## THE HELPING HAND

Pollyanna Project Newsletter Special - "Helping One Hand at a Time"



#### **Special Messages: Our CEO**





Donna Moore-Stewart

mother's love is something that is unforgettable throughout the years. It is felt and seen in the fruits of the lives she has touched. That is what my mother, Carmen Hines did for the first forty (40) children of Bodles Crescent, Old Harbour, St. Catherine on that spirited day in December of 1994.

Death is no excuse for the absence of a Helping Hand. When Ms. Polly passed, we decided to carry on her work and transform the treat from one held at Christmas into a back to school treat. This was more acceptable as it met the needs of our children and their families.

Pollyanna since its inception, has extended its arms around those in The United States of America and recently, Sierra Leone in West Africa who also need a hug of charity. With this far reaching effort, we have successfully been able to fulfill our goal of HELPING ONE HAND AT A TIME. This was made possible with the help of our sponsors and partners who did not allow a global pandemic to see the hands of charity folded.

Thank you for allowing us to be a constant positive part of your lives.



## **Special Messages: Our President**



Khris Reid - President

elping one hand at a time is something that all humans should strive to do as much as is possible.

Pollyanna has always over the years been cognizant of the need for humanitarianism by simply employing our slogan: Helping One Hand at a Hand. Our inception as a charitable Non-Profit Organization, started by way of the lovely, Carmen Hines fondly called Ms. Polly. Since 1994, Pollyanna Projects has positively left an indelible impact on the lives of the youths of our community and nation who need a helping hand.

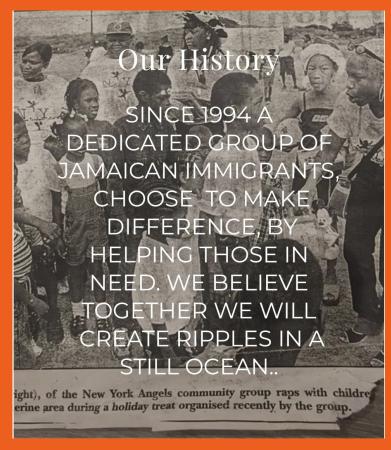
As President, I am imbued with pride and joy to simply be a part of such a movement. It truly allows for the reflection and appreciation of life as we know it; especially with a hovering pandemic which has touched our lives in one way or another. Through it all, Pollyanna has with the help of our sponsors and partners, been able to reach out with our hand of charity to touch lives.

I therefore, encourage you, to be safe but also to JUMP IN and be a part of HELPING ONE HAND AT A TIME!



## **Our Mandate & History**









#### Telling Our Story : Our Vice President's Journey



DARNELL MOORE - VICE PRESIDENT /
PROJECT COORDINATOR

arnell Moore was born in the District of Claverty Cottage, Portland. The third child for Dorothy Tyrell and Ernest Moore. Darnell was in the middle of four (4) boys and the only girl at the time until she was sixteen years old. Yes, it's safe for you to say she was a tomboy, a real ruff neck, doing all the boys sports and climbing trees.

Mr. Moore was a farmer who was of the strong belief that his now wife, Mrs. Dorothy Tyrell-Moore should stay home with the children.

Growing up was not a bed of roses, as the farming community was poor. Pipe water and bathroom amenities were not affixed to the house which meant that long walks to the spring with pans on top of the head was natural. However, we were never hungry as fruits, vegetables and ground provision were always available.

Being the farmer my father was, although we did not have electricity, the animals he reared were killed occasionally to ensure that meat was available. Some of the meat was stored in containers with a lot of salt, a process we now know to be brining or placed over the wood fire to be smoked. This was something that was very beneficial to the community. In our community, for young people the only productive things to do included farming and dressmaking.

I was only ten (10) years old when my grandmother's spouse came into the community from Golden Spring to deliver a pick-axe as he was a black smith. Upon seeing me, he enquired of my mother why such a pretty girl as myself was in the community and not with them. The arrangements were then made and that same summer I went to live and go to school as well.

My mother would come every two weeks to see that I was okay and brought along with her, ground provision and cash. Upon her visit, she also received complaints to which I could not open my mouth to defend myself.



GROWING UP WAS NOT A BED OF ROSES

### Telling Our Story : Our Vice President's Journey Cont'd

The work load was heavy as everything anyone needed to do, Darnell would be called...

## GUESS WHAT? IT HAS HELPED ME IN BEING WELL ROUNDED!

My Aunts spouse would say to me, "I can buy you a pair of shoe or anything you need, I can give you extra money to go to school, you don't see that your parent has to come from far to bring things for you? Just do this?????." You all can guess what..

Yes I told my Aunt and of course she gave me a proper tongue lashing that I am a liar and he would not. So scared at this point, and not knowing who to tell or what to do, I told my neighbor who said, "I believe you" as he made the same pass at her. Yes she was an adult and she told my mother and grandmother who both had it out with my aunt.

