



# Deskan Institute & Training, Inc.

N e w s l e t t e r

## COMPASSION IS...KULUNGILE!

Volume 4, Issue 3

Fall/Winter 2008

### Special point of Interest:

- Homeless Success Story

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**P**ARTNERSHIP with the same vision-increasing medical supplies to hospitals in Guyana, South America. Guyana Medical Relief, Inc. & Direct Relief International **"Every Committee and Board is a VOLUNTEER"**.

Guyana Medical Relief (G.M.R.) was formed by a small group of concerned Guyanese in 1984 to provide sponsorship, (cost of packaging and shipping), for urgently needed medical supplies and equipment to Guyana, South America. As a result, GMR established a partnership with Direct Relief International to provide supplies needed in Guyana for the hospitals.

Guyana is located in Northern South America between Suriname and Venezuela. Thirty percent of its population of 750,000 lacks sustainable access to safe sanitation. Seventeen percent lack sustainable access to safe water supplies. Primary public health problems in Guyana include HIV/AIDS, prenatal conditions including low birth weight and birth trauma, as well as heart disease and digestive diseases. Direct Relief has provided over \$26.2 million

(wholesale) in medical material assistance to Guyana since 2000, focusing on basic medical supplies. Direct Relief works in Guyana primarily with Guyana Medical Relief, an expatriate organization based in Los Angeles, CA. Guyana Medical Relief helps to equip a network of eight public hospitals and two nonprofit hospitals throughout the country with basic medical supplies. Assistance provided by Direct Relief has included basic medicines, nutritional supplements, first aid materials, surgical equipment, surgical supplies, hospital beds, wheelchairs, and educational materials. In recent years, GMR has expanded its support to various projects, some that are HIV/AIDS related because of the great medical needs in this area, including: Stemming the Tide—a free program operated by St. Joseph Mercy Hospital that provides HIV/AIDS testing and treatment



Team Deskan on the journey again to meet the needs of others in Guyana, South America—Medical Mission 2008. (con'd on pg 4)

to over 850 patients. The Mobile Clinic—provides free medical service to approximately 2000 Guyanese every year, most of whom are extremely poor with the mobile clinic being their only access to medical care. Volunteer Youth Corp—provides free counseling, referral services and education on a variety of health related issues, including HIV/AIDS. **DITI**

## Why a 2009 Deskan Medical Mission—Guyana, SA

Guyana has one of the highest prevalence rates of HIV infection in Latin America and the Caribbean, second to Haiti...WHO/UNAIDS estimate that approximately 15,000 to 20,000 adults and children were infected by the virus at the end of 2004. The epidemic has spread beyond the specific high-risk groups into the general population. The primary

mode of transmission is heterosexual. **Major vulnerable and affected groups.** Young people are severely affected—almost 75% of the reported cases are in the age group 19-35 years, with the greatest concentration in the age group of 25-35. Populations at risk include miners and loggers, female sex workers, men who have sex with men, prisoners, indigenous popula-

tions and other mobile populations. Technical and human resources capacity for building healthy communities in Buxton, Guyana. Deskan Institute & Training, Inc., held Wellness Clinics in Corriverton, Berbice, Craig/Grove Village and Buxton Village, East Coast Demerara. Deskan Team eagerness to learn is infectious. We were greeted (continued on pg4)



Mr. & Mrs. Matthew Blackwell

## A Homeless Success Story

While homeless Ms. Barbara Turner became a Medical Assistant and after graduation Barbara met Mr. Matthew Blackwell in the Fall of 2007. After courting for two years they decided to get married. The Blackwells' started a ministry called (Higher Calling Ministries) that helps feed and minister to the needs of the homeless and those who are less fortunate.

The Blackwells' vision is to see the power of God touch as many lives as He has done for them. Mommy Joan and Daddy Charles we thank you all for what you have done and continue to do for us. **DITI**

*"Everyday 11,000 children die of hunger around the world while 200 million suffer from malnutrition and a lack of protein and calories. More than 800 million people are suffering from hunger in the world, and some 70 percent of them are women and children."*

