



# Allen-Shaw Foundation, Inc. 2008 Report To Contributors



...first of its kind in Jamaica-A district library for residents...  
-Mandeville Weekly, December 19, 1996

Cornell University Students-Jamaica Difference

## Soaring High!

We are doing so well with our Community Library Programs that the reading level keeps notching up every year. We continue to be the light that is shining on the path to literacy improvement and expanded minds. We are building a legacy which we hope will continue to provide the necessary services to keep our community literally conscious and educated.

As a dedicated champion of the Allen-Shaw Foundation, Inc. you have allowed us to provide services that are needed within the community of the Allen-Shaw Reading Room. Here are a few highlights brought about by your commitment and support in 2008:

- ⇒ A computer system and new books for our newly adopted Basic School
- ⇒ Hundreds of books donated to a local library and other schools around the island
- ⇒ Scholarships to local students



Stocking books on the newly built shelves

The library continue to be an active source of information for the students of the community. Due to the amazing carpentry skills of my father, Alvin Shaw, additional shelves were put in over the summer and they were quickly filled with a treasure trove of new books.

We were also excited to host students from Cornell University who will be volunteering with our Summer School Program in August 2009. They will be conducting community workshops on several key issues.

### Northern Caribbean University Community Outreach

With dust masks and cloths in hand, the Program Director of the Northern Caribbean University Community Outreach Services along with three students joined Community Board Members, Leonie Bernard and Deniese Clark, in organizing the library shelves. They spent several hours, alphabetizing, tagging, dusting, cleaning, planning and more dusting.



Sorting Books to Donate to local schools & library



Patricia Riley-Librarian,  
Northern Caribbean University,  
and student volunteers

### Library Staff-Welcome!



We have two new Library Volunteers-Northern Caribbean University Student, *Wakiash Bryan*, and *Natesha Copeland*, a trained teacher who is working with us until she is placed. She is doing a fantastic job of keeping the library functioning for the children. She is the children's ace researcher. It is our desire to create a partnership with the Community Outreach Program of Northern Caribbean University to provide student workers for the library in the future.



Summer School & Annual Education Celebration

Despite the major setback of the Foundation’s Ace Numero Uno stalwart supporter, my mother, suffering a stroke, the children of the community resigned themselves to sitting out the summer. However, while they were thinking about her, we were thinking about them and organized a field trip to a nearby theme park for them. We have many plans for them for Summer School 2009. The global recession is not partial to this side of the globe and has found its way to the tropical isle of Jamaica. The Allen-Shaw Foundation, Inc. was the only organization that provided a much need holiday celebration for the children of the community. Our annual education pack distribution of back-to-school items, storybooks, personal care items and toys provided a joyful gift to the children of the community. The annual distribution is a key event in our community because it provides much needed materials for the children and their families.



Jamaicans.com



The Jamaicans.com 2008 Book Drive for the library netted over 100 books by Caribbean authors. We are in possession of some really great titles and we are well on our way to building a comprehensive Caribbean Section to give more inspiration to the children. Some of the donated books will be on loan to the local basic school to be used for their story hour.

**2008 Financial Reporting**

Recession or not, we must continue to live our lives and hope that our one life makes a positive impact on someone else. With any ongoing project, expenses will go in one direction while revenue go in another. Either way, the twain will meet somewhere in the middle and the positive effects will be made. With contributions totaling \$8875 and expenses over \$10,000, we were still able to provide our community with library, computer, internet, and community services. We were blessed to provide the children with their educational “goodie bags”, provide scholarships for students from the community, a semblance of summer camp, books and computers to local libraries and schools, and upgrade our library equipment. With a building filled with books, access is upgraded yearly because you have been so dedicated to the cause of simply stretching a little further and touching a little rural library on a red dirt path in the sun. *For this, I continue to thank you!*