Yes there is much more but you have to wait on the next edition...

Pollyanna and I have a lot in common and so, serving children in need is my passion.



## Telling Our Story : Past Pollyanna Project Recipient



LANCE RUSSELL

Constable from the Parish of Saint Catherine,
Jamaica.

At a young age, I lost both my parents. (my mom at four (4) years and my dad at six (6) years old) When my mother passed, I moved to live with a bigger sister. However, I was having a rough time so I had to leave again to live with one of my many brothers who was hardly at home. He struggled day and night to feed both him and I.

Growing up, I was not aware of a birthday or a christmas gift or even a consistent Sunday dinner. In short, life was rough and Pollyanna's program was more than just a treat for me where I would go and get a delicious meal, gifts or back to school items. It was an event that I looked forward to several months at a time as it created the feeling of belonging, a feeling of home which I had yearned for. At these treats, I was sure to get my gift and it felt as if it came especially for me. Pollyanna was my Christmas, my Santa Clause coming at my door.

When asked to join Pollyanna Project, I was honoured and drawn to remember Acts 20:35 where Jesus said, "it is more blessed to give than to receive." It was then that I made my decision to be on the other side of a totally non-profit organization who immensely impacted my life. I became more closely associated with individuals who are led by GOD. They give of themselves in service to the less fortunate in various communities around Jamaica for several years.

Whenever I have the opportunity of explaining the details behind the **Pollyanna** experience, they are often in disbelief. These recipients are eternally grateful for the impact **Pollyanna** has on their lives. It propels them into a life of success which is truly a joy to see.

As such, I would implore anyone who is desirous of joinining or contributing to such an aunthentic organization like **Pollyanna** to do so.

Nothing happens without God's approval and timing; **Pollyanna** PROJECT is for this time.





## Telling Our Story : Prospective Pollyanna Project Recipients



THERESA NEWELL

y name is Theresa Newell and I was the Pollyanna Project Awardee for 2018.

I received a Chromebook laptop along with books which aided me in the completion of all my projects and SBAs and for this, will I be forever grateful!

Being the 2018 awardee has helped to shape my life; I have received numerous awards both internally and externally. On graduation day, I received the top awards and additionally passed all my eight CSEC (Caribbean Secondary Education Certificate) subjects receiving one's and two's. This made myself and everyone one around me proud. A big thank you to the Pollyanna Project team. Keep on doing the great job that you are doing by impacting the lives of other children as you have mine. Thank you for your helping hand.

#### <u>Pollyanna Project Story - Organizer Speaking</u> onbehalf of Theresa Newell

In 2017, I traveled to Old Harbour to assist Donna Moore - Stewart with her annual **Pollyanna** back to school treat. I was just giving a helping hand, but God had a different plan.

Fast forward to July 2018, the Pollyanna Project Back to School Treat happened at Steer Town Academy; the school where I teach and where I make a positive impact daily. I felt honored and overwhelmed that day. It was a joy to see the students receiving their bags and school supplies. The awardee for that year was Theresa Newell, who was in grade 9 at the time and received a Chromebook. After receiving the device, I learnt that she did not have water nor electricity at home and had to charge the device at school daily. What puzzled me was that this young lady had an average in the eighty (80%) percentile region, and maintained the highest average for four years despite the challenges at home. How many of us would be able to survive without water and electricity?

Pollyanna's mantra is, "Helping one hand at a time". I always believed in Theresa but when she did well in her CSEC (Caribbean Secondary Education Certificate) Examinations I was even more elated. The Pollyanna Project gave her a helping hand in 2018 and she defied the odds and reaped success in 2020. Seeing children being rewarded for excelling is something that really makes me happy! I will continue to give of my time to the Pollyanna Project so that I can help other children to reach their goals.



SHE DID NOT HAVE WATER NOR ELECTRICITY AT HOME ...
HAD TO CHARGE THE DEVICE AT SCHOOL DAILY

# Telling Our Story: Prospective Pollyanna Project Recipients Cont'd



TREASIA EBANKS

am a fourteen (14) year old who was born at The Black River Hospital on July 23rd, 2006.

Coming from the farming community of Tryall District, Junction St.Elizabeth, I live with my mother and two (2) siblings of which I am the 3rd child. As a single parent, my mom works very hard.

The church has played a vital role in my life as I grew up in the Palace of Praise Ministry under the leadership of my bishop and pastor. These men stand in the gap as the father figures in my life.

I am currently attending the BB Coke High School where I am slated to be going to 3rd Form in September. Though we did not receive a report card due to COVID-19, I am an "A" student who works very hard and is very active in my church. Here, I am a member of the dance group and serve as the secretary for the youth group secretary.

