

YEAR IN REVIEW

2023

Helping hands for a better Jamaica 



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Chairman's Message

The year 2023 will be remembered as the year we mourned the profound loss of our beloved Chairman, the Hon. Lascelles Chin O.J, C.D., LL.D., of the LASCO Chin Foundation (LCF). His visionary leadership has left an indelible mark not only on our hearts but within the fabric of our Foundation. Despite the void his absence has created, the work of the LCF continued, carrying forward his legacy to uplift vulnerable groups and create positive change in Jamaica. I am committed to this legacy and feel honoured to take up the leadership of the Foundation.

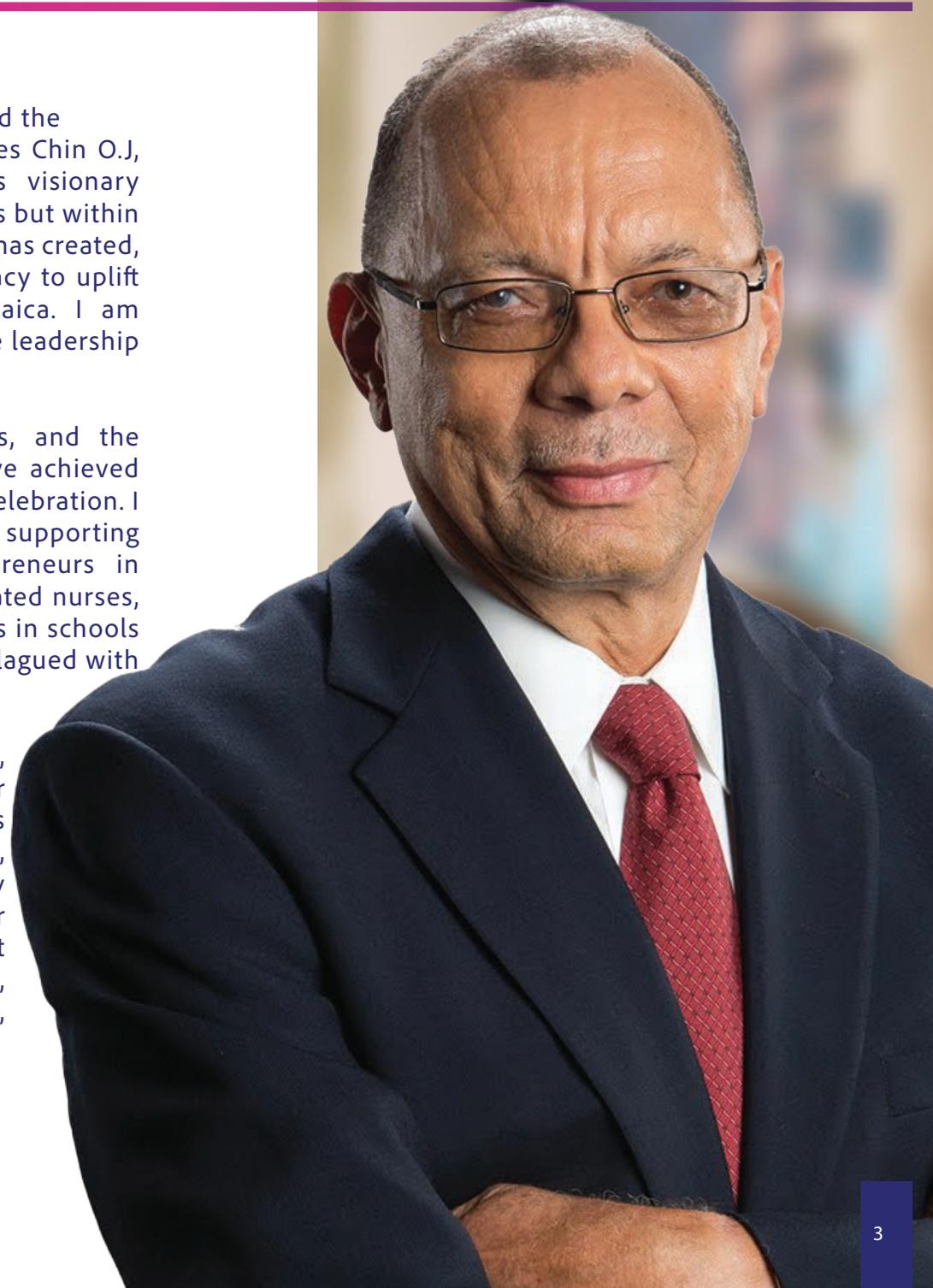
Through strategic partnerships, innovative programmes, and the indomitable spirit of our team, you will see that we have achieved remarkable results in 2023 that deserve recognition and celebration. I continue to feel proud of our unwavering commitment to supporting at-risk youths in our targeted school, at-risk entrepreneurs in crime-prone communities, our valued police force, dedicated nurses, devoted teachers and principals, environmental awareness in schools as well as providing care packages to the vulnerable still plagued with COVID-related challenges.

