

Jamaica Federation of UNESCO Clubs Centres & Associations **(JFUCCA) Report of Activities for 2018-2019**

The Review & Strategic Planning Conference

Through the kind support of UNESCO under the Participation Programme the Jamaica Federation of UNESCO Clubs Centres and Associations (JFUCCA), held its “Review & Strategic Planning Conference” on February 23, 2018 at the Medallion Hall Hotel. This was the final conference held under the UNESCO Participation Programme. Two Club Members and a Coordinator of each UNESCO Club were invited to participate. Additionally, representatives of the partnering agencies of JCDC and Heritage Clubs were invited as was representatives from the UNESCO Caribbean Office.

The achievements, difficulties and future goals were up for discussion. The highlights of the event were the group presentations. Participants were placed in groups and given the opportunity to present their ideas on different issues concerning UNESCO Clubs. A student presenter spoke on the topic “How can UNESCO Clubs help to promote peace and engage other youth as responsible social actors within their communities?”.

There was the ratification of the UNESCO Club Constitution that was signed by the Secretary General of the Jamaica National Commission for UNESCO and the President of the Jamaica Federation of UNESCO Clubs. Yuri Peshkov, representing the UNESCO Kingston Cluster Office of the Caribbean, was in attendance. He brought greetings and initiated the process of collaboration between JFUCCA and Kazakhstan UNESCO Clubs. A process that JFUCCA is excited about, as it will enable them to fulfil one of UNESCO Clubs main principle, which is “....collaboration among nations through education, science and culture, in pursuit of global peace and security”



Review & Strategic Planning Conference Participants February 2018

1. Public Outreach Activity:

JFUCCA in partnership with Yadel Girls Home UNESCO Club initiated their “Shoe Box Project in May 2018 at the Jerusalem Children’s Home, located in March Pen Road, Spanish Town. The Home is part of the Mustard Seed Community and caters to children with special needs.

Approximately 17 girls with their manager and members of JFUCCA Executive Board participated. The rationale of this project was to help the children to understand that they too can extend kindness to others and that there are children who are less fortunate than they are. Different items such as toiletry, clothes and toys were distributed. The Yadel Girls UNESCO Club Members also spent time to assist the wards with their art activity, comb the wards hair and entertained them. Some of the girls were moved to tears when they realize how greatly these wards depend on the Caregivers, with some even needing assistance to move around.



Picture showing art work of wards from Jerusalem Children's Home

2. Sensitization on the Integration of UNESCO, Heritage and JCDC Culture Clubs.

Two Executive Members of JFUCCA participated in the sensitization on the integration of Clubs at JCDC Culture Clubs Parish meetings in Portland, St Mary, Trelawny and St. Ann. The President of JFUCCA presented on UNESCO Clubs. A representative of Jamaica National Heritage Trust spoke about their planned activities, while the Community Director of JCDC spoke about the concept of the integration. It is believed that with this collaboration UNESCO Clubs will have a larger group to promote UNESCO related activities.

The integration of clubs is a concept proposed by the Chairperson of the Jamaica National Commission of UNESCO. It was identified that there were three (3) Agencies namely The Jamaica National Commission for UNESCO (JNC-UNESCO), Jamaica Cultural Development Commission (JCDC) and Jamaica National Heritage Trust (JNHT), which have established clubs, mainly in schools (and communities), in order to fulfil major objectives for their

respective mandates, maximize the use of resources and rationalize efficiency in use of time and personnel, it was recommended that the Agencies look at integrating/consolidating their clubs. The process of collaboration was initiated in November 2017 through conferences and combined regional meetings. The process of sensitized of clubs continued in 2018 with parish and regional meetings, over 400 Clubs have been sensitized. Each JCDC/Heritage Club received a CD-ROM (UNESCO Clubs manual and brochure, Culture Clubs of Jamaica guidelines)



3. Labour Day/ Place of Safety Out Reach Project

UNESCO Clubs' Labour Day Project was conducted at Homestead Place of Safety in collaboration with HEART-NTA, in May 2018. Homestead Place of Safety "the Home", located in Stony Hill, St. Andrew caters exclusively to the needs of girls remanded to the facility for care and protection. At least 32 persons participated, which included Facility Staff, UNESCO Club

Members, Children at the Facility, Regional Director, Team Leader Miss Mullings, JFUCCA Executive Members, Experts from HEART- NTA Sports Club and a member of the Institute of Sports Jamaica. This project was of no cost to the agency. Activities that were accomplished include the following:

- a. (Ongoing) Painting of the picket fence (this will be completed on the next scheduled visit)
- b. Painting of the concrete benches and tables and curb wall
- c. Varnishing of board benches.
- d. Instillation of a new concrete table and benches



Homestead Place of Safety before Labour Day Project.





Homestead Place of Safety Labour Day Project May 2018

4. Conflict Resolution Workshop at Yadel Girls Home

A conflict resolution workshop was initiated by JFUCCA, where an invitation was extended to the Dispute Resolution Foundation (DRF) to engage the young women at the Yadel Home for Girls “the Home” in conflict resolution training and techniques, as well as peer interaction as these children have various behavioural challenges.