## Accomplishments/Highlights

- 2008 Provided meals and clothing to more than 1585 Atlanta hungry and homeless individuals.
- Held workshops and information sessions on HIV/AIDS, STI's, Domestic Violence, Child Abuse and Rape. Provided counseling services to over 500 individuals, including young adults, children and youths in the Atlanta and DeKalb Communities.
- Conducted 17 day Educational and Mission—trip to South Africa and Zimbabwe, November 8-27, 2008.
- Provided workshops on Cancer, Hypertension and HIV/AIDS Counseling. Care and Support to Atlanta Caribbean population, hard to reach population.
- Participated in 10-day (Easter) Medical Mission to Guyana led by Dr. Claudette Thomas of Southwest Primary Care, Atlanta, GA.
- Sent [5] barrels of donated medical supplies, school supplies and children's clothing to Guyana for churches and schools. **Awarded Scholarships for Science and Nursing.**
- Organized a Train-The-Trainer Conference for the Faith Community in Guyana, South America. To-date 29 churches have won HIV/AIDS Grants from Guyana Ministry of Health under the PMTCT Funding Project.
- Organized a 14-day Medical Mission Trip to Guyana, South America. Served over 1100 individuals, providing health-care, counseling and medical services. Demerara, Buxton, ECD, the Ministry of Amerindian Affairs, Sussex Street and Georgetown.
- Annual Mothers' Day Concert and Recognition Services for Deskan Volunteers. Event a success.

## Homeless Feeding & Clothing

Women and children make up the fastest growing segment of the homeless population with half of the women and children living in the State of Georgia. Deskan's team seeks to develop a plan that effects behavioral changes through Education Programs, Life Skills Training, Mentoring, Conflict Resolution and Community Involvement. Our Monthly Feed Program is at My Sister's House at the Atlanta Union Mission, Atlanta, GA. We provide nutritious meals to more than 200 women and children on the first Saturday of every month.

This monthly feeding program is extended to the Parks where the homeless find a home. It is also extended to families in need of food and clothing, who can reach us to partake of their need from our **Food Pantry** and **Clothing Rack in Stone Mountain, GA.** Please join us. Bi-Monthly Distribution. Please call for date and time. **DITI**



## Domestic Violence is a Progressively Fatal, but Preventable and Treatable Behavioral Problem!

Domestic Violence or Spousal Battery is insidious. It begins with verbal and emotional abuse—then a push—slap—bite or kick, followed by the use of weapons. Domestic violence affects the entire family, constellation, including children, parents, grandparents, extended kin of all ages, and other persons anchored with the family network, who may not be related by blood or marriage. It is important to know that children

who witness domestic violence also suffer. Children from violent homes are at high—risk for child abuse, incest and sexual abuse. Witnessing domestic violence is terrifying for children and some experts consider it child abuse. Get the help you need. **DITI**

Georgia Domestic Hotline:

1-800-334-2386

DeKalb Solicitor General

1-404-371-2201

Women's Resource Center

1-404-688-9436

Visit Deskan

at:

[www.deskan.net](http://www.deskan.net)

or

[www.womenwatchchafrik.org](http://www.womenwatchchafrik.org)

## Food Pantry



Food for the poor distribution, Georgetown, Guyana, South America.



Dr. Frank McKenzie and Mr. Lansdale Lucas, preparing meals for Homeless Women and Children.



Children enjoy food distributed by Team Deskan at Craigville, Guyana, SA



Sconniers Homeless Prevention Services, Rosalind Sconniers, CEO, Pamela McKenzie, CEO, Families United Services, Claire Lucas, St. Timothy's Episcopal Church, Delores Thorne and Dionne Liverpool, Volunteers, My Sister's House, Atlanta Union Mission.



Thank you Team Deskan!



Thank you Team Deskan!



My Sister's House in Atlanta, GA—Jamal Liverpool, Dr. Gwendolyn Todd-Dean and Pamela McKenzie, CEO, Families United Services.



## Medical Mission—Guyana, South America 2008



Dr. Gwendolyn Dean, Pediatrician attending to patient need at Kuru Kururu Clinic, Guyana, SA.

done. Your help can make a **DITI** difference in their medical care.



It's Crochet time with Ms. Carlotta Craig at Kuru Kururu Clinic, Guyana, South America. Students show great interest to learn this craft.

with warmth and affection. Everyone displayed a sense of praise. While we met some needs, there is still much to be

Team Deskan Medical Mission coordinator Ms. Precella Speid Team Members, Volunteers, and Family (New Jersey), hard at work preparing barrels to be shipped to Guyana, South America for mission trip 2008.



Nurse Daleyon Dainty conducting Diabetes testing on a blind patient at Buxton Village, East Coast, Demerara, Guyana, SA.



Pharmacy Assistant Mrs. Deslyn Briggs attending to patient need at Kuru Kururu Clinic, Guyana, SA.

