



Allen-Shaw Foundation, Inc. Report To Contributors



Paula Shaw
Founder/Chairperson

A Word or Two of Thanks

Do you remember that old Timex commercial which always ends with “it takes a licking but it keeps on ticking”. That’s us, the Allen-Foundation, Inc. Despite all odds, we have made it to the big ten. I was hoping by now that we would have had the additional section built onto the library, however, I believe in time all things will come together for the good of the community.

All thanks and blessings goes out to my parents, especially my mother, Clementina Shaw and our staff. They have kept and are keeping the programs of the Allen-Shaw Reading Room. going strong. We have an exciting program planned for the children and youth for 2008.

The lifeblood of our programs and our progress was and is always you, our supporters and contributors. Without your faith, strength and dedication to our cause, we would have never have come this far. So many lives are being touched with what I’ve have lovingly coined, “the bush library”. You are changing lives and impacting the future for all those who enter through the doors of the Allen-Shaw Reading Room. With your support I will keep focusing on creating more programs that will enrich the lives of our community for the next Ten years.

Blessings!

Inside This Issue

Our Thanks	1
2007 Report	2
2007 Financial Report	3
2006 Report	4
Summer School	4
Basic School	4
Scholarships	5
Jamaican Bill Gates	5
Annual Christmas	
Treat	5
Book Drive	6
Community Service	6
New Community	
Board	6-7
Financial Report	7
Summer School ‘08	8
Volunteer ‘08	8

Sow an act ... reap a habit; Sow a habit ... reap a character; Sow a character ... reap a destiny.

—*Unconfessed*, Yvette Christianse



Allen-Shaw Foundation, Inc. 2007 Report To Contributors

Celebrating 10 Years!

We opened the Allen-Shaw Reading Room in 1996 and formed the Allen-Shaw Foundation, Inc. in 1997. It would appear that we started backwards; there is, however, no evidence of backward movements now! When we first opened a small library in the basement of the local church in Resource District, South Manchester, we knew that this was the beginning of something forward. We are now celebrating ten years of providing literacy and education programs to this rural district. In 2000 we built a library, and we are looking forward to further expanding the building to accommodate more community participation. The journey was long and hard, however, the educational welfare of our community's children is a cause for which we do not mind suffering a few bruises. Our supporters provided us with the lifeline we needed to make it happen and without them our visions would not have been realized.



The Allen-Shaw Foundation, Inc. introduced a lot of "firsts" into the community. We were the first to:

- Create a district library
- Introduce computers to the community
- Provide Summer school programs
- Introduce Reading Programs
- Plan Field trips for the children to travel outside of their community
- Present Community Service Awards
- Hand out Education gift packs to address educational and personal needs

To date, the children are excelling in education because of the Allen-Shaw Reading Room and its programs. They have access to more research materials and are able to complete their school work at the level required by their curriculum. We currently supply the local area schools with books, computers and other equipment to aid in the teaching and learning process.

Currently, we are taking care of the basic educational needs of a selected number of children and have assisted another in enrolling for the current school year. Jamaica is moving towards free education and this will be a great help to the rural poor. But this does not alleviate and eradicate all of the other expenses needed for books, medical assistance, and other miscellaneous school fees.



We will with your help, continue our stringent efforts to work assiduously to help the students and local schools within our community.



Local textbooks from the Ministry of Education were donated to the Library and is a great resource for the students. Our student reference section for research and study is further enhanced and we are now working with consistent and reliable internet connections.

The Allen-Shaw Foundation's Summer School Program is one of our most successful programs and each year the entire community is mobilized into participating by our volunteer staff and exciting programs and curriculum. We hope to expand into a full fledged summer camp by 2008 with your continued support.



