



# Mission Jamaica Update

**A catastrophic hurricane—the worst ever to hit the Caribbean—has caused substantial damage to buildings of our Mission Jamaica partners.**

The damage from Hurricane Melissa has caused chaos across the island of Jamaica, and communication is hampered by loss of power and mobility issues. Residents are dealing with limited electricity, gasoline, fresh water, and food.

Throughout the island, wood structures have been decimated, roofs ripped off, and personal belongings have been carried away in the storm.

## WHAT WE KNOW

### Westhaven Children's Home

This facility in Montego Bay is home to 92 children and adults with special needs. This is one of the very few homes on the entire island that can serve these special residents.

We know that 3 of the 5 cottages for these special needs kids and adults have sustained severe damage. Major renovations will be needed to repair roofs, replace porches, and repair structural damage to bring cottages back to livable conditions.

All outbuildings sustained damage to interiors and exteriors: school, kitchen, gazebos, covered walkways, and housing for animals (chickens, pigs, and cows).

### Clifton Boys Home

The roof on the new building is gone, which caused significant interior and exterior damage.

## Garland Hall

We're waiting for an update from the director regarding this orphanage in Anchovie (near Montego Bay).

## JaBode

Formerly known as Habitat for Humanity, JaBode homes have been built for 150 families since 1989. With no phone access and impassable roads, direct contact with Ms. Delzie Murray, JaBode Director, is pending.

## About Our Kingston Partners

Callaloo Mews Basic School, Earth Angel Feeding Program, and Hope Valley Experimental School suffered from heavy rains and flooding, but did not sustain major structural damage. They feel blessed that they are operational.

## THIS IS HOW WE'RE RESPONDING

Jeff Peterson, Mission Jamaica Director, is in contact with our Montego Bay and Kingston partners and Clive (Nazzy) Anderson, Mission Jamaica Construction Manager, our boots on the ground. Nazzy will continue to report how our partners are faring.

Jeff will be traveling to Jamaica at the end of November to assess damage in person and determine how we can be of greatest assistance. He will also check in with JaBode home recipients to assess their repair needs.

Our home away from home, The Catalonia Hotel, suffered major damage. Jeff is looking at lodging solutions for our 2026 missionary teams.

## HOW YOU CAN HELP

Please pray for our partners and their recovery—physically, mentally, and spiritually. The destruction has been major and rebuilding and healing will take time.

St. Andrew's has set up a Jamaica Disaster/Recovery Relief fund. Go to **[saintandrews.org/give](https://saintandrews.org/give)** to donate.

Checks can be sent to:

**St. Andrew's Lutheran Church  
c/o Jamaica Disaster/Recovery  
Relief Fund  
900 Stillwater Road  
Mahtomedi, MN 55115**

All financial donations will help our Mission Jamaica partners rebuild and recover. Funds will put roofs back on buildings, provide essentials like food, water, hygiene items, fuel, and help restock chickens at Westhaven. **Your gift, no matter the size, brings hope and makes a real difference.**

We plan to have Mission Jamaica teams returning in January. Trips will be confirmed once new lodging is secured.



*Onsite chickens provide much-needed food for residents at Westhaven Children's Home*

## CONTACTS

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