

Medical Management Plan 2017 – 2018

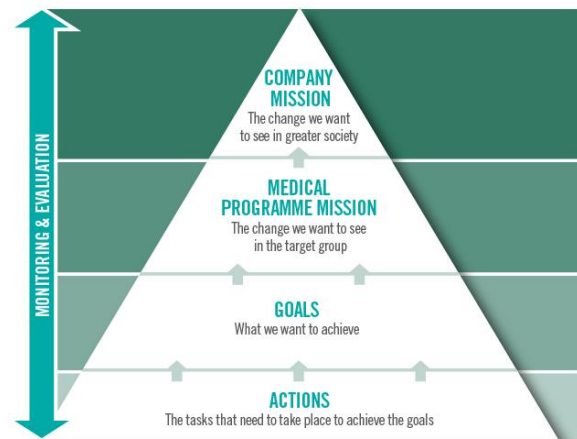
Jamaica



About the Medical Management Plans

This document explains the bigger picture of our projects in Jamaica and how the combined daily tasks of all of our volunteers help us to achieve long term goals. By following Task Lists, our volunteers work towards our Goals, through which we contribute to our Medical Programme Mission which combined with our other projects, helps us to reach our Company Mission.

Here we will lay out the priorities, resources, monitoring tools and evaluation systems used to make our ambition a reality.



Our Resources

Human Resources

- Volunteers are of course our primary resource to achieve our goals. We welcome over 2,300 Medical volunteers per year globally.
- The staff at our placements support and facilitate our actions
- Over 600 Projects Abroad staff members provide the structure we need for worthwhile projects.

Physical Resources

- With over 50 Projects Abroad offices worldwide, there is always somewhere for volunteers to work together and share experiences
- We provide all necessary materials for medical outreaches

Online Resources

- Our Volunteer Resources Database shares thousands of ideas among our community
- Online reports are used to track our projects all over the world
- Personalised MyProjectsAbroad webpages prepare each volunteer for their Medical project.

Financial Resources

- Funds for all of Projects Abroad's work come solely from volunteer placement fees. These are distributed via monthly budgets, to ensure fair allocation of funds for each destination.
- Occasionally the Projects Abroad community may send donations directly for a specific placement or project.

Intangible Resources

- The good reputation of volunteers in local communities is what makes our work possible. This reputation has been earned over years of dedicated volunteer contribution.
- This is supported by the combined knowledge of our extensive staff network.

Our Medical Management Plan Goals in Jamaica for 2017-2018

The following goals have been selected from a list of seven by our local staff and partners. Each placement and volunteer may be working on one or more of these goals, in line with our Medical Ethics Policy and taking into account the volunteer's qualifications and level of experience. We arrange workshops, outreaches and assist with independent research projects as a means of working towards each of these goals.



Improve Access to Basic Healthcare for Disadvantaged Groups

Despite public healthcare being free in Jamaica, many people continue to struggle gaining access to these basic services due to a lack of resources, under-staffed facilities and long queues. Through our outreach programme of visits to local communities, schools and infirmaries, we aim to provide basic healthcare, including basic checks, for some of these vulnerable groups as well as raise awareness about some of the more pressing health issues facing the country.



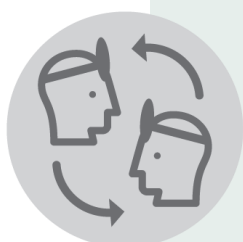
Promote Awareness of Non-Communicable Diseases

Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) are the primary cause of death around the world, with over 35 million deaths each year. Today, NCDs account for up to 79% of deaths in Jamaica. With changes in lifestyle and diets, high blood pressure and obesity are increasing problems; however, a lack of education and resources make it difficult to combat these preventable diseases. We aim to educate the population about these diseases and promote healthier lifestyle choices to limit their growth.



Improve the Quality of Healthcare Provided to Patients

Thanks to the work of volunteers and occasional donations of materials and equipment to local institutions we work with, we are able to help improve the quality of care provided to patients. Volunteers with prior experience and who prove themselves to be committed and proactive will be able to lend a hand and become an extra workforce alongside permanent staff and interns, thus allowing all staff the time required to offer the right level of dedicated care to patients.



Encourage an Understanding of Medical Practices and Promote an Exchange of Medical Knowledge

Many of our Medical volunteers have no or little experience within the medical field. Their project allows them to gain invaluable insight into the healthcare system and procedures within a developing country, as well as prevalent local diseases. We aim to create a platform for a true cultural exchange, with volunteers learning from local staff as well as sharing their experiences with one another.



