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## **YA MON! DINNER PARTY & AUCTION JAMAICAN STYLE CELEBRATING 20 YEARS OF HUMANITARIAN SERVICE, JUNE 28, 2008**

For immediate release:

(Ashland, OR 6/24/08) Volunteers from across the United States are in Ashland, Oregon this weekend for a "Fun-raising" Jam! Great Shape! Inc. is raising money for the world's largest, humanitarian dental project, called 1000 Smiles.

Come meet Jamaicans with a new smile and the volunteers changing lives. We can provide great interviews, pictures and video from Jamaica showing the volunteers in action.

### **Set up is all day Saturday, June 28, 2008 at the Historic Ashland Armory**

The event is from 6pm-11pm

\$100 ticket includes: a magical night filled with laughter, friends, authentic Caribbean food, live Reggae "Riddims" open bar & Auction

**Ashland Armory, 208 Oak St. Ashland, OR**

**For tickets call: 541-535-4000**

This year Great Shape! is celebrating 20 years of humanitarian action in Jamaica. A group of girlfriends founded Great Shape! in 1988 when Hurricane Gilbert decimated the island; they started by sending duffel bags full of supplies. Over the past two decades volunteers have built roads, community centers and schools, supported literacy projects and facilitated dental projects.

The 1000 Smiles Dental Project will serve more than 12,000 Jamaicans in temporary clinics in three parishes. **In rural Jamaica there is one dentist for every 80,000 people!** Most folks have never even seen a dentist. Tooth decay leads to infections, diseases and even death. And on an island where tourism is the number one industry, a healthy smile is the difference between work and unemployment.

This year also marks a pilot project called Great Shape! SuperKids. Volunteers will work to improve literacy in the schools through a curriculum of reading, computers, art, music and sports.

Great Shape! Inc. is grateful for its partnership with Sandals Resorts International. The Jamaican owned company donates ½ million dollars in accommodations and support for the volunteers. Plus, the Jamaican Ministry of Health provides the infrastructure for the clinics.

Please visit the website for more information: [www.gsjamaica.org](http://www.gsjamaica.org). For lively interviews, video and pictures, contact Lucinda Kay at 509-280-6237 or [Lucinda@lucindakay.com](mailto:Lucinda@lucindakay.com).



Great Shape! Inc. is a 501 c 3 nonprofit organization