## Guyana has the Second Highest HIV/AIDS Prevalence Rate next to Haiti!!!

**H**IV/AIDS treatment is limited in Guyana and has been further undermined by the emigration of health professionals and the freeze on public—sector recruitment imposed by International Monetary Fund Regulations. Health facilities are concentrated in the area around Georgetown. By December 2001, an excess of two thousand cases had been reported. There has been a progressive increase in reported AIDS cases, deaths due

to AIDS. And HIV seroprevalence in different populations. Kaiser Daily HIV/AIDS Reporting 3/17/09 Guyana's Health Minister Dr. Leslie Ramsammy report recently that a US supported HIV/AIDS prevention program has helped to reduce the country's HIV/AIDS prevalence from nearly 3% to about 1%, the AP/Google.com reports. Dr. Ramsammy said that GHARP "Is a huge success story." The USAID/GHARP is a President's Emergency Plan for

AIDS Relief Program that was launched in 2004 and will come to a close at the end of April. (Stabroek News) Kaiser-net.work.org. **DITI**



Pastors Andy, Bagot & February praying with Patient at Craig Village, EBD, Guyana, SA.

## Deskan's Mission Embraces...Early Intervention Services!!!

**T**he Guyana Strategic Plan for HIV/AIDS Prevention and in so doing provides yearly activities that address the following:

- Family Centered Case Management.
- Awareness and prevention of sexually transmitted diseases (STDs). HIV/AIDS/STIs (b) HIV Counseling.
- Testing and referral Programs.
- Early Intervention Services (c) General health and nutritional counseling for people living with HIV/AIDS, Policy Advocacy.
- Training and Technical Assistance.
- Peer-Based and Therapeutic Support Skills Building Groups and community based research.
- DESKAN provides prevention education, training and resources in these areas. **DITI**



Student receives certificate from Ms. Carlotta Craig after following instructions on how to make a Crochet Belt. Thank you TeamDeskan.



Denise Tucker and Emily Marks taking registration at St. Cuthbert's Health Station off the Soesdyke Linden Highway in the Savannah, Guyana South America.



Ms. Precella Speid teaching on Hypertension at Kuru Kururu Rural Extension Center, Guyana, SA.

## Women on Global Poverty

Although women make tremendous contributions to the economy, women's contributions are not valued in the same way as men's. As a result women consistently find themselves at a lower economic status than men. The majority of poor people in Africa and in the rest of the world are women. Women and girls make up 70% of the world's 1.5 billion people living in absolute poverty. Systematic gender discrimination and the denial of women's basic human rights is a major cause of poverty. The fact that women as a group are poorer than men, that women's poverty is more severe than men's and that the rate of poverty among them is increasing is referred to as the "feminization of poverty." This is why Women Watch Afrika's work in Africa focuses on poverty alleviation, HIV/AIDS prevention education and awareness, education for girl child, and violence against women. **DITI**

### Mission Statement

Restoring hope through compassion.

We know that you can reach out to many others, but we are asking you to help us to continue to help others.

### Women Watch Africa

WWA is a nonprofit 501(c)(3), women's organization that has as its primary goal the acculturation of immigrant and refugee women arriving to the United States from African nations. An important objective of WWA is the deliverance of African women and girls from intra-family discrimination and physical abuse—a cultural tradition that has been practiced by African men for generations. WWA was established in Atlanta in 1997.

Contact:

**Glory A. Kilanko**  
**Woman Watch Africa, Inc.**

4151 Memorial Drive  
Suite 205-A  
Decatur, GA 30032

Tel: 1-404-759-6419  
Fax: 1-404-477-2495

Email: [gloryk\\_99@yahoo.com](mailto:gloryk_99@yahoo.com)  
Web: [www.womenwatchafrika.org](http://www.womenwatchafrika.org)

### Wellness Day at St. Cuthberts Health Station—Guyana, SA

"Life is a short walk. There is so little time and so much living to achieve".—John Oliver Killens!



Ms. Leona Kyte teaching on HIV/AIDS at St. Cuthbert's Health Station off the Soesdyke Linden Highway in the Savannah, Guyana South America.



## Restoring Hope Through Compassion!



Deskan serves with LOVE!



We are here to **SERVE YOU!**

# GOSPEL EXTRAVAGANZA

## F U N R A I S E R

with DESKAN INSTITUTE AND TRAINING, INC.

