

# GENERAL SECRETARY'S ANNUAL REPORT 2024 – CELEBRATING 104 YEARS

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Do not worry about anything, but  
in everything by prayer and  
supplication with thanksgiving let  
your requests be made known to  
God. And the peace of God, which  
surpasses all understanding, will  
guard your hearts and your minds  
in Christ Jesus.



# OUR PROGRAMMES AND SERVICES

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- ✓ Aquatics
- ✓ Badminton
- ✓ Taekwondo
- ✓ Youth Development Programme
- ✓ The YMCA LAC After School Programme
- ✓ Leadership Development Training Programme
- ✓ Summer Camp
- ✓ Rental of Facility Spaces

# Aquatics

Lessons for individuals (both adults and children) continued to be offered Mondays to Saturdays, with Saturday being the most active day of the week. This has been facilitated by volunteers and staff (part time and full time). Adults, Children, Schools Groups and the request for the use of the pool for clubs and lifeguard training was scheduled monthly and , as well as on a needs basis for the year in review.

We could not have achieve our objectives without the invaluable involvement of both staff and volunteers in our Aquatic Department. A profound thank you to everyone!





## YOUTH DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME



The YMCA Youth Development Programme (*formerly the Street Corner Boys' Programme*) continue to provide full time remedial education to unattached youth between the ages of 11 – 16 years old and operates in partnership with HEART Trust/NSTA . It provide Educational, Recreational and Life Coping Skills for the students through their teachers gave of their invaluable service daily. The programme has been administered with the use of best practices teaching methods in Literacy, Numeracy, Computer Technology, Barbering Techniques, Guidance Counselling, Welding, Swimming and Badminton, during the year.

There has been a significant reduction in the school's population from the previous year. Efforts are being made to increase the number. 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 2024, were successful and gained entries into High Schools of their choices, in near proximity to their homes. Heartiest Congratulations to every students for their achievement!

# Challenges and Concerns



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 them needing referrals to respective institutions for intervention. Damage to school furniture and the physical plant.



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



A sponsored breakfast programme ought to be introduced for students, as students who needed breakfast, had to pay a fee to obtain it at the Tuck shop.





# 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, Mr. Kingsley Barrett, and all the Volunteers, Social Work Practicum Students, for their support to the Kingston YMCAs Youth Development Programme for the reporting period.**



# **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 the programme.

The activities include Learn to Swim, Guidance and Counselling/Personal Development, Computer Technology, English Language, Mathematics, and Barbering, administered over two days.



# AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAM IN ACTION

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- Counselling Lecture
- Mathematics cross word
- Treat



## LEADERSHIP TRAINING PROGRAMME APRIL – JUNE 2024

The Kingston YMCA carried out its Leadership Development Training Programme during the months of April to June 2024. Young people between the ages of 15-25 years of age were engaged in the training. The 10-week training programme was conducted by volunteers facilitated by lecturers from corporate Jamaica, as part of our preparations for our 2024 Summer Camp.



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 2024  
IN PHOTO



## PROTECTING GOD'S CHILDREN WORKSHOP

Mr. Noel Wilkins, Chairman of the Family Life Commission of the Roman Catholic, Archdiocese of Kingston and Campion College, facilitated a Workshop for all members of staff on the Theme: ***“Pedophilia and Child Abuse”***.

A Certificate Of Participation was presented to each staff member on completion of the workshop.





## **Burger King/YMCA Preparatory & Primary Schools Swim Meet 2024**

The 21<sup>st</sup> Renewal of the Burger King/YMCA Preparatory & Primary Schools Swim Championship was held on Friday, May 3, 2024, at the National Stadium Pool. Over 1000 children from 48 schools participated.






## Burger King/YMCA Preparatory & Primary Schools Swim Meet 2024

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Sincere thanks and appreciation to our sponsor Burger King that has committed to sponsoring this event for our young swimmers from primary and preparatory schools across the country for over two decades.



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.



# Burger King/YMCA Preparatory & Primary Schools Swim Meet 2024

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# KINGSTON YMCA 104<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY

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The Kingston YMCA (KYMCA) celebrated its 104th anniversary with a grand banquet on Saturday, June 15, 2024, at the Altamont court hotel in Kingston. The event commenced at 7:00 pm, bringing together community leaders, supporters from the diaspora, and stakeholders to honour over a century of the organization's impactful work in Jamaica. The evening featured a formal program that highlighted the YMCA'S enduring commitment to youth development, education, and community service, reflecting on the rich history and the legacy of its stalwarts. The KYMCA Jamaica foundation, which was formed by members of the diaspora, was launched at the banquet. The foundation planned activities for the week which ended with the banquet.