Counselor prepping children for play

2007 Financial Report

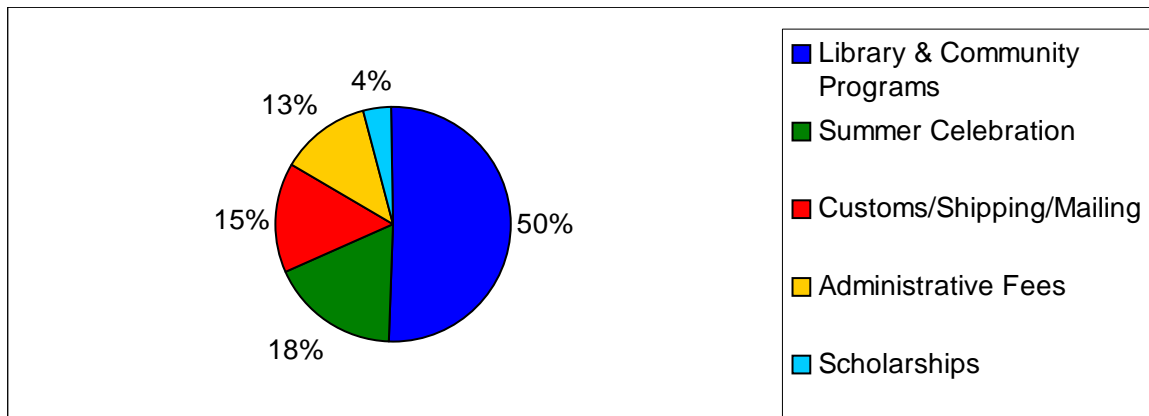
As usual, the children were overjoyed this year when they received their knapsacks and gift bags filled with purchased supplies and donated materials which we received from our supporters. Each year our distribution of educational and personal care items to the community's children enables them to be prepared for the current and upcoming school year. Since the creation of the Allen-Shaw Foundation, Inc. we have been providing these supplies to the children and many other services to the community. We are grateful for your donations totaling \$9974.59 which helped to offset our expenses of \$11915.58. Thank you for allowing us to provide our library programs to the community. We hope that you will continue with us as we move ahead with our planned programs for 2008.

2007 Financial Reporting

Revenue

Contributions	\$4391.80
United Way	\$3737.71
<u>Revenue-Fundraising Event</u>	<u>\$1845.08</u>
Total	\$9974.59

2007 Fund Distribution





Allen-Shaw Foundation, Inc. 2006 Report To Contributors



Service is the rent we pay for living"-Marian Wright Edelman

Results Are In.....

Members of the local School Board in the District where the Allen-Shaw Reading is located have seen a marked difference in the literacy rate in the school children. They've attributed this improvement to the resources provided by the library and the Allen-Shaw Foundation's yearly summer school programs.

Summer School...we needed additional space again this year. We served over 200 children and I am sure that the added bonus of our complimentary breakfast and lunch programs added to the overwhelming response. The local Basic School allowed us to use their schoolroom for the dura-



Summer School overflow room



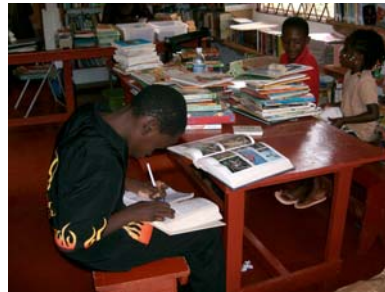
Hill leading to Resource Basic School

tion of the summer session to accommodate the students who enrolled.

The Pink Schoolhouse on the hill....

On my yearly vacation slash work, I always take the opportunity to

run in the humid country mornings, you know, trying to get that illusion of health going when you know you shouldn't have had that plateful of jerk chicken the night before. Anyway, I was truly humbled when I tried to bring



