ADVERTISING
- ❖ GRACE KENNEDY
- ❖ TANKWELD
- ❖ FREEMASON
- ❖ BETHEL BAPTIST CHURCH OUTREACH MINISTRY
- ❖ 'Y' SPEEDOS SWIM CLUB
- ❖ MR. ARNOLD AIKEN
- ❖ MR. ANTHONY BRODBER

## **ALSO SPECIAL THANKS TO MEMBERS, FACILITIES USERS, VOLUNTEERS AND STAFF:**

**PROGRAMMES COORDINATOR**

**YDP CO-ORDINATOR**

**ACCOUNTANT**

**ACCOUNTING ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT**

**AQUATIC INSTRUCTORS/LIFEGUARDS**

**POOL MAINTENANCE**

**AUXILIARY**

**SECURITY/CARETAKER**

MS. SHOSHANA EDWARDS

MR. PATRICK BURKE

MS. MALEKA CAINE

MS. AUDREY BUTLER

MR. KENNETH HAYLES

MS. NELLA MCPHERSON

MR. SHAVONIE JOHNSON

MR. MIKHAIL CORINALDI

MR. ANDREW HYLTON

MR. RADOY BARTLEY

MS. KAREN GREGORY

MS. ICILDA JOHNSON

MR HECTOR SAMUDA,

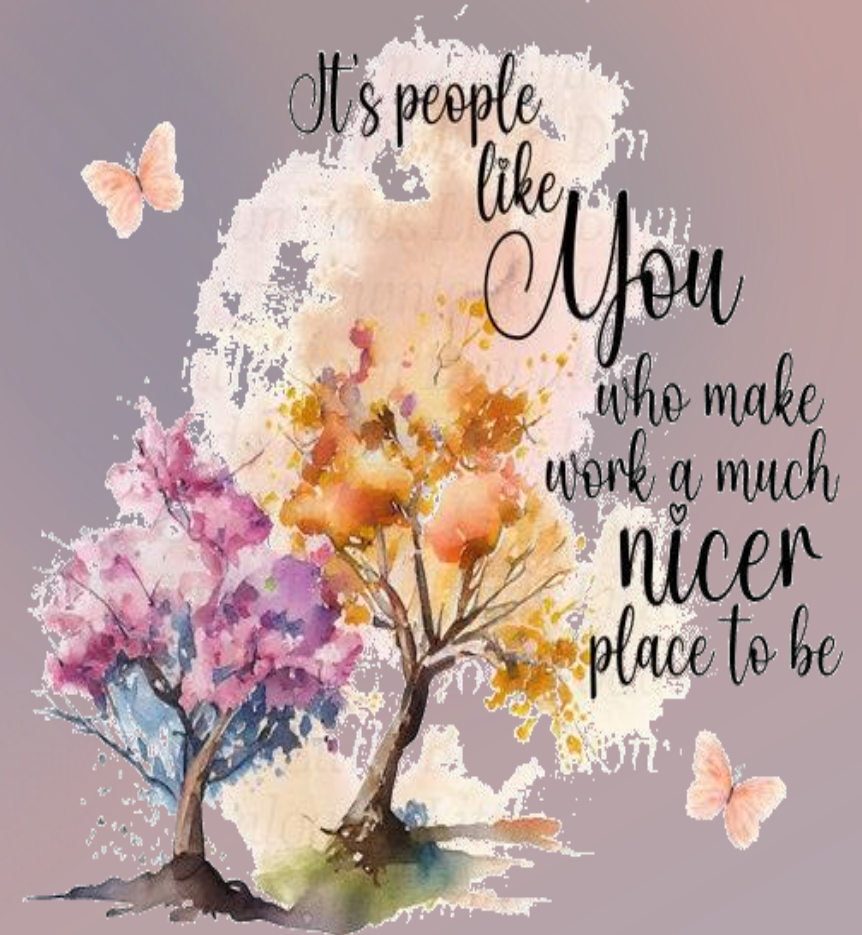
MR. NICKARDO DUNKLEY

MR. NAVADO EUWING



STUDENTS OF SOCIAL WORK AND GUIDANCE COUNSELLING FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF THE WEST INDIES, PORTMORE COMMUNITY AND EXCELSIOR COMMUNITY COLLEGES.





*Hilary Perkins, Mrs.  
General Secretary, (Acting)  
June 1, 2024*