I extend my sincere appreciation to our directors, partners, donors, volunteers, and the entire LCF team for their perseverance and hard work. As we move forward, let us continue to embrace our mission with renewed vigour, knowing that the positive changes we bring about today will shape a brighter tomorrow for all. Let us honour Chairman Chin's memory by redoubling our efforts to uplift at-risk youths, empower vulnerable communities, encourage our nurses, teachers, principals and police, protect the environment, and assist those in need.



James E.D. Rawle, CD

Chairman, LASCO Chin Foundation



CEO's Message



This year, the LASCO Chin Foundation (LCF) grieved the loss of our Chairman and Founder, the Hon. Lascelles Chin O.J, C.D., LLD, who died on May 27, 2023. He was a “man of the people” who epitomised the powerful attributes of integrity, authenticity, empathy and humility. These attributes earned him much love and respect among all of us in the LASCO family and across Jamaica. He had a special place in his heart for the LCF. In 2018, he stated:

“The launch of the LASCO Chin Foundation marks the culmination of my life’s work and childhood dreams. This is the climax of all my successes, setbacks, joys and sorrows, achievements, awards and ambitions. This is the legacy that I have laboured to leave behind, along with the success of the various business ventures. Long after I am gone, and the present management team is no longer around, the LASCO Chin Foundation will be here.”

The LCF team was reminded of the awesome responsibility of continuing the legacy that he laboured to leave behind to improve the lives of vulnerable Jamaicans and to create positive change in Jamaica. In the face of our profound loss, we persevered and pursued our mission to help vulnerable groups, especially at-risk youths, break the cycle of poverty and crime and become highly skilled, entrepreneurial citizens who care for others and the environment. Together with our partners, the LCF Directors and staff, ably guided by our new Chairman, James Rawle, CD., “stepped up to the plate,” and we delivered. We continued to support targeted students in schools and their parents, empower vulnerable entrepreneurs, provide care package relief to needy individuals (including Haitian refugees), as well as award outstanding teachers, principals, nurses and policemen/women. We are especially grateful for the support of USAID, Environmental Health Foundation (EHF) and JWN Foundation in empowering vulnerable entrepreneurs.

Looking ahead to 2024, the LCF team is fully motivated to continue the legacy of Hon. Lascelles Chin O.J, C.D., LLD., and to build a strong Foundation under the capable leadership of Chairman Rawle.

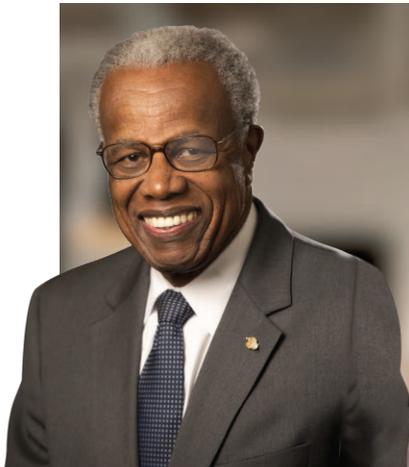
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Hamilton', written in a cursive style.

Professor Rosalea Hamilton
CEO, LASCO Chin Foundation

LCF Board of Directors and Team

The Board is entrusted with maintaining the welfare of the Foundation's strategic direction and financial stability.