Student, Allen-Shaw Reading Room

a handful of books up the hill to the Resource Basic School where

we were donating new books and updating their small bookshelf. My breathing was labored, my calves were hurting, I had no idea what was going on. It

turned out that the hill was carved on a slant, if that's possible; at



Students, Resource Basic School

least that's my explanation. It is a good thing it's a basic school, because only toddlers would have the energy for that walk up, 5 days a week! Oh, yeah, the poor teachers! We have semi-adopted this school which enrolls about twenty children and twice yearly we give them new books to assist them

with other educational needs. This year, we equipped them with a television, VCR along with educational and entertainment videos. The heavily stained roof showed the damage sustained during the heavy rains from the hurricanes. The majority of the children's books were destroyed, however, we were able to replace them. I noticed that there were lots of great titles and beautifully illustrated stories, donated last year, which were undamaged. The Principal informed us that all the



Paula Shaw, Resource Basic School

titles have been read and re-read by the children who all have favorites. The Resource Basic School is a typical rural community school -a large room divided by grade levels. It is badly in need of new furniture! The furniture which we donated a couple of seasons ago are in need of overdue repair.

Scholarships... I was in Jamaica one year when there was an incident in the inner city which prevented students from going to school. When the news reporters converged on the scene, they interviewed a young female student, probably 14 or 15 years old, who proceeded to unleash a flurry of reprimands to the perpetrators. She ended her remarks with “mi wah gah school, they must stop dis ting, because mi wah gah school.” She said those words with such determination that viewers were deeply moved. That incident reminded me



Paulette Cockett

of Paulette Cockett, one of our 2006 Scholarship recipients. She submitted a passionate written request for educational assistance. She came from a single parent household of 8, the oldest girl, and assisted her mother in raising the children. Each week when she received her scholarship stipend which provided transportation and lunch, she called to say thank you. She is doing extremely well in school and is determined to go as far as she can in her education.

Janelle, another student nicknamed “*Little Nurse*” is loved by everyone who meets her. Her sweet, shy smile is always followed by a timid wave. We also support her with school fees and other educational needs.



Janelle Allen

The Jamaican Bill Gates... “Paula, the next time you come, you gonna meet the new Bill Gates. I’m going to be writing new programs, you’ll see”. That’s the affirmation from our newest staff member at the library.

Meet Tafari, a 16 year old computer whiz. And we can attest to his “technological curiosities” because we always have to call the older “Bill Gates” to fix our “guinea pig” computers



Annual Christmas Treat... I think the Customs gods are unhappy with me. Although we were unable to clear all of our shipment for our yearly education distribution, we, however, received the other donated items including books, televisions, VCRs and video tapes. There were also enough notebooks, pens/pencils, personal care items and knapsacks to present gift bags to the children.



Leonie Bernard sorting books



Paula Shaw/Jack Hardy –donated Monitors



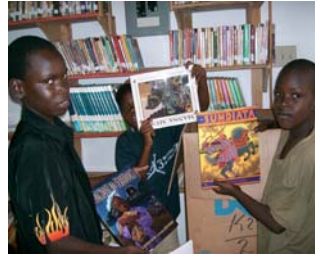
Children with gift bags & knapsacks



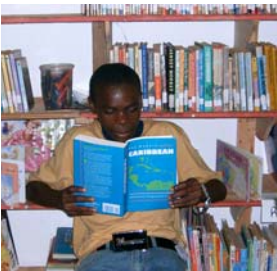
Boys at Library



Jamaicans.com 2006 Book Drive



Jamaicans.com Book Drive... We were the recipients of books from the Jamaicans.com Annual Book Drive. The children were truly excited to receive the beautifully illustrated stories which were based on their Caribbean and African cultures. They eagerly tore through the boxes looking for new books to borrow. We were excited by their enthusiastic response and even our favorite and lovable troublemaker, who claimed that if a book had too many pages, it should not be read, could not put down his choice *“What’s going on down there: Answers to questions boys find hard to ask.”* He giggled as he read. He was also caught



browsing through *“The History of the Caribbean.”* I teased him then about “tough boys and reading”. Books from the Book Drive were



also donated to another local basic school.