**Host: Precella Speid**

at

### Christian Pentecostal Association

25 Nesbit Terrace—Irvington—New Jersey—07111

**Saturday May 2, 2009**

**Time: 5:00 pm to 10:00 pm**

**Donation: \$20.00 pp**

**Raffle included with purchase of ticket—No need to be present for drawing!**

Come and enjoy (rain or shine) a fun fill evening with us while raising funds to **HELP OTHERS** in need.

**For more information please call:**

**Precella Speid: 862-452-9365 \* Marcia Craig: 201-259-1172**

**If you cannot attend and would like to contribute please make checks payable to:**

**DESKAN INSTITUTE AND TRAINING, INC**

Attn: Precella Speid—257 Spruce Street—Bloomfield—NJ—07003

#### **Raffe Prizes**

1st: Digital Camera • 2nd: DVD/VCR Combo • 3rd: iPod • 4th: \$25.00 Amex GC  
5th: \$25.00 Wal-Mart GC • 6th: 25.00 Shoprite GC • 7th: 2 AMC Movie Passes

DESKAN INSTITUTE AND TRAINING, INC. Thanks you in advance for your BLESSED support!

### **Gospel Performers**

Pinky & The Devil Chasing Choir

Naomi & The Silver Bullet Orchestra

Jason Jagdeo

Lady Janice Charles

and much more!



# MOONLITE BOWLING FUNDRAISER

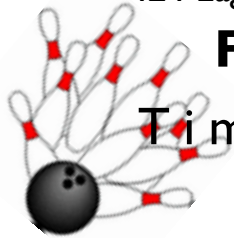
with **DESKAN INSTITUTE & TRAINING, Inc.**

**Host: Marcia Craig**

at

## Eagle Rock Lanes

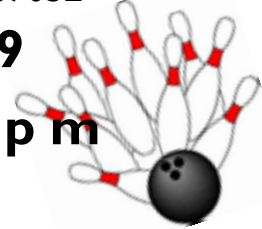
424 Eagle Rock Avenue—West Orange—New Jersey—07052



**Friday April 17, 2009**

**Time: 9:00 pm to 11:30 pm**

**Donation: \$25.00 pp**



**BOWLING FEE DEADLINE IS MARCH 31, 2009**

Come and enjoy (*rain or shine*) a fun fill evening with us while raising funds to **HELP OTHERS** in need.

**NOTE:** You are welcome to give more than the donated amount if your **HEART** desires.

*If you cannot attend and would like to contribute please make checks payable to:*

**DESKAN INSTITUTE AND TRAINING, INC.**

Attn: Marcia Craig—P.O. Box 10914—Fairfield—New Jersey—07004-1935

or

**PLEASE SPREAD THE WORD TO YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS (ALL ARE WELCOME).**

**For more information  
please call:**

**Marcia Craig: 201-259-1172**

**Precella Speid: 862-452-9365**

**Your Donations go towards:**  
(Domestic and International Services)

Please visit our website: [www.deskan.net](http://www.deskan.net)

- Feeding and clothing the homeless
- Purchasing school supplies for children
- Purchasing Medication for the sick

DESKAN INSTITUTE AND TRAINING, INC. Thanks you in advance for your **BLESSED** support!

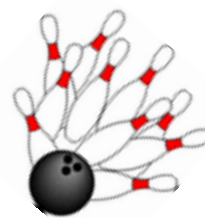
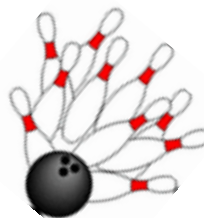
# FUNDRAISING TIME!

## Bowling Fundraiser Night

### What is bowling:

Bowling is a fun sport which is played by people of all walks of life around the world from the youngest to the oldest. It's a very relaxing game for many as well as therapy to the soul. It's also a profession.

Since I belong to a bowling league and enjoyed the sport very much I decided to take the route of hosting a Bowling Fundraising for Deskan Institute and Training, Inc., to raise funds for their next Medical Mission Trip headed to Guyana, South America on June 26, 2009 through July 10, 2009. **DITI**



Pastors, Church members, Families, Friends and Co-workers gathered for a fun night of bowling at Eagle Rock Lanes, West Orange, New Jersey.