Reduce the Number of Cases of HIV / AIDS, Chikungunya and Zika

It is estimated that up to 32,000 people in Jamaica are HIV-positive, but that 50% of them are not aware of their status. The incidence of mosquito-borne diseases in Jamaica is also increasing, with a rise in chikungunya and the country is now on a level 2 alert for Zika. In partnership with local public health facilities, our volunteers help to educate about how to prevent mosquito-borne diseases and HIV, as well as the importance of early treatment. Volunteers also conduct screenings to prevent further complications.

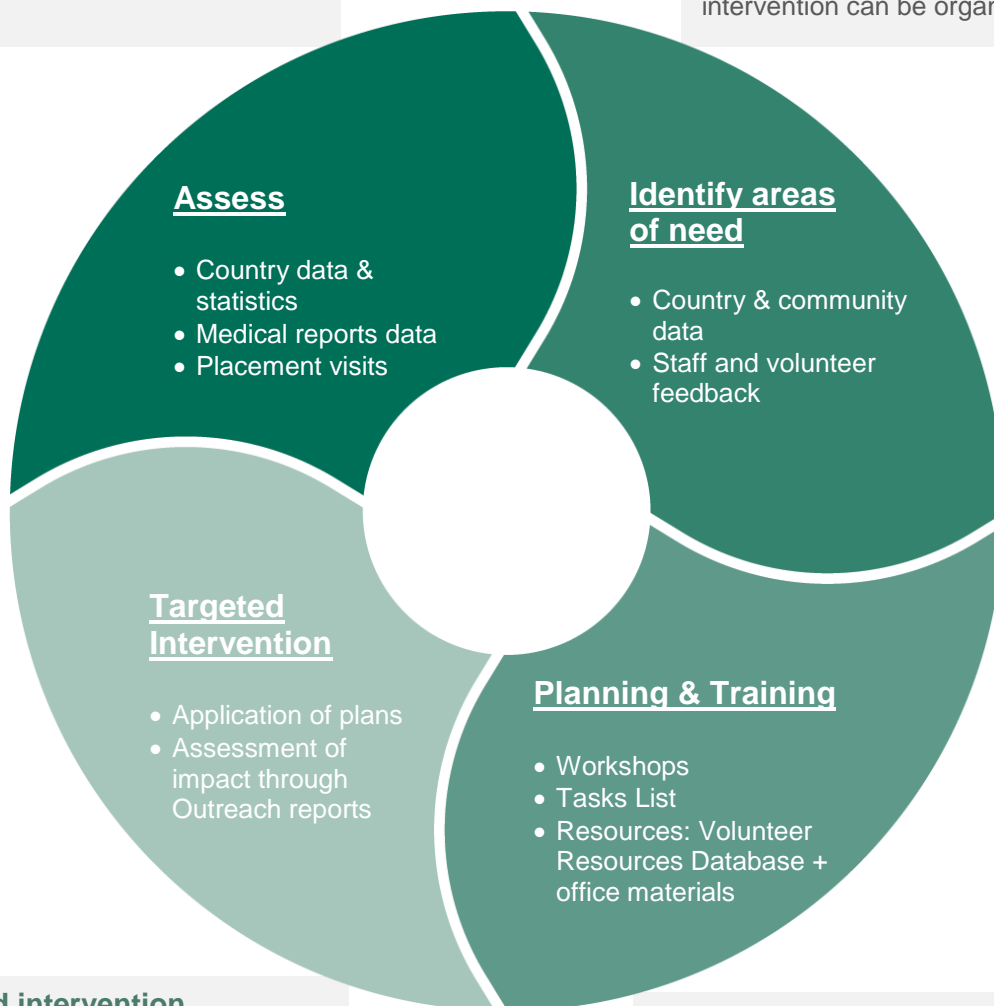
How we achieve our goals

Assessment

Through specially designed reports and structural research, we pinpoint locally relevant issues. This information will help us determine the methods and areas for intervention within local communities.

Identify areas of need

Through research and data gathering, we can identify the areas that most need human or material resources. This helps volunteers to know which healthcare topics need further education as well as which ailments are most affecting local communities, so that targeted intervention can be organised.



Targeted intervention

Through our steady stream of volunteers year round, we are continuously targeting the areas of need determined by our data. Although a 4 week volunteer might not see a tangible difference in the time they are there, we are able to show that over longer time frames each and every volunteer contributes to long-term, sustainable impact.

Planning and Training

Based on the areas of need we create Task Lists, workshops and community outreaches to direct our impact to where it is most needed. Resources are designed by volunteers and these are shared on the Volunteer Resources Database.