



**GREAT SHAPE! INC.**  
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## **SURVIVING HURRICANES AND TOOTH DECAY LOCAL VOLUNTEERS MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN JAMAICA**

Hurricanes, disease, illiteracy, poverty... our world is in turmoil. But your neighbors are taking a risk to improve health and safety. Local volunteers are on their way to Jamaica to rebuild, improve health and literacy. Folks from your community will join more than 120 volunteers from across the nation to provide free dental care and education. In the wake of recent Hurricane Dean, some of our volunteers may also rebuild roofs on storm-damaged homes. This is the largest, humanitarian dental project on earth.

Great Shape! Inc. is a non-profit based in the United States. Our volunteers have provided humanitarian work in Jamaica for nearly twenty years. Volunteers first took action after Hurricane Gilbert in 1988. We've built schools, community centers and roads. For the past four years *Great Shape* has partnered with *International Smile Power*, *Sandals Resorts International* and the *Jamaican Ministry of Health* to offer free dental care. In rural Jamaica there is one dentist for every 80,000 people! Tooth decay leads to disease, unemployment and even death; especially in third-world countries.

Our volunteers set up in MASH-like clinics and schools to care for 9,000 Jamaicans. Sandals Resorts International donates ¼ million dollars in accommodations so our volunteers have somewhere to rest their heads at night. International Smile Power is based in Seattle and leads humanitarian dental trips around the world. The Jamaican Ministry of Health provides the safety and infrastructure for our volunteer work.

Great Shape's volunteers are half dental professionals and half "civilians". They all work together to improve the health and well being of Jamaican families. Our volunteers will start leaving in October. But we need to gather donated toothbrushes, paste and any other basics, now.

We can provide video and interviews from our 2006 trip to Jamaica. We can provide local interviews with volunteers at their "day jobs". Please visit our website for more information: [www.gsjamaica.org](http://www.gsjamaica.org).

**For local interviews and information, please call Lucinda Kay  
509-325-3623 or 509-280-6237**

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