James E.D.
Rawle, CD
Chairman,
LASCO Chin Foundation



SIR GEORGE
ALLEYNE

OCC, MD, FRCP, FACP
(Hon), DSc (Hon)



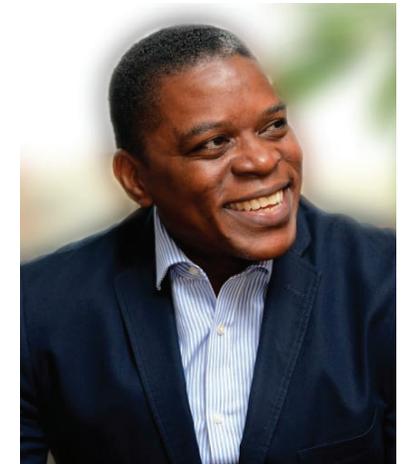
VINCENT
CHEN

Non-Executive Director
& Company Secretary,
LASCO Companies



STEPHEN
NEWLAND

Director, LASCO REAP



WAYNE
BEECHER

CEO, AltCatalyst

ROSALEA
HAMILTON

Chief Executive Officer



Our Team works tirelessly to coordinate initiatives, foster partnerships, engage with stakeholders, and ensure programme effectiveness. With their combined skills and dedication, our staff members embody the Foundation's values and commitment to people-driven sustainable development.



PAUL
IRVING

Programme Manager



ERROL
FINDLEY

Accountant



ANNA-KAY
McINTOSH-RICHARDS

Case Manager



LISA-GAYE
Bender

Operations Officer



Tahirah
Fraser

Operations and
Programme Consultant



THE SUSTAINABLE SOCIOECONOMIC INITIATIVE (SSI)

SCHOOLING SUPPORT PROGRAMME



The 2022-2023 SSI Schooling Support Programme (SSP), which commenced in September 2022 with twenty (20) students, resumed on the 21st of January 2023 following the Christmas term break. By the end of the academic year in July 2023, eleven (11) students remained enrolled in the programme after voluntary withdrawals, expulsions resulting from chronic absenteeism, and academic probation violations.

Unfortunately, two of the initial cohort of 11 students were further excluded before the commencement of the 2023-2024 academic year due to unimproved academic infractions. The remaining nine students successfully matriculated into the fifth year of the program, which kicked off in September 2023.

As the year unfolded, the SSP's main focus was threefold: preparing students for external examinations, providing enhanced psychological services, and continuing to nurture the children's overall academic and personal development holistically.

As the cohort began its final year of preparations for external examinations (CSEC, City & Guilds, and HEART TRUST's skills-based short courses) the programme emphasised strengthening their academic competencies by:

- **Increasing tutoring in Mathematics and English Language**
- **Engaging in more psychosocial activities so as to**
 - Create safe, non-judgmental spaces for students to work through challenges together
 - Equip students with healthy coping mechanisms
- **Continuing Social Services Support**

60%

Six students achieved 60% or higher on final exams to progress in good academic standing

The SUSTAINABLE SOCIOECONOMIC INITIATIVE (SSI) Schooling Support Programme

Social Work and Case Management

Throughout the year, the Case Manager- Anna-Kay McIntosh-Richards, emphasised supporting the students within their home environments. She conducted thorough assessments and worked collaboratively with the parents/guardians and the children to develop customised Household Development Plans (HDPs) for each beneficiary.

Over the 2022 - 2023 Academic Year, the following case management activities were executed:



22 Needs-based
home and community visits



3 Rounds of parent/guardian and child consultations on student progress and status



Ongoing Review
and implementation of HDPs



The SUSTAINABLE SOCIOECONOMIC INITIATIVE (SSI) Schooling Support Programme



Ongoing Home Support Services for Academic Year 2022 to 2023

The programme continued to provide responsive home intervention services to all beneficiaries based on their assessed needs. Comprehensive evaluations were conducted to shape customised Household Intervention Plans (HIPs) for 6 of the 9 continuing families- these plans aimed to address the specific challenges each household faced. Additionally, care packages were distributed to supplement these homes, confronting insufficient or inadequate nutrition and financial distress.

However, the finalisation of plans for the remaining three homes faced several significant challenges:

1. Chronic unresponsiveness from one household, hindering the ability to conduct a comprehensive evaluation and develop a tailored intervention plan.
2. Limited community access due to a flare-up in violence, posing safety concerns for programme staff.
3. One student was temporarily relocated due to emergency family travel, making it difficult to assess the household's needs and provide timely support.



