



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 9, 2009

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Over 600 Inmates in Jamaica Treated in Week-Long Outreach

Kingston, Jamaica---Prison Fellowship Jamaica, in partnership with the Christian Medical and Dental Associations (CMDA) and Prison Fellowship International (PFI), today concluded a week-long prison medical and dental outreach to serve over 600 prisoners and prison staff at five prisons in Kingston, Jamaica: the Tower Street Correctional Centre, Diamond Crest Juvenile Correctional Institute, St. Catherine Adult Correctional Centre, Richmond Farm Male Correctional Centre, and Ft. Augusta Women's Prison.

“We hope we have reduced suffering, and saved lives. This medical team, assisted by PF Jamaica volunteers, has definitely touched the lives of people in need of physical and spiritual healing,” said Mark Hardy, Executive Director of PF Jamaica.

Planned in cooperation with government and prison authorities, the PFI project known as the Global Assistance Programme (GAPP) included in-kind donations of medicine valued at \$30,000. The 15 members of the team paid their own airfare and expenses in order to serve the prison community. Through GAPP, 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.

PF Jamaica was founded by Dr. Renford Maddix, a prison chaplain, in 2003. The organization now serves 12 prisons with the assistance of over 550 volunteers. PF Jamaica works diligently for the dignity and well-being of prisoners through aftercare, Angel Tree®, education and restorative justice. Side by side with its spiritual program, PF Jamaica emphasizes material and social assistance to prisoners.

As a chartered affiliate of Prison Fellowship International (PFI), PF Jamaica is part of the world's most extensive international criminal justice non-governmental organization. PFI 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.

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