Two representatives from the DRF visited the Home on 23rd August 2018 and made presentations on conflict resolution and management. The young women actively participated in the discussions, sharing their contributions and opinions. There were also practical scenarios that required the young women to discuss problem solving approaches and resolution. The Vice President of JFUCCA further capitalized on the opportunity to motivate and encourage the young women of the need to embrace their educational journey and take advantage of every opportunity presented to them.

5. International Conference Under the Auspices of UNESCO “Astana the Centre of Peace and Reconciliation” July 2018

More than 200 international and local experts, representatives of UNESCO Clubs movement of Asia Pacific region, UNESCO and other international organizations including , The Jamaica Federation of UNESCO Clubs Centres and Associations (JFUCCA) were present at this international conference. JFUCCA had two representatives, namely the President of the Federation and the Director of Community Cultural Development Services, a Culture Club representative from Jamaica Development Commission (JCDC). The president of JFUCCA participated as a presenter for the Interactive Panel Discussion 1V “The Role of UNESCO Clubs in promoting and implementing the best practices on a culture of peace and tolerance”. We were also observers at the 24th Session of the Asian- Pacific Federation of UNESCO Clubs and Associations Executive Board Meeting. Additionally, we were the only Caribbean and Latin America UNESCO Club invited to this event. After the conference we visited UNESCO Clubs and the president of JFUCCA gave a motivation talk to a group of teenagers at a Youth Leadership Camp in Almaty.



Asian Pacific Federation of UNESCO Clubs and Associations Executive Board Meeting July, 2018.

6. International Coastal Clean Up

JFUCCA partnered with NEPA and the UDC in their annual International Coastal Clean Up Day. This activity was carried out at the Hellshire Bay Beach on 15 September 2018. UNESCO Club members from St. Andrew High School, Holy Trinity and YWCA participated.

The collection was not limited to garbage but also Sargassum which was considerable on the beach. Volunteers were given instructions to separate their garbage collection, as plastic and other garbage. This opportunity afforded not only to clean the beach but to instill a sense of responsibility and behavioural change towards the environment.



UNESCO Club Members at Hellshire Bay on International Coastal Clean Up Day Sep. 2018

7. National Tree Planting Day

At least four UNESCO Clubs participated in the National Tree Planting Day on October 6, 2018, Holy Trinity, De Carteret College, Knox High School and May Day UNESCO Clubs. Some parishes however were affected by rain on that day so the event was done a few days after. Both

teachers and students participated and at May Day even the principal participated in this UNESCO Club initiative. Trees were planted at different areas around the school.



May Day UNESCO Club National Tree Planting Day Oct. 2018

The Main Activities Scheduled for 2019.

1. International Exchange Program launch between Jamaica, Russia, Kazakhstan

The *International Exchange Program* (“IEP”) is a program being initiated by the Jamaica Federation of UNESCO Clubs, Centres and Association (“JFUCCA”) that will enable individuals from other UNESCO Clubs National Federations to participate in educational and cultural activities of the host countries. This program will be guided by the UNESCO Clubs principle of promoting collaboration among nations through education, science and culture, in pursuit of global peace and security. JFUCCA’s partnerships will help create a network that guarantees for sustainable development through emphasis of the reciprocity of these relationships. JFUCCA will coordinate the service in collaboration with participating UNESCO Clubs National Federations. The month of October is the target date for the launch of this international exchange program with Jamaica, Kazakhstan and Russia, however, this will be confirmed by August 2019.

2. Place of Safety Outreach Project

During the month of **May**, Jamaica celebrates “Labour Day” an event when citizens get involved in local community projects and therefore the federation will continue its “Labour Day” project at Homestead Place of Safety. Homestead Place of Safety is a government operated institution that caters exclusively to the needs of girls remanded for care and protection. These girls have various emotional and behavioral issues.

This phase of the project is a continuation of last year’s activity. Proposed activities include:

1. Outlining of a multipurpose Court
2. Completion of painting of the picket fence
3. Installation of at least two concrete benches
4. Repair of the swing.

Additionally, we are exploring the possibility of setting up a therapeutic garden/ outdoor space, using experts from the National Training Agency Heart-NTA and securing of at least two

persons to train the wards/ girls to play netball and volley ball or two other sports activities that are of interest to them.

3. Leadership Training Conference

Our annual leadership Training Conference is scheduled for **October**. The aim of this conference is to facilitate events on UNESCO's issues and objectives, leadership, youth and community empowerment." Additionally, this is also important at this time as we prepare to finalize the integration of clubs between the Jamaica Cultural Development Commission Culture Clubs, Jamaica National Heritage Clubs and the Jamaica Federation of UNESCO Clubs Centres and Associations.

UNESCO Club Individual Projects

Club members will be invited to submit a proposal for projects centered around the sustainable development goals during the month of **June- July**. The most outstanding proposal will be assisted with materials needed to execute the projects.

4. World Poetry Day Activity

In celebration of this day on **Mach 21**, UNESCO Clubs members will participate in a poetry competition, this will include writing and reciting of poems that speak to social issues that are impacting their lives.

5. International Coastal Clean Up

The Federation will again partner with the Urban Development Corporation (UDC) in their annual International Coastal Clean Up Day event scheduled for the month of **September**. This activity is an annual event, which takes place at Hellshire Bay Beach and other beaches across the island on

International Coastal Clean Up Day. UNESCO Club members from various clubs participate in this event. It promotes the importance of taking care of the environment.

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