On Friday April 17, 2009 at 9:30 pm about forty supporters showed up at Eagle Rock Lanes in West Orange, New Jersey to support this cause. It was a night of fellowship, laughter, praise and love. Mr. Shawn Winbush manager of bowling refreshment even blessed us with extra food. Everything was Godly prepared. Others wanted to attend but couldn't because of other commitments but decided to contribute funds instead. In a scale of 1 to 10

ninety nine% of the people gave me a 10 and asked me when is the next bowling event because they had a great time. It was a wonderful turn out by supporters. What a blessed night it was. Funds raised **(\$3,216.00)** will be going to purchase Medical Materials, School Supplies, Clothing and Food for the homeless etc. The idea of a Bowling Fundraising did prove to be a success. I gave God the glory and praise for giving me the vision of a bowling party. **DITI**



Article written by  
Ms. Marcia A. L. Craig  
Morris County, NJ USBC WBA

## Deskan Institute & Training, Inc. Awards Night—Guyana, SA



Mr. Charles E. Liverpool  
poses with some  
awardees.



Strike a pose! A night of celebration for Deskan's Institute & Training, Inc., Members, Volunteers & Students.



# DESKAN INSTITUTE & TRAINING, INC.

424 Orchards Walk—Stone Mountain—Georgia—30087

Telephone# 770-498-2150—Fax#: 404-234-2702

www.deskan.net—liverpj@bellsouth.net

## Board Members:

Dr. Joan Liverpool, President  
Pamela McKenzie, MSW  
Charles E. Liverpool, MSA  
Gail Hyman-Bremner, JD  
Dr. Gwendolyn Dean, Pedestrian  
Jamal Liverpool, MSc.

## Volunteers:

|                     |                           |
|---------------------|---------------------------|
| Precella Speid      | Jonelle Solomon           |
| Mary Nelson         | June Mitchell             |
| Glory Kilanko       | Charmaine Johnson         |
| Cherry Jeffers      | Cherise Holder            |
| Marcus Harris       | Eddie Frempong            |
| Lorna Francis       | Amilcar Elam              |
| Leona Kyte          | Deslyn Briggs             |
| Michelle Butler     | Fay Blackwood             |
| Hazel Valentine     | Kendra Robinson           |
| Destiny Liverpool   | Kanel Liverpool           |
| Dionne Liverpool    | Jamal Liverpool           |
| Renee Liverpool     | Claire Lucas              |
| June Archer         | Dion Lucas                |
| Lansdale Lucas, Sr. | Dr. Ekanem Inyang (Favor) |
| Delores Thorne      | Dillion Dainty            |
| Patricia Dinally    | Emily Marks               |
| Bernard Rollings    | Carlotta Craig            |
| Marcia Craig        |                           |

Deskan Institute & Training, Inc., is fortunate to partner with the following organizations that support community causes both locally and internationally:

- Guyana Medical Relief, Inc. based in California
- The Kaiteur Group of Connecticut
- Hosea Feed the Hungry
- Women Watch Africa
- GLADDOR Organization
- Queenstown Essequibo of New York
- Ann Foundation, Inc.
- Families United Services
- Southwest Medical Center

## Guyana Partnership:

- Volunteer Youth Corps

## Churches:

- Seventh Day Bachelor's Adventist Church
- Ebenezer Congregational Church—Ann's Grove
- Church of God—Plaisance
- Global Christian Network Ministry—Bebice
- Gethsemane Gospel Church



## Guyana Medical Relief, Inc.

1656 S. Hayworth Avenue  
Los Angeles, CA 90035

Office & Fax  
(323) 965-9914

Email: gmrem@aol.com

www.guyanamedicalrelief.org

## Visit us in Guyana!

Our Guyana Representatives

Nurse Dillion Dainty  
Leona Kyte  
Deslyn Briggs  
Patricia Dinally  
Emily Marks

Michelle Butler—011-592-231-1569

## Visit us in New Jersey!

Our New Jersey Representatives:

Precella Speid—862-452-9365  
Bernard Rollings—973-375-2201  
Carlotta Craig—201-259-1175  
Marcia Craig—201-259-1172

## Our Needs List:

- Office Supplies—All
- Blankets, Toiletries, Toothpaste, Toothbrushes and mouthwash
- Medical Supplies, Drugs, Ointments and Cough Syrups

## Children and Baby Care Items:

- Bottles
- Pacifiers
- Baby Food and Formula; all food items

## School Items:

- Clothes
- Uniforms
- Book Bags
- Pens/Pencils/Sharpeners etc.

## Food Pantry:

- Canned goods; all meats
- Chicken, Ham, Turkey
- Aluminum Foil, Plastic Wrap and Zip-Lock Bags
- Paper and Plastic goods
- School Clothes and Uniforms

# DITI

## Medical Mission Trips

**Mission Guyana,**  
South America  
7/6/10 thru 7/15/10

**Mission Africa**  
12/30/10 thru 1/14/11  
(subject to change)