The SUSTAINABLE SOCIOECONOMIC INITIATIVE (SSI) Schooling Support Programme

Academics and External Examinations Preparedness

Consistent Mathematics and English Language tutoring sessions were held throughout 2023:



English Language Sessions

(led by Ms. Yanisha Daley):

JAN
TO
AUG
2023

69% attendance
46% average student performance

OCT
TO
DEC
2023

56% attendance
54% average student performance



Mathematics Sessions

(led by Mr. Davion Leslie and Mrs. Kezia Dixon-Campbell):

JAN
TO
AUG
2023

69% attendance
38% average student performance

OCT
TO
DEC
2023

51% attendance
60% average student performance



The SUSTAINABLE SOCIOECONOMIC INITIATIVE (SSI) Schooling Support Programme

Academics and External Examinations Preparedness

continued

The SSI SSP students displayed remarkable academic performances, achieving exam averages approximately 12% higher than their classmates. Of the 9, 6 students obtained over 60% in their final exams to continue in the SSI programme. The remaining three (3) students scored in the 55-59% range and were selected to stay in the programme under close academic watch.

With these results, all nine students will sit CSEC exams in May/June 2024:



3 students will sit
7 CSEC subjects



2 students will sit
8 CSEC subjects



2 students will sit
5 CSEC subjects



1 student will sit
6 CSEC subjects



1 student will sit
4 CSEC subjects



Additionally, three students will supplement CSEC with City & Guilds assessments in Maths and English.



The SUSTAINABLE SOCIOECONOMIC INITIATIVE (SSI) Schooling Support Programme

Parenting Workshops

Workshops commenced with reflection on the 2022 holiday season and touched on co-parenting, love languages, and goal setting.

In February, by parental request, the subject of co-parenting dynamics and strategies took centre stage. Over March, April, and May, "love languages" were explored in depth, probing how children conveyed and interpreted love and affection versus the parents' approaches.

While attendance diminished throughout 2022-2023, likely due to scheduling conflicts, or as the participants candidly reported having 'forgotten' the appointment, the team remained committed to devising creative solutions to drive higher participation from this critical stakeholder group.

To this end, in partnership with the Jamaica Diaspora Taskforce Action Network (JDTAN), a meeting was held in late November to explore strategies for increasing attendance and participation. It was agreed this could be achieved by assigning individual presentation duties to drive attendance and investment.

By the follow-up session on November 22nd, where 7 of the 9 participants attended, it was decided that 'Absent Fathers' would be the discussion topic at the December session. However, the session was postponed until January 2024 because no one had attended the December 2023 session.



The SUSTAINABLE SOCIOECONOMIC INITIATIVE (SSI) Schooling Support Programme

Nutritional Support

The undeniable links between nutrition, development, and academic achievement persist as a cornerstone of development programming for our youth. As a result, our care packages supplement their diet quality with non-perishable food items loaded with the micronutrients necessary for their growing bodies. Parcels typically contain LASCO staples such as tinned fish, sausages and beans, rolled oats, instant porridges, teas, and other essential food items.

Alongside current participants of the SSI Schooling Programme, monthly packages were furnished to beneficiaries affiliated with Christ Church and Vineyard Town through the YCOP platform.



Approximately 100 care packages
were assembled and distributed to
nurture our emerging scholars



The SUSTAINABLE SOCIOECONOMIC INITIATIVE (SSI) Schooling Support Programme

JWNF & LCF Conflict Resolution in Schools Workshops

Seeking to address escalating aggression within schools in the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic, the JWN Foundation collaborated with the LASCO Chin Foundation to pioneer a targeted Conflict Resolution Intervention for at-risk youth.

