



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 9, 2009

Contact: Marguerite Telford
Phone: 703-481-0000
Email: mtelford@pfi.org

Over 5,300 Prisoners in Africa and the Caribbean Receive Medical Care

Kingston, Jamaica--- The conclusion of this week’s medical and dental outreach project in Jamaica brings to a close Prison Fellowship International’s (PFI) Global Assistance Programme for 2009 which served over 5,320 prisoners in five countries. PFI partnered with national affiliates in Liberia, Zimbabwe, Mozambique, Malawi, and Jamaica as well as Christian Medical and Dental Associations and Humedica to bring medical assistance as well as in-kind donations valued at over \$57,000 to the African and Caribbean prisons.

“It’s tragic that prisoners around the world are not only isolated from their families and communities, but are deprived of access to the medical care that many of them need. Prison Fellowship in cooperation with volunteer medical professionals provides strategic medical intervention to people in prison and without access to the most basic care,” said Ron Nikkel, President, Prison Fellowship International.

Planned in cooperation with government and prison authorities, Prison Fellowship International mobilizes volunteer medical teams to provide medical care in prisons around the world. Since 1995, more than 600 medical professionals and support volunteers have brought relief and hope to more than 95,000 prisoners in prison communities in 30 countries; the value of these donated services and medicines is estimated at \$10 million.

In 2010, PFI will be coordinating medical and dental assistance programs in Zimbabwe, Jamaica, Cameroon, and Uganda.

PFI, the world’s most extensive international criminal justice non-governmental organization, is a global association of 116 national Prison Fellowship organizations, with more than 100,000 volunteers working for the spiritual, moral, social, and physical well-being of prisoners, ex-prisoners, their families, and victims of crime.

###