Throughout the night, attendees enjoyed a blend of speeches, cultural performances, and presentations that underscored the YMCA'S role in shaping the lives of young Jamaicans. The banquet also served as a platform to announce upcoming initiatives and programs aimed at furthering the organization's mission.



The choice of the Altamont court hotel, known for its central location and elegant ambiance, provided a fitting backdrop for this significant milestone. The event not only celebrated past achievements but also galvanized support for the YMCA'S future endeavours, ensuring its continued impact on the community for years to come.



## KINGSTON YMCA 104<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY BANQUET





# CITATIONS WERE PRESENTED TO ~~FOUR FORMER~~ GENERAL SECRETARIES

- CONROD BALL
- KARL DALHOUSE
- TREVOR SPENCE
- SARAH NEWLAND-MARTIN



**DONATIONS FROM THE KYMCA  
JAMAICA FOUNDATION FOR  
THE AQUATIC FACILITIES  
IMPROVEMENT**





# SUMMER CAMP

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## DAY CAMP & LEARN TO SWIM



Summer Camp 2024 began July 8, 2024. The Day Camp ran for 7 weeks, Mondays to Fridays, through to August 23, 2024.

There was an average of Seven Hundred Campers enrolled in Day Camp and an estimated Eight Hundred participants in our summer learn-to-swim programme.

We had a Mrs. Kayon Vaughan as Camp Director, Supervisors, Counsellors, Staff and Volunteers, monitoring the campers over the period. Camp 2024 was a great one, the feedbacks were commending.





# Day Camp Trip to Straun Castle Hill





# Day Camp Trip to Caymanas Bay







## WORLD YWCA AND WORLD YMCA WEEK OF PRAYER AND WORLD FELLOWSHIP 2024



The Week of Prayer and World Fellowship was recognised across the world November 10-16, 2024. The week began on Sunday, November 10, 2024 focusing on the theme; “Moving with Faith through the elements Water, Earth, Fire, and Wind”.

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





## WHAT IS GOING GOOD FOR THE ‘Y’

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- ✓ Inspirational/respected leadership & teamwork
- ✓ Committed Staff & Volunteers
- ✓ Healthy lifestyle through programmes offered such as Aquatics, Tae-kwon-do and Badminton
- ✓ Competitive Swim Club – Y Speedos
- ✓ Creating tomorrow’s leaders through our Youth Development Programme and our Leadership Development Training Programme
- ✓ Volunteerism, Social Services Interventions, Guidance Counselling with Referrals to qualified agencies.
- ✓ Family oriented organization with positive christian and public image and influence

## WHAT IS GOING GOOD FOR THE 'Y', CONT.

- ✓ World Membership organization
- ✓ Registered Charity
- ✓ Annual Audited Financial Reports
- ✓ Multi purpose Auditorium
- ✓ Aquatic Facilities: 2 Swimming Pools -18m & 25m
- ✓ 2 Computer Laboratories
- ✓ Networking
- ✓ Close proximity to Half Way Tree, schools and its environs
- ✓ Programmes for the entire family

# 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 104<sup>th</sup> anniversary on June 9, 2024, 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. The plan continued to be in effect throughout 2024.



# THE FUTURE AT THE KINGSTON YMCA



- ✓ Increase Members, especially adults
- ✓ Increase public awareness of the YMCA
- ✓ Improved maintenance and upgrade of our facilities
- ✓ Increase programmes
- ✓ Re-building of YMCA Camp Hamilton Camp Site, Caymanas Bay, St. Catherine
- ✓ Enhanced programme and services delivery to customers, through improved staff competencies and loftier customer service
- ✓ Ongoing staff training
- ✓ 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 Vision and Mission Statements.

## Governance

To continue to operate as a transparent and resilient Registered Charity, that is a non-governmental organization (NGO), governance of the KYMCA needs to be constantly maintained, and the standards set out by the organization's statute upgraded.

## Financial Stability and Sustainability

To continue to deliver quality services into the prospective future, the Kingston YMCA must consistently possesses sufficient funds to operate efficiently and effectively.

The Kingston YMCA has been taking every opportunity to increase fundraising and ask for the support of the Government, Members, Individuals and Corporate Jamaica to assist where possible, so as to put us on the path to sustainable financial growth.





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- *Hilary Napier Perkins, Mrs.*
  - *General Secretary, (Acting)*
  - *June 2, 2025*