



Jamaica Reach Up Team Members

Prof S McGregor
Prof S Walker
Dr C Powell
Dr S Chang-Lopez
Dr H Baker-Henningham
Dr J Smith
Ms S Ramsingh
Ms A Wright
Dr J Coore-Hall

CELEBRATORY NEWS:

60 Minutes aired a segment <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/sesame-street-international-rescue-committee-help-syria-refugee-children-60-minutes-2019-11-17/>, highlighting the IRC and Sesame Workshop's Ahlan Simsim project, the largest early childhood development initiative in the history of humanitarian response.

Congratulations to Katelin, Ayat and the IRC team!!

Hello Reach Up Partners!

All the best for 2020 from the Reach Up team in Jamaica. Welcome to the first edition of our Newsletter. Our intention is to publish it annually, so that we can (i) share information about implementation in the different countries, such as adaptations made, delivery method, etc, (ii) provide updates on workshops, meetings, upcoming training sessions, etc. and (iii) provide links to reports, articles, etc. on evaluations at the country level. Additionally, we will include any other information implementation partners or funding agencies would like to share with the Reach Up community.

During 2019 we had two major events that had significant impact for Reach Up in terms of expansion, capacity building and knowledge sharing. The first was the regional workshop hosted by the Africa Early Childhood Network (AfECN) in Nairobi, Kenya in July and the other, the Knowledge Exchange Meeting held in Trelawny, Jamaica in November. For some, these events provided an opportunity to catch up with old friends, while for others like myself, it was meeting new people and getting to know about the work they are doing with Reach Up in their respective countries. A synopsis of both activities are provided.

Jacqueline Coore-Hall

Africa Early Childhood Network Training Workshop, July 1—12, 2019

The objectives of the training were (i) to raise awareness about the Reach Up intervention, (ii) explore its application in a variety of settings and (iii) to enhance the evidence base of parenting interventions in the sub-Saharan Africa region. Twenty-six participants including representatives from NGOs, researchers and government from Kenya, Liberia, Mozambique, Senegal, Tanzania and Zimbabwe were in attendance. The training was conducted by Dr Christine Powell, with the assistance of Ms. Sunetra Ramsingh. One Acre Fund has started implementation in Kenya under the Nutritional Improvements through Cash and Health Education (NICHE) “1,000 days” programme. To date, 564 children are enrolled, ages 0 - 19 months, with 29 home visitors and eight supervisors.



B. Freeman from Liberia

**Coming
Soon!**

In 2020 we will be conducting a Reach Up workshop in Jamaica for program managers and senior trainers.

Stay tuned for more details!

Caribbean Institute for Health Research
The University of the West Indies
Mona, Kingston 7
Jamaica
Telephone: [1.876.927.2471](tel:18769272471)

Email:
info@reachupandlearn.com

Website:
www.reachupandlearn.com

Knowledge Exchange Meeting, held November 6—9, 2019



Trelawny, Jamaica it was! The coming together of a wonderful, hardworking team of Reach Up implementers—who have put a “play, interact, talk and learn” home intervention programme in place in fourteen countries across the world. Thirty-one participants were in attendance from Bangladesh, Brazil, China, Colombia, Guatemala, India, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Peru, Turkey, United Kingdom, United States

and Zimbabwe, as well as representatives from the LEGO Foundation, the World Bank Group, Child Fund and Inter-American Development Bank. Key findings from the pre-meeting survey and in-depth interviews and examples of country experiences with home visiting and group models were shared at the meeting. Working groups focused on adaptation and preparing to implement, workforce capacity, implementation and learning and following the presentations and discussions, tasks teams were formed to focus on Adaptation, Capacity Building, Monitoring and Evaluation, and Paper on Implementation and a Systematic Review of Impact. The first virtual meetings for Capacity Building, Adaptation Guide and Monitoring & Evaluation teams were held in December 2019. The meeting agenda included a welcome reception and dinner, where participants were able to catch up with old friends and make new ones. We also commemorated the works of Professor Sally McGregor, the mastermind behind the Jamaica Home Visit programme, over 30 years ago, on which Reach Up is modelled.



L-R: M. Kelly, A. Brentani, L. Batz, S. Walker, E. Dunkelberg



L-R: D. Adame, C. Powell, S. McGregor

Keep in Touch

- ◆ Our website—www.reachupandlearn.com The content was upgraded and materials will be added as they become available. Please visit and we welcome your feedback.
- ◆ Following the Knowledge Exchange Meeting, a WhatsApp group was created comprising country representatives, implementers, funders and team members in Jamaica. Members can seek possible solutions for implementation challenges with active exchange of ideas.
- ◆ You can also reach out to Jacqueline Coore-Hall (jacqueline.coore@uwimona.edu.jm) if you require contact information for the Reach Up partners.