Local young man reading donated book



Paula Shaw stocking books
Resource Basic School
Resource District, Manchester

Community Service

Program Coordinator, Leonie Bernard and Library Volunteer Shelly Wright surprised the policemen of the local constabulary



force during their break with a delicious lunch. As part of our “Serving Others” theme and

teaching our children to give back to their community, it was decided that this would be a great “giving” experience for the children which should be continued.



Formation of New Community Board



A dedicated group of individuals have been asked to join our new Community Board. They will be working to:

- Identify recipients for scholarship awards
- Identify the educational needs of the local schools and formulate realistic programs for the community.

Formation of New Community Board (continue)

- Organize community events to promote the programs of the Allen-Shaw Reading Room Resource Center (Library)
 - Plan and manage our summer school program and educational field trips by
 - Setting program curriculum, hiring summer school staff, organizing our feeding program, and Managing the budget for summer school
 - Assist with bi-annual education pack distribution

2006 Financial Reporting

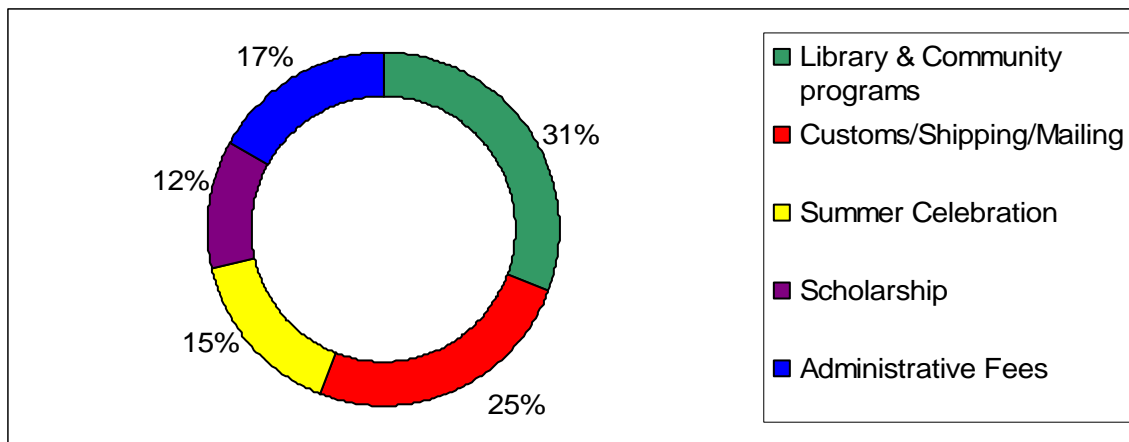
With your contributions of \$8,600, we were able to offset the expenses of \$8955.00 to enable us to fulfill our program goals for 2006, as evidenced by our successful summer school program where we were again able to provide breakfasts and lunches to the children. Contributions took care of stipends for our library staff, financed the maintenance of our library, our community and summer school programs, the bi-annual educational gift bags distribution to over 200 children, and our educational fund.

2006 Financial Reporting

Revenue

Contributions	5550.00
United Way	2913.86
<u>Revenue-Fundraising Event</u>	<u>174.07</u>
Total	8637.93

2006 Fund Distribution



Our aim is to make an educational difference in the lives of the people in the district we serve. It is our desire to continue providing access to learning materials and technology so that our youth can make a mark in the competitive global marketplace. We know that education is a means to an end and it gives a child an upper hand regardless of their situation. We thank you for your continued support and want you to know, that your donations continue to make a difference. *Paula Shaw, Founder/Chairperson*



We are gearing up for another exciting summer school/camp program. Our theme this year will be

“Ourselves, Our Community, Our Environment”

Some of the ideas that we are working with are:

- Beautify the local Basic School
- Plant flowers and fruit bearing trees
- Community Scavenger Hunt
- Arts & Kraft
- Educational Field Trips
- And many more activities



Volunteers

A volunteer from Boston, Massachusetts will be working with our Community Development Workshop Program. Her area of interest is Dance and we are looking forward to see the end result of the creative force of our children and youth.



Counselors at Summer School '07