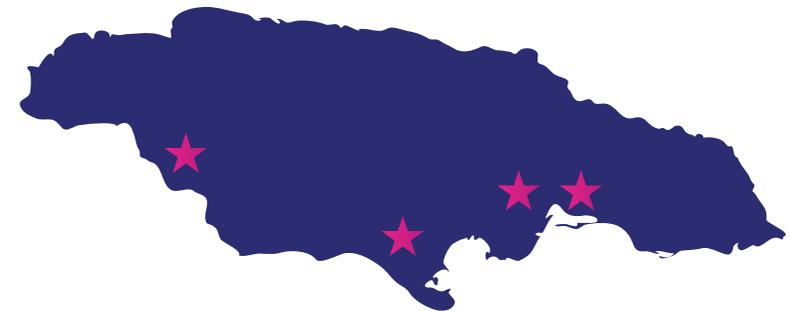
A timely grant from the US Embassy in Kingston backed this undertaking, which was executed with the assistance of our key partners: the Jamaica Association for Debating and Empowerment (JADE), the Ministry of Education and Youth, the Child Development Agency, and the Ministry of Justice.

The initiative, spanning nine months, was designed to nurture emotional intelligence and skills for de-escalating conflicts among students in their developmental years. It aimed to instil a lasting positive influence on school atmospheres and advocate for non-violence as a societal norm.



 The program impacted over 600 participants across 17 academic institutions in Kingston, St. Andrew, Clarendon, and St. Elizabeth.

Students from grades 4 to 9 who exhibited disruptive behaviours, along with their parents, were referred for participation in this initiative.





THE SUSTAINABLE SOCIOECONOMIC INITIATIVE (SSI)

ENTREPRENEURSHIP PROGRAMME

The SUSTAINABLE SOCIOECONOMIC INITIATIVE (SSI) Entrepreneurship Programme

Overview

Throughout 2023, The SSI Entrepreneurship Programme remained dedicated to empowering members of under-resourced communities to achieve sustainable livelihoods. We accomplished this through personalised coaching, structural reforms, and goal-setting guided by the communities themselves.

Bolstered by corporate support and community engagement, we sought to drive grassroots change and dismantle obstacles to participation, giving more people access to more equitable opportunities for personal growth.

EXECUTION OF PHASE I

In May 2023, the SSI Entrepreneurship Program initiated Phase I recruitment by sourcing candidates through referrals from partners like Operations Save Jamaica (OSJ), Stand Up Jamaica, and parents/guardians involved in the SSI Schooling Support Programme. Potential candidates expressed concerns about participating without a guarantee of a quick and stable income. Some were hesitant about the visibility associated with street vending, while others sought the flexibility to sell a wider range of products beyond the programme's branded goods.

Despite the challenges, 16 recruits persevered with the programme. The initiative aimed to equip the trainees with the necessary skills and resources for entrepreneurial success by offering both skills development and initial resources; all the trainees received LASCO startup kits to help them begin generating income.



The SUSTAINABLE SOCIOECONOMIC INITIATIVE (SSI) Schooling Support Programme



EXECUTION OF PHASE I

The cohort comprised three men and thirteen women from various Kingston neighbourhoods, including Majesty Gardens, Olympic Gardens, Stony Hill, Rose Town, Kingston CSO, Denham Town, and Dunkirk.

Throughout August, the enrolled participants received comprehensive entrepreneurial training through our partnership with The Institute of Law and Economics. The workshops covered crucial aspects of business development, including marketing best practices, financial management fundamentals, and more. Additionally, hands-on site visits allowed advisors to provide tailored, real-time guidance to our entrepreneurs and monitor their entrepreneurial progress.

Initially, nine entrepreneurs completed the workshops and received business inventory starter kits. However, by November 2023, only eight remained enrolled in the programme. During this period, challenges emerged as participant engagement levels declined and compliance in tracking sales remained extremely low. In response to the declining participation, 1-on-1 consultations were conducted with proposals to:

- 1) **Extend programming through March 2024 to:**
 - obtain a minimum of 12 weeks of sales data
 - complete psychosocial interventions
 - conduct follow-up business evaluations in March 2024

- 2) **Re-engage suitable ventures for Phase 2 support, beginning June 2024**

Although most trainees opted to extend the programme, attendance remained low in November and December, and maintaining consistent participation and adherence to the program continued to prove difficult.

The SUSTAINABLE SOCIOECONOMIC INITIATIVE (SSI) Entrepreneurship Programme



EXECUTION OF PHASE II

In partnership with the Environmental Health Foundation, Phase II of the Entrepreneurship Programme concluded with an official closing session on September 21st. Throughout the session, the graduates provided feedback to strengthen future iterations of the programme.

