FOOD IS LIFE

Jamaica
**Project Goal**

Provide additional food staples to improve food security for needy families throughout Jamaica.

**Project Description**

The **Food is Life** project aims at providing 12,000 needy Jamaican families with essential food items to complement their diet and reduce malnutrition and hunger.

The following items will be included in the baskets:

- Flour
- Cornmeal
- Powdered milk
- Oil
- Mackerel
- Sardines
- Vienna sausages
- Canned vegetables
- Crackers

These foods will be added to the rice and beans provided by Food For The Poor’s (FFTP) generous donors to round out the meal supplies and will be purchased locally in Jamaica to contribute to the local economy.

FFTP’s local partner is FFTP – Jamaica.

The completion date of this project may be extended for issues related to weather, natural disaster or civil unrest to the extent that such events exceed normal conditions and impede the project’s progress.

**Total Project Costs: $249,504.00**
Jamaica

The third largest island in the Caribbean, Jamaica is home to more than 2.8 million people. The island’s beauty continues to be marred by an alarming increase in poverty, violent crime and unemployment, the latter of which stands at 7.72 percent.

Throughout the island, there is a tremendous need for decent housing, care for vulnerable children, modern school buildings, agriculture initiatives and other income generating projects.

FFTP has been working in Jamaica since its founding in 1982. What began with small-scale food distributions in Kingston, has grown into a massive network of like-minded groups and individuals working together to help Jamaica's poor families.

Island-wide Food Initiatives

FFTP collaborates with a number of strategic stakeholders to reach and assist Jamaica’s most vulnerable men, women and children with food supplies, including faith-based organizations, schools, community groups and other non-governmental institutions.

Food packages are the single most requested form of assistance from FTP - Jamaica and an essential arm for distribution is that facilitated by their Social Outreach Department.

In their endeavor to continue supporting the poor and disenfranchised in the Jamaican society, the Social Outreach Department is appealing for donations to create standard food packages for as many beneficiaries as possible.

The following staples are important to support a nutritious meal:

- Flour is a basic ingredient with which to create a variety of foods and fill an otherwise empty plate.
- Cornmeal, together with flour, is a basic commodity that can help create many dishes, such as porridge, and provide consistency to a meal.
- Powdered milk is essential for families with younger children.
- Oil is the single most necessary ingredient in the kitchen, without which a number of foods would not be able to be cooked.
- Mackerel provides protein in a healthy format and can stretch dishes to feed the entire family.
- Sardines also provide protein in a healthy format.
• Vienna sausages, together with tinned fish, provide needed protein and help complement meals.
• Canned vegetables are a convenient way to help families make easy, quick and healthy meals.
• Crackers are a versatile staple that can be eaten with protein, alone with a cup of tea, or as a snack for children.

In providing nutritious food assistance, the goal is to:

• Significantly reduce the negative effects of hunger among the neediest populations.
• Provide the best possible food package aimed at supplementing a balanced meal.
• Facilitate the use of disposable income for the purchase of other food items necessary to complete a balanced diet.
• Raise the potential of those who produce some earnings to increase their disposable income and focus on other family matters, such as health, education, utility bills and personal care.
• Increase the number of families we serve, as many of the food packages received are now partitioned and distributed among extended families and the community at large.

Testimonials

Your support makes a difference among destitute Jamaican families, becoming evident through the testimonials below.

"I believe that God has sent an angel in the form of FFTP. I prayed and believed God for a miracle and he has delivered the help. Right now, I feel so happy to know that there are people out there who care for us. All along we thought no one would help but thank God for FFTP," says Leisha Griffiths, a mother of four.

Aretta Dennis (right) was not timid when it came to expressing how difficult the last few months have been since COVID-19 started affecting Jamaica. "I am telling you things have been very rough because I have been broke, broke, broke! Last night, when I heard that we were to visit the church today to collect items, I was saying to myself, 'I really hope there will be something to eat in"
the mix.’ I can’t express how happy and grateful I am to see that my prayers have been answered,” she said.

Mitzie Bogle from Spring Pass in Yallas, St. Thomas, was happy for the items she received courtesy of the Sean Paul Foundation and FFTP. “I don’t have a steady income because I work as a higgler, selling small items. Since COVID-19, nuthing nah gwaan.” Mitzie lamented that ‘nothing has happened,’ as she has been unable to sell her products and therefore unable to earn a living. She concluded by saying, “This year has been really difficult, since the COVID happened ... sales have been going down.”

With your generous aid, we can help individuals like Mitzie by providing nourishment and hope during times of hardship.

“The eyes of all look to you, and you give them their food in due season. You open your hand; you satisfy the desire of every living thing.”

*Psalm 145:15-16*
GPS Coordinates: 17°59'28.0"N 76°57'47.1"W
The following photos depict FFTP food distribution initiatives from December 2020.
Executive Director from FFTP – Jamaica, Craig Moss-Solomon, greets Bishop Burchell from the Diocese of Montego Bay.
Families from our last December food drive pick up their food baskets.
FFTP – Jamaica staff aided with the December 2020 food initiative. Through this project, you can ensure they have the resources they need to continue supporting the poor.
**Budget**

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**Total Direct Costs** $216,960.00

**Indirect Costs**

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<tr>
<td>In-country project management expenses</td>
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<td>Food For The Poor fulfillment, project management and monitoring expenses</td>
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<td><strong>Total Indirect Costs</strong></td>
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**TOTAL PROJECT COSTS** $249,504.00

The funds you generously contribute to Food For The Poor will be used toward completion of your project of choice. If any of your donation exceeds budget cost, rest assured that it will be used to fund other Food For The Poor programs and organizational support to meet the urgent needs of the poor.

Contributions are tax-deductible under Internal Revenue Code Section 501(c)(3).
About Food For The Poor

Food For The Poor, one of the largest international relief and development organizations in the nation, does much more than feed millions of hungry children and families primarily in 17 countries of the Caribbean and Latin America. This interdenominational Christian ministry provides emergency relief assistance, clean water, medicine, educational materials, homes, support for vulnerable children, care for the aged, skills training and micro-enterprise development assistance. For more information, please visit www.FoodForThePoor.org.