In the future, by the grace of God's will for my life, I would like to become a nurse to help persons in and around my community. It is my sincere hope to become a recipient of this award from **Pollyanna** as it would mean so much to life.

May God bless you all as we consistently try to be safe during this pandemic.

66 ... AS A SINGLE PARENT MY MOM WORKS VERY HARD



## Telling Our Story: Prospective Pollyanna Projects Recipients Cont'd



TIMOTHY GAYLE

am a 12 year old who resides in a small farming community known as Tryall. As the sixth child for my parents Ronald and Elaine Gayle, I live by the philosophy, "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."

I am a very helpful, disciplined and active individual who takes pride in the task at hand. While going to Top Hill Primary, I was a part of the Cricket and Football team for three years. I also participated in Track and Field activities, such as the 100 and 200 metres, where I represented the school at different national sporting competitions. In addition, I was a member of the Top Hill Primary School's spelling bee team in 2018. Not only do I participate in school activities, but I was also a part of my local church's dance group.

Regardless of my parent's socio-economic status I still strive for excellence. Their only form of income is from small farming which is sometimes not enough to cover the family's basic needs inclusive of sending us to school. As such, my mother has had to do a domestic job to fill the gap.

My struggles motivate me to push harder in my daily activities at church, school and home. I always tell myself that the only way out of poverty is putting God first in all that I do and by getting a good education. This will help me as an individual, as well as to be able to help those who might be in similar situations as myself in the future. With this mentality, I continue to perform exceptionally well academically. This has been proven many times as I was a recipient of both Silver and Gold awards at school. .Furthermore, in the Primary Exit Profile Exam (PEP), I was placed at the Black River High school and the results revealed that I performed better than 80% of all test takers (in Jamaica) on the Ability test. Even though I did not have all the resources for school I was still determined to be an "A" student.

If I am chosen as the recipient of this award, it will allow me to take one step closer to achieving my educational goal which is to become a medical doctor. This award will definitely be a blessing and I will be very grateful.

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## **Telling Our Story: Prospective Pollyanna Project Recipients Cont'd**



SHANTOL AMORY BRYAN

my name is Shantol Amory Bryan. I am 13 years of age and the eighth (8th) of nine (9) children for my parents. My mother passed when I was eight (8) years of age from the C and I am living with my father and other siblings.

As a current attendee of the BB Coke High School, I will be going to 2nd form in September. I am not privileged like most children because I do not have a mother to take care of me as some others do. However, I still try my best to be happy and work very hard in school. My father is taking care of us now but at times it is very hard for him.

I am an active member of The Palace of Praise Ministry Church in Tryall where I am a part of both the youth and the dance group. When I grow up I would like to become a soldier.

God bless you all and I look forward to being a recipient of Pollyanna's award!



...I DO NOT HAVE A MOTHER LIKE MOST CHILDREN



#### Helping Hands in Action: One Hand at a Time



Ms. Polly (Carmen Hines)









Awards being presented to the Kitchen Staff for years of dedication



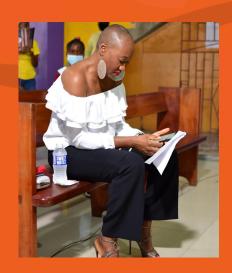
## Helping Hands in Action: One Hand at a Time















#### **Guiding Hands**

#### **Our Current Executive Members**

- CEO Donna Moore-Stewart
- President Khris Reid
- Vice President / Project Coordinator
  - Darnell Moore
- Secretary / Admin Personnel -Dawnette Stewart
- Project Coordinator Samantha Neil
- Public Relations Officer Fayona Mullings

#### **Fundraising Events**

- ON GOING GOODWILL DONATION
- ANNUAL DINNER BOTH IN THE USA AND JAMAICA
- ANNUAL FUNDRAISING CONCERT
- DONATIONS ACCEPTED VIA:

ZELLE | ppollyanna538@gmail.com

Cash App | <u>\$pollyannaproject</u>

Visit us at :
<a href="https://pollyannaproject.com/">https://pollyannaproject.com/</a>

#### <u>Sponsors</u>

Associated Partners



















Designed and edited in part by: and Fayona Mullings (PRO)



### **Fun Corner: Crossword History - Pollyanna Project**



#### **Across**

6. first treat held in

7. vp 9. founder 10. daughter of founder 11. operational in how many countries

#### Down

slogan
 secretary / admin
 operational in this country from the mother land
 president
 name of first community treat

5. name of first community trees was held 8. name of town in St.Catherine where the first community treat was held

#### **ANSWERS**

Ahrisreid - 4 Jarnellmoore Jawnette - 2 elpingonehandatatime Sierra Leone - 3 Carmen Hines - 9 Bodles Crescent - 5 OldHarbour -8 December -6 Donna Moore-Stewart - 10

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