Graduates received certificates, gift baskets and their official company registration documents. Transition activities out of Phase II also swiftly advanced:

- Down-the-Trade (DTT) assessments and site visits were conducted, and formal bank accounts were opened for each of the graduates
- Grants of \$25K, courtesy of the Environmental Health Foundation, were posted to each account, and the graduates were furnished with goods.

The SUSTAINABLE SOCIOECONOMIC INITIATIVE (SSI) Schooling Support Programme

LCF Economic Empowerment Programme

In June 2022, LCF partnered with USAID's Positive Pathways Activity in Jamaica (PPAJ) under the banner 'Enhancing Economic Opportunities', to improve and increase access to economic resources, livelihood opportunities, financial resource management skills, and personal development for parents, caregivers, youths and community members in each of the PPAJ's twelve target communities.

The key outcomes of this partnership are summarised below:

Project Duration: June 2022 – July 2023 (12 months)

Kingston & St. Andrew: Jones Town, Hannah Town, Denham Town

St. James: Flanker, Norwood, Salt Spring

St. Catherine: Naggo Head, Gregory Park, New Land

Clarendon: May Pen, Effortville, Palmers Cross



ACHIEVED OUTCOMES





CAUSE MARKETING & CARE PACKAGES

LCF RELIEF CARE PACKAGE PROGRAMME

JAN-DEC 2023



1655

CARE PACKAGES
DISTRIBUTED



6620

BENEFICIARIES



41

PARTNERS



JMD2,568,740

FUNDS RAISED



Helping Hands for Haiti

When the civil unrest in Haiti escalated to a critical point in early 2023, numerous Haitians were forced into exile, seeking a better life in Jamaica. Through a collaborative effort with LASCO Distribution and Manufacturing Ltd and other individual donors, the LCF provided support to 37 Haitian refugees.

This support included 97 care packages, clothing, and other essential bulk products to uplift and comfort these individuals during their time of need.



CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY PROGRAMMES

LASCO LABOUR DAY PROJECT

On Labour Day, the LASCO Affiliated Companies and the LASCO Chin Foundation banded with the Kingston & St Andrew Municipal Corporation (KSAMC). Together, we brought nourishment in the form of LASCO food and beverages to over 100 beneficiaries of the Marie Atkins Night Shelter in Kingston. LASCO also provided additional upliftment to the shelter with essential toiletries. This tangible outreach emphasises the values of integrity, care, and service, which drive our continued outreach.

2023 NURSE AND NURSING STUDENT OF THE YEAR

The 2023 National Nurses Week, July 16-21, celebrated Jamaican nursing professionals under the banner "Our Nurses, Our Future".

An Ecumenical Church Service opened events on July 16th, with LASCO providing refreshments. LASCO also erected informational booths and supplied giveaways during a 2-day Nursing Summer School. Courtesy visits to the offices of the Governor General and Lady Allen, the Prime Minister, the Leader of the Opposition, and the Mayor of Kingston were arranged for the top honorees.

The week culminated with the LASCO/ Nurses' Association of Jamaica Nurse of the Year and Student Nursing Awards gala on July 21st, attended by over 200 guests. The top honour of Nurse of the Year was awarded to Shantal Remekie of the University Hospital of the West Indies, who was presented with a \$200K cash prize and trophy. Bobbie-Ann Collins of Excelsior Community College was awarded Nursing Student of the Year and a \$100K cash prize. The finalists were all awarded sectional prizes, highlighting the event's recognition of outstanding achievements.



Corporate Social Responsibility Programmes

LCF/EHF/CARIPHIL ALLIANCE PHILANTHROPIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL WELLNESS INITIATIVE

The LASCO Chin Foundation (LCF) collaborated with the Caribbean Philanthropic Alliance (CARIPHIL) and the Environmental Health Foundation (EHF) on several environmental initiatives. These initiatives focused on tree planting and coastal clean-ups, and included the following activities:

- Coastal Beach Clean Up (2022)
- Kiwanis One Day Project (2022)
- Engine Goes Green Campaign Launch (2022)
- Keep Jamaica Clean Series Launch (2023)

Through this partnership, the organisations collaborated to promote environmental conservation and sustainability and encourage community participation in preserving the nation's natural resources.





