



TEFC Jamaica 2022 Spring update and newsletter



# TEFC Jamaica

Trinity Evangelical Free Church, Ludington Michigan



\*\*Image above Mens Team Project November 2019\*\*

For more than 20 years, Trinity Evangelical Free Church (TEFC) has been sending teams to Montego Bay, Jamaica. Since 2014, our teams have committed their efforts to White House Village, a small isolated fishing community on the coast just outside of Montego Bay. Our mission is to love and serve others in this community, utilizing skills and trades to meet tangible needs, while exemplifying love, grace and commitment to fill and meet intangible needs. Through the years working alongside its members, we have developed a great love for this community.

February 2022  
**Detail of planned projects**

**Family food bags:**

As we all know, COVID has been a world-changing factor, altering every aspect of life. Jamaica is a small island that relies primarily on tourism for their economic stability. With the series of shutdowns and curfews,



unemployment has been at an all-time high. Within White House Village, so many of the residents have lost their jobs or have had their working hours cut drastically. With severe limits on income and rising costs, food and other essentials have been a hard need to fulfill. While we have been fundraising for the community center, our leading team members made a decision to shift a portion of our raised funds to support meeting immediate tangible needs through creating food bags for families. With the continuous ebb and flow of COVID we have been blessed with support over the past two years.

Within this time we have been able to support well over 1,500 families, expanding even beyond White House Village with food and other home essentials. With the recent stabilization of COVID, the tangible impacts are still felt. This has brought to light the need to continue the family food bag support to White House. **Our current budgeted**

**financial need for each food bag drive is: \$6,600.** Each drive will cover up to 200 families!

**Home rebuild project:**

This past year it was brought to our attention of a dire need in the community. There are two small residences shared between two sisters, their mother and over a dozen children. Children's ages range from 17 years old all the way down to 2 years old. Each home is approximately 18'x24' in size. One of the homes has serious foundational issues and nearly all parts of the wood wall to foundation transitions are badly damaged due to rot. In some places there are holes large enough for rats to crawl through where they have run out of extra materials to patch holes. Our most recent team trip this past February, we had the opportunity to partner with these families and much progress was made. We were able to construct the foundation and wall sections of two bedrooms as well as the framework for a new bathroom. Due to a shortage of funding we were unable to complete this new section. We look forward to continuing support for this family with furthering progress in future trips.



**Anticipated cost to completion for this project is: \$24,000.00**

**Community Center:**



This project is an ongoing vision turned into a reality in 2018. This last team trip we had a work crew dedicated to clearing overgrowth and debris from the work site to prepare for continuing work at the beginning of 2023. This structure will serve so many purposes for White House! Located right next to the current pre-school and next to the community football field, it can act as an overflow for the school's classroom space, cafeteria and kitchen, which will allow for additional government funding. It provides locker rooms and showers for community football games, social functions will be able to meet under the covered yet open air meeting space, community code approved bathroom facilities will be implemented. Other anticipated resources for this structure include: meeting space, homework center, library, church, reception hall, concessions court, medical clinic, and so much more! With the full reliance on raised support for this project, your careful consideration in that support is more appreciated than you know! **The anticipated overall budget for**

**the center is \$103,000.** Thank you so much for your thoughts and consideration as we pursue this great challenge to help build up the economy and social stability of White House Village. We are always appreciative of financial support as we pursue our goals to support and bless this community.

## For Financial Gifts

Please remit all checks to Trinity Church, and in the memo please write: TEFC JAMAICA

If you would like your donation to go to a specific project, feel free to leave us a note with your desired direction of investment.

Upon receiving your appreciated financial donation, you will receive a tax deduction form.

Thank You!

As always, if you would like to know more about TEFC Jamaica or are interested in participating in any of our future trips, don't hesitate to contact us!

Contact: Arin Scholtens

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