2023 POLICE OFFICER OF THE YEAR

The 2023 LASCO/Jamaica Constabulary Force Police Officer Awards Ceremony was held on October 20th under the theme “Celebrating Excellence in People, Quality and Technology” in recognition of the Jamaica Constabulary Force’s 156 years of commitment to protect and serve. Constable Jayan Raymond of Area 5 emerged as the top cop from the group of 6 finalists who vied for the prestigious Chairman’s Award.

In the lead-up to the awards ceremony, the finalists, senior representatives of the police force and the LASCO Group conducted courtesy calls to the offices of the Governor General, the Prime Minister, and the Minister of National Security to underscore the event's importance. The finalists also participated in a communications workshop to polish their public speaking skills.

While the ceremony honoured 156 outstanding law enforcement personnel across various ranks and divisions, the six Chairman’s Awards finalists were rewarded with cash prizes ranging from \$50,000 for sixth place to \$150,000 for the top officer. Beyond individual recognition, the awards continuously aim to reinforce public trust and support for police by celebrating exemplars who demonstrate integrity, bravery and community service.



2023 PRINCIPAL AND TEACHER OF THE YEAR

The 2023 LASCO/ Ministry of Education and Youth / Jamaica Teaching Council PTOY Awards ceremony, held on December 5th, was themed “Quality Education Reconceptualized in the Digital Space” and paid tribute to 130 exceptional educators who leverage digital learning tools to enrich their students' academic outcomes.

Nine finalists across three categories—Principal, Teacher, and TVET Teacher of the Year—participated in several pre-ceremony activities, including courtesy calls to the offices of the Governor General, the Prime Minister, and the Ministry of Education.

All finalists received sponsored prizes, with winners also receiving trophies and the opportunity to attend the Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development Conference in Washington, D.C., in March 2024. Top honours were conferred upon:

- **Principal of the Year:**
Rayon Simpson, Principal, Belmont Academy
- **Teacher of the Year:**
Franklin Burrell, Master Teacher, St. Andrew High School for Girls
- **TVET Teacher of the Year:**
Ilene Cohall-Bailey, Master Teacher, Manning's School

The People's Choice Award, determined via Instagram voting, went to Borzana Jones, a Teacher of Geography and Tourism, at Manchester High School.



Corporate Social Responsibility Programmes

LASCO RE-LEAF ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS PROGRAMME (REAP)

The LASCO REAP environmental education programme enjoyed immense participation and impact during its 2023 cycle, implemented across 58 primary schools islandwide.

By incentivising recycling and sustainable gardening, over 18,000 students directly took part in stewarding a greener future. Schools collectively recycled over 235,000 plastic bottles and planted 260 trees. Fifty school gardens were also established or revived.

Champion schools were awarded prizes to reinforce eco-minded behaviours and recognise excellence.

Emerging at the top of the table were:

 **1st Place**
St Jago Cathedral Preparatory – 5 computers

 **2nd Place**
Kendall Primary and Infant – Smart TV

 **3rd Place**
Farm Primary - \$20,000 cash prize

 **Best Garden Project**
Highgate Primary and Junior High - \$50,000 and a 500L water tank

 **Best Recycling Project**
St Jago Cathedral Preparatory - \$100,000 cash prize



♥
To Our Partners:



LASCO Chin Foundation is deeply grateful for the partnerships and collaborations that made 2023 possible. By working together toward the shared goal of nation-building, we continue to lay a foundation for solid development.

Let's continue nurturing the relationships and opportunities before us to create a meaningful impact for many tomorrows!

JWN Foundation | Environmental Health Foundation | USAID's Positive Pathways Activity in Jamaica (PPAJ) |
Union of Jamaican Alumni Associations USA Inc | Jamaica Diaspora Taskforce Action Network | Institute of Law & Economics |
Operation Save Jamaica | Joseph and Vera Douglas Family Foundation | Caribbean Philanthropic Alliance | Stand Up for Jamaica
National Police Wives Association Jamaica | SDC